

can make some arrangement, well you do it. But, then, we can take up the Statutory Resolution, discuss today and we can continue it tomorrow also.

17.04 hrs.

INDIAN TELEGRAPH (AMENDMENT) BILL\*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may be given permission to introduce a Bill further to amend the Telegraph Act.

MR. SPEAKER: I have no objection to doing anything, provide the Members do not object to it. But if every time, every Bill is brought forward like that ....(Interruptions)

SHRI SUKH RAM: It is a very simple Bill..

MR. SPEAKER: Let it be introduced. We will see what can be done.

SHRI SUKH RAM: I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the leave be granted to introduce the Bill further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

*The motion was adopted.*

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We will have an occasion to discuss it. It will go to Standing Committee and all those things.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI SUKH RAM: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRIMATI SHIELA KAUL): What about the Delhi Rent Bill?

MR. SPEAKER: This is exactly my difficulty. I do not know what to take up. I do not know what is to be taken up. I should

know what is to be taken up. I am very sorry. I do not want to say anything. I should know what you want me to do.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): Yesterday, most of the Members had participated in the debate on Delhi Rent Bill. When it was about to be passed at that time Half-an-Hour discussion came up before the House and that is why it was postponed. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: This is the work of Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not only for the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. But there are many other things. Not only the Government, we are also responsible for that.

....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

[English]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: If you say then we agree to (interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not go on like this. We will taken up the Resolution and after the Resolution is over, we will take up the Bill tomorrow.

17.09 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF CONTINUANCE IN FORCE OF THE PROCLAMATION IN RESPECT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B.CHAVAN): Sir, I beg to move the Resolution:

"That this House approves the continuance in force of

the Proclamation dated the 18th July, 1990 in respect of Jammu & Kashmir issued under Article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from 18th July, 1995".

As this august House is aware, in view of the then prevailing situation in Jammu & Kashmir, a Proclamation under Article 356 of the Constitution was made by the President on 18th July, 1990. Since the law and order and security situation in the State continued to be serious on account of the unabated actions of Pakistan to fuel and about violence, subversion and terrorism in certain parts of the State, approval of both the Houses of Parliament was obtained from time to time, for the continuance of the Proclamation dated 18th July, 1990. On the last occasion, when the question of extending President's Rule in the State beyond 2nd March, 1995 was being considered, I had mentioned in this august House that, as a result of the various efforts made by the Government, and consequent developments in the State, there had been a marked improvement in the situation, and a wide ranging public debate was on, regarding the early restoration of the political process and the democratic institutions in the State. I also stated that keeping in view the overall situation and the trends, the Government felt confident that it would be possible to consolidate the position further with view to initiating the democratic process in the State in the coming months.

In this background, Government had sought the approval of the House for extension of President's Rule in the State till 17th July, 1995 when, according to the existing Constitutional position, the maximum permissible period of five years of President's Rule in the State would expire. I also stated that the Government would keep the situation under continuous review and take further steps consistent with its desire to hold elections in the State at the earliest, without compromising on essential requirements of security.

Meanwhile on the ground, in Jammu & Kashmir, during the last one year, as a result of sustained and intensive anti-militancy operations by the security forces, the militancy had been brought under severe pressure. Similarly, the pace of development work was also given an additional fillip. These and other measures taken by the Government resulted in an overall improvement in the situation. The attitude of the people had also undergone a change indicating their disillusionment with the activities of the militants and a desire for peace and normalcy.

The action initiated earlier in respect of certain procedural aspects pertaining to the conduct of election, viz., revision of

electoral rolls and delimitation of Constituencies was followed up and these have since been completed. Further steps as required under the State Election law were also initiated to facilitate timely conduct of elections. Action is also underway for putting in place the required security and logistic arrangements for the elections.

In the last three months, the political process has picked up speed in the State. I had a round of discussions with political leaders at the national level and also with some of the leaders from Jammu & Kashmir. The Prime Minister also had discussions with the leaders of political parties both at the national level and the State level. The political parties started gearing up to prepare for the elections. In this situation, Government considered that it should be feasible to work towards conduct of elections for installing a democratic and responsible Government in the State before 17th July, 1995. While, we did not like to tie ourselves to any deadline, we thought that 17th July, by which time the present spell of President's Rule expires is one of the milestones on the basis of which planning can be done.

The continuing improvement in the situation, the talk of elections in the Valley, and the determination of the Government to conduct elections in the State have clearly unnerved the detractors of the Government and their mentors across the border, who have intensified their efforts to disrupt the electoral process by every possible means at any cost. Most recently, their desperation in this respect manifested itself in the dastardly action of the Pakistan supported mercenaries when the whole town of Charar-e-Sharif including the Shrine of the patron Saint of Kashmir Hazrat Sheikh Nooruddin Noorani, equally revered by all sections of the Kashmiri community, was set ablaze by them in the second week of May. Attempts had been made earlier also to desecrate the deeply venerated shrines of the Kashmiris. Reports indicate that, with the aim of spreading disorder and strife in the State and inflaming communal passions, these elements could again try to misuse, desecrate and cause damage to other religious shrines of various denominations.

The burning of the Holy Shrine at Charar-e-Sharif, despite the efforts of the administration and the security forces to prevent any such act of desperation by the militants by exercising the utmost restraint, has caused deep anguish and hurt among the people of the State particularly in the Valley. This incident also diverted the attention of the State Government towards reconstruction and rehabilitation of the town as speedily as possible. This incident did cause a set-back and it will take a little time before the after-effects of this incident wear out enabling the restoration of confidence.

[S. B. Chavan]

In the wake of these developments in the State, a multi-party delegation also visited the State where it also interacted with various sections of the people. The feed-back from this delegation as well as the discussion with leaders of various national parties, and with the Chief Election Commissioner who visited the States and interacted with State level parties, show a general consensus that an elected Government must be restored in the State, though most of them felt that we may need some more time for holding the elections and that holding the same before 17th July would not be practicable.

Even as I say this, I would like to reiterate, that this country will not be deterred in its determination to foil the aggressive designs and violent activities by Pakistan, and its mercenaries, in the territory of India and there will be no let-up in the Government's efforts to restore normalcy and the political process in the State.

Considering the rapid developments that have been witnessed in the State recently and the activities which the mercenaries in desperation could try to perpetrate, the Government would have to remain duly cautious that a situation of a Constitutional vacuum does not arise in the State even as there will be no dilution in the objective of restoring a democratically elected Government in the State in the near future. In this background, as a precautionary measure and keeping in view that the term of President's Rule will expire in the State on 17th July, 1995 and the Parliament will adjourn on 2nd June, 1995, a decision was taken after due consideration and deliberation, that Article 356 of the Constitution in its application to Jammu & Kashmir may be amended to enable continuance of President's Proclamation issued on 18th July, 1990 for a further period upto one year after 17th July, 1995. In pursuance of this decision, a Constitution Amendment Order, providing as above, has been promulgated by the President on 31st May, 1995, in exercise of his powers under Article 370(1) (d) of the Constitution, with the concurrence of the State Government. As I mentioned above, this is only the enabling provision. The resolution before the House, seeks an extension of President's Rule only for six months, from 18th July, 1995. I would also like to assure the House that restoration of political process and restoration of peace in the Valley through the installation of a representative and democratically elected Government, as opposed to the Gun culture which the mercenary elements want to prevail, is on the top of Government's agenda. For this purpose we would hold elections as early as possible at a time suitable to the nation. The latest extension of President's rule is one meant to facilitate the process and not to push it to the background.

In the light of the circumstances brought out and keeping in view the larger interests of the people of the State and the nation, I request the House to approve the Resolution.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation dated the 18th July, 1990 in respect of Jammu and Kashmir, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from the 18th July, 1995."

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must at the very outset express an observation related to the manner and the timing of this Resolution that we are now required to adopt for extending the President's rule by another six months in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Ordinarily, Sir, the fact that the Government has accepted our caution and advice ought to give us a sense of satisfaction. The BJP had been cautioning the Government that in our assessment, the situation in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in the Valley of Jhelum, is not ripe for holding elections because we believe that elections are not an aim in themselves, they are a means for an achievement of an aim. And if we confuse between the aim, the objective and the means, then we might render to the process of elections themselves a kind of quality value as if the holding of elections is an answer to the problem of the State of Jammu and Kashmir, which it does not. We have the experience of holding similar elections, for example in the State of Assam particularly in the Valley of Brahmaputra and we cautioned the Government, do not repeat the exercise until a fair and free poll can be held. And a fair and free poll cannot be held until the administration is effective at the village level. If you are not able to revive that administration, then all this talk about reviving the political process is not sufficiently credible.

The hon. Prime Minister, who is also holding the portfolio of the affairs of Jammu and Kashmir has said that the very fact that there is now talk about holding elections in the State of Jammu and Kashmir is in itself a political process. Perhaps it is so but perhaps not, because if in the process of discussing whether to hold elections, this Government derives a satisfaction and says now a political process has started, then that is not an answer to the problems of the valley and that is not an alternative to political process which can be held proper, in a legitimate and in an election which will meet the requirements of the people. We also pointed out that we opposed the election because of the fact that more than 3,00,000 citizens of India, residents of the Valley, have

not got an opportunity to go back to their homes and to caste their votes without fear and to caste their votes. We also expressed reservations about the whole process of delimitation. The process of delimitation, even the office of the Chief Election Commissioner had earlier found as - if I am not mistaken, and the adjective that it had used then was - "perverted". We have to go and find out that in the disparity that has been created between the regions of Jammu and Kashmir and this must not be permitted to continue. It is in this background that I have to submit it to you the difficulties of the immediate that we have about the Government's approach and methodology. Having cautioned the Government continuously about the difficulties of holding elections in Jammu and Kashmir on the 11th of May, then occurred the incident at Charar-e-Sharief. Following upon the incident, which I will not discuss here, to which a reference has been made by the hon. Union Home Minister, yet again this question came up whether there are to be elections or no elections. The hon. Prime Minister assured this House and told this House that now elections would be held. He also said, we are determined to hold the elections in time and we do not need any further extension of the President's rule'. The question here is that if I bring up that Charar-e-Sharief, which is not to remind ourselves of the humiliation that we have suffered here, but it is to point out the disarray and the confusion in the ranks of this Government. Even it is at the stage of 11th of May, this Government's assessment was that they can hold elections in the State of Jammu and Kashmir particularly in the Valley. Then, why has the Government today on the second of June, on the day on which ordinarily the House would adjourn sine die, until we are to meet or not to meet after this or in the Monsoon Session, found it fit subsequently to change its mind between the Eleventh of May and the Second of June? We see the unedifying spectacle of the Government's changing its mind on a Saturday, which is a Saturday of the departure of the President of the Republic for a two-week long visit to four nations. Up to Saturday the Government is not clear in its mind as to what is to be done. I recollect very well, then suddenly in a meeting convened by the Government comes forward to us and says, we have to send somebody, a special emissary, to Trinidad so that the President's Notification can be obtained all the way from Trinidad and having obtained the Notification, then we intend coming forward to the House and to have discussion'. This confusion, this acting always too late with too little, acting always after the event has taken place, acting always in a fashion which treats Parliament perfunctorily, acting in a manner which displays total confusion in the methods adopted by the Government and that the methods adopted in a important an issue as Jammu and Kashmir are as tardy, as casual and as unthought of, as in the present instance that here on Friday after five o' clock... (Interruptions) I realize, Sir.

I actually wanted you to caution me because in your caution is my point. I realize it. When you are cautioning me that we do not have the time, is actually the point that I wanted to make but only after you had cautioned me.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You should say maximum in minimum levels.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: The situation is so bad and there are so many loopholes. The problem is that any amount of advice would fair Whatever we may say, it goes on deaf ears.

[English]

Our caution Sir, is where it stands. I do not have to discuss the entire sorry situation in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. I am afraid that is there was a solution in the brave words of the Treasury, then the words that have poured from the Treasury, drafted by many able civil servants and bureaucrats in the Ministry of Home Affairs or in the Prime Minister's Office, would have found answers to the problems of Jammu and Kashmir. Those brave words are not an answer. It is clarity of purpose in Government and a determination to act, but always act in time and a determination born of clarity of view and vision, that are needed.

I would like to ask the hon. the Prime Minister as Minister for Jammu and Kashmir to clarify at least one of these three queries:

My first query is that attached with this, inextricably linked with, this whole question of holding elections in Jammu and Kashmir is the demand that has been made constantly by various parties, and a demand to which the hon. the Prime Minister has referred recently, that demand is the word 'autonomy'. The Prime Minister is believed to have said that issue of autonomy is under consideration and we will be talking about this autonomy and granting it to the State of Jammu and Kashmir".

I would like to know, this House has a right to know, the country has a right to know, what is this autonomy that the hon. Prime Minister is talking of. What is the direction of this autonomy? What is the content of this autonomy? What is the depth of this autonomy? Is the hon. the Prime Minister talking of 1953 or a situation existing before 1953? This House has a right to know the Government's thinking on this word 'autonomy' which word has been used by the hon. the Prime Minister as the king of an option, available to the Government

[Sh. Jaswant Singh]

or as a kind of a bargaining chip. This is a very perilous path. It is not for me to caution the hon. the Prime Minister, a man of experience and long public service, but this is a perilous path and we certainly do not accept that the Government has fully thought out this whole question of autonomy because if the manner in which they have been handling the affairs of Jammu and Kashmir is any example, then it does not carry conviction with us, that what they are thinking currently about autonomy is what will, in fact, be acceptable to us.

My second question: The Government has asked for an extension of six months which is a kind of a cushion. They are seeking a cushion. What do they intend doing between now and the 17th of July so that this cushion is fully utilised?

Thirdly, what is the assurance that the Government will not come back to us yet again under the very same provision in the Monsoon Session in the month of July and say that they need another six months?

I need answers to these three queries before I can proceed further with this Resolution.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am happy to note that the Government have postponed the elections in Jammu and Kashmir for the time being on the recommendation of the Election Commission and moved this Resolution for extension of President's Rule for another 6 months. There is no problem if Government works as per provisions of the Constitution. The unfortunate situation arises when the Government treats the country as if it is Congress party. Kashmir is being dealt with as if it is party affair. Kashmir is not being dealt with as an integral part of the country. They have kept the country in dark in so far as Kashmir is concerned, I do not know any other matter of which the country is completely unaware. Even now we do not know the real position about Kashmir. The incident of Char-e-Sharief took place there. The Char-e-Sharief was burnt down but even after that we have been kept unaware of the happenings there expect that some mistake has been committed. Earlier to this while sitting in the House we have been asking for some information about the happenings in Jammu and Kashmir. We were not told anything. We also know that that is the most sensitive place of the country and Government must have been taking steps to protect that place and in view of this we have not pressed the matter to know that what has been happening there from the beginning till the present time. But I charge the Government that they

have never taken any opposition party or the country into confidence.

An hon'ble Member has just now mentioned the incident of Char-e-Sharief. I visited Jammu recently and I went to Katra, Udhampur and Nagrata also. I took part in some meetings and some of them were well attended. But I could not get any answer of one or two points. First I cannot follow the reason as to why even after forty years of independence, the people of Kashmir could not rely us. Why don't they have confidence in us? Why do they oppose elections? Leave aside Kashmir, even the people of Jammu are not ready for elections although Jammu is a peaceful area. We visited Leh also but the people of that region also are not in favour of elections. Why don't they have faith on the Government of our country.

17.33 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

Therefore I was telling that our methodology of dealing various matters is such as if there is no constitution or there is no rule of law. We work in arbitrary manner. In so far as the incident of Char-e-Sharief is concerned we may deliver any number of speeches that Pakistan is responsible for this incident, the emphasis with which we plead that Pakistan had a hand in the incident, Pakistan and foreign media blames us with double the force. They malign our army which demoralises our armed forces. Foreign correspondents visited Kashmir but foreign journalist were not allowed to go there. If foreign journalists had gone there, what could have been its adverse affect. They would have said that extremists have infiltrated into Char-e-sharief. Now we go on crying but we could not do anything there. During the Congress regime, three big incidents took place. We maligned Harjinder Sabhiv, we could not save Babri Masjid and now we could not protect Char-e-Sharief. Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi sacrificed their lives. Therefore I want to tell the Government that we are not their enemies. We are members of this House and we are just like a family. We may be in opposition but our anxiety for the country not less than that yours. I want to point out that people living in villages and fields are no less patriotic. But you should atleast provide them the factual information.

In so far as the Governor is concerned, when we went there we hardly came across any body who has not demanded his withdrawal. Our opinion was quite different. We thought that he was a General and must be very efficient person. But we did not come across a single person from

intellectual to a villager who had supported him. There is no public relationship. Leave aside Kashmir, because when somebody goes to Kashmir, he feels that Kashmir is under curfew. Even Mr. Seshan had to admit this. Even if the entire House may try to convince him, he will not be convinced but if he comprehends something, then it is alright. We had been telling that elections should not be held there. Whether the conditions are conducive to elections there? If it is so then let the Government or Home Minister tell us the basis on which they propose to hold elections there. Whether people will be able to participate in the elections? We have never opposed elections. We believe that even worst democracy is better than bureaucracy, but the situation in Kashmir is extraordinary.

You intend to hold elections in Kashmir. Have you considered this fact whether people would be able to participate in the elections or not, What would be the basis of voting? Do you want to hold elections there on lines of Assam and Tripura or you want to do it on the strength of police and army? The people are not prepared to come out of their houses. There are 47 seats in Kashmir, not one or two. There are 37 seats in Jammu and 4 in Ladakh. Number of total seats is 88. You have increased 10 seats and I charge the Minister of Home Affairs, whether he is encouraging terrorism or trying to diminish it? Do you know how much population of tribes in Jammu. Gurjar Bakalwar alone has got 20 percent and out of 37 seats, not a single seat has been reserved for tribes. They are most patriotic people who are always ready to fight the enemy and you discriminate against them.

We went to Udhampur also. Our District President lives there. The whole family is termed as militant. Their only fault in that they say that the entire money given by Government of India is misused. It is divided into 80 and 20 ratio. Some money is taken away by officers, some is transferred to militants through backdoor or to some body else. No account of the expenditure is maintained there. Whosoever raised a finger, he will be put behind the bars or killed in the name of terrorist. I had therefore suggested that you should have some firm policy. We are not your enemy. We are your colleagues. If you will place some proposal before us, we shall tell you our earnest opinion, but it is not being done. The situation is deteriorating day by day.

Shri Sitaram was sitting here. Kashmir should be brought in the main stream again. We enforced Mandal Commission. All backward classes of the country are being benefited. But the people belonging to backward classes of Jammu and Kashmir are not being benefited. His son is collector, he will become S.P. they will become doctor, engineer at other places, they will tour the country and would join the main-stream. But 27 percent reservation has not been enforced there so far. They have not to be given something special but

they have to be given in accordance with 27 percent reservation. Whose Government is there.

There is central rule. You have posted a Governor there who is totally incapable. Therefore, you should open dialogue with the people, public relations with masses should be strengthened but first of all you should replace the Governor. You should send some political figure there so that he may open dialogue with political personalities there. In case only a General is to be posted, then send some political general...(*Interruptions*) who may listen to grievances of the poor people, who may utilise the money given by the Central Government properly who may be capable of striking a deal with terrorists but those who are poor and innocent, they should not be made terrorists. This has been happening there so far. Why TADA has to be repealed under pressure, because not even one percent TADA has been used properly, if one percent has been used then ninety nine percent has been misused. Out of a total of 88 thousand people, you have put 8.5 thousand innocent people behind the bars, under TADA and therefore TADA had to be repealed.

I want to say that Kashmir was gem of our country, but when we see Kashmir today, our tears roll down. No body used to carry weapons in Kashmir, not even a sword. If a Kashmiri was to fight, he will fight using handkerchief, he never posed even a danger, but the situation in Kashmir is so bad these days it is burning. Now the question is that who is responsible for this situation. We should think over this aspect seriously. I do not want to go to the past. In the past, who sacrificed their lives for Kashmir, they were victimised and who betrayed the country and Kashmir, who have never cooperated, have always been rewarded. If traitors will continue to be rewarded and patriots have always to be let down, then the spirit of patriotism would vanish.

Whenever elections are held in Jammu and Kashmir, we should invite external observers. As our reputation some people may say that Kashmir is an integral part of India, then what is the necessity of external observers in so far as Kashmir is concerned, has gone down so much that even if our elections are free and fair, even then others would believe that elections were rigged there. When Pakistan held elections in their country they invited external observers. Whenever elections are held there, external observers should be invited. Proper environments should be created before holding elections. If elections are held, they should be free and fair, there should be no force. If any effort will be made to conduct the elections on the strength of Army or Police or if any political party took a decision on similar lines in the interest of that party with a view to capture 47 seats of Jammu and Kashmir, then the entire Kashmir will be captured, what is there is 37 seats of Jammu, if it will be done with this thing in view, then we will not be doing any justice neither to Kashmir nor to our country.

[Sh. Ram Vilas Paswan]

The Government has done a good job by bringing this Resolution to extend President's Rule for another six months but you should utilise this time available to you in constructive manner, and do not hesitate in taking right decision. A good decision should always be taken. An animal dies on the road who cannot take right decision on time. It is very unfortunate for the congress party that they are victim of indecision. When event take place, an accident takes place then they feel that a mistake has been committed, they have been betrayed. The Prime Minister if present here. *(Interruptions)* Yes, a person also dies on the road who cannot take a decision to go to his left or right side in hurry. Therefore, I want to say that was there no error responsible for the stigma, we have to bear in the past. Our Prime Minister is an academician, and there is no dearth of experience in him but he is victim of indecision; he keeps on sitting and admits afterwards that a mistake has been committed, we have been betrayed. I say, you should take a decision. Our colleague has rightly pointed out, the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs should note that in administration of a country, heart and intellect both are required. If we have intellect; but no heart then we cannot run the administration. There have been big political leaders and rulers, Mughal rulers were not highly educated, but Shershah got built a road, another ruler got built Taj Mahal. Our leader should also make use of heart. If you have heart, you can purchase brain. but if you do not possess heart, you cannot purchase it.

Mr. Chairman, I submit that you should see Kashmir with feelings of your heart, not with your open eyes and you should take Parliament and country into confidence. First of all you should replace the Governor, and send some political figures there as a Governor who is capable of dealing with public, so that fund sent by the Centre could be utilised properly and who could create confidence in minds of the people. The people of Kashmir are like all of us. All of them are not militants. They are member of our family. They are our brothers. In case there is need to persuade them we should do it and an environment should be created in which normalcy could be restored, democracy could be set up and Government could tell us with confidence that now we can hold elections there.

Mr. Chairman, I support the Resolution moved by the Government to extend President's Rule and not to held elections at present. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, I think,

none in this House may be most of us are not happy to support this Resolution. This is for the eleventh time that the President's Rule in Jammu and Kashmir is being extended. The President's Rule that started on 18-07-1990 is again being extended with the plea that for the start of the political process or to bring back an elected democratic Government, we require this time. Now this is the type of proclamation made all the time before and we have seen that the time that was available was not, at all, properly utilized for any meaningful direction to be given for restoring normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir.

Now, while we support this extension considering the prevailing situation on the ground, we want to make it clear that these six months should be so utilised that the people in the Valley can be enthused to join the mainstream of our country and of our nationhood. We all know the difficulty. We all know how the foreign-aided militants are trying to spoil every opportunity of starting a political process. Now they will be doing this all the time. They are desperate. Even this time when the talk of elections were ringing in the Air, we had seen that they resorted to the destruction of Charar-e-Sharief. That is a part of their designs. In the past also, many a time while we were thinking that things were developing into normalcy, we found their desperate act to thwart that process. Now, this has to be kept in mind while we take a firm view about the restoration of democracy in the valley.

Now, for the restoration of democracy in the Valley, the current situation that is prevailing there and on the basis of my own experience that I gathered when we visited Charar-e-Shaief after it was destroyed - I found the difference. I want there three-four years ago also and at that time I realised that everybody was so much alienated that even to talk to them about keeping them within this country was very difficult. This time, despite the destruction of Charar-e-Sharief, when we started talking to them, thousands of people gathered there. They were barricaded with iron fencing. But those barricades were broken down and they came out and mixed with us. To start with, they were saying all sorts of anti-Indian things. They were blaming our Army and everything for the destruction. But when we started arguing with them, we realised that they also have reconciled to the idea that they cannot go to Pakistan and that they have to remain in this country. But how best can they remain here? There is nobody to talk to them. Nobody argues with them.

You are all the time encircled with army; you are all the time encircled with the security forces. Nobody is there to take any risk to go to the crowd to talk to them, to convince them and for three years or four years, one sided campaign was made amongst the people of the Valley that they cannot

remain in this county. And the militants did everything to vitiate their minds. Then, who are responsible for this kind of a situation? How to salvage this situation?

You talk of bringing back democracy in the Valley. On this point, I must make this clear that I have nothing personal against the Governor who is there currently, but he is from a different profession; that background, he cannot forget, I am not denigrating him, but he is not politically suited in the present situation that we have today. We have to have a political leadership there who will take risk to go to the people, talk to them, stay with them and thereby create an atmosphere where the ice can be melted; otherwise, it is not possible. And on this point, not with any malice against the present Governor, I would humble appeal to the Prime Minister to think about a political Governor. Otherwise, without an acceptable political personality with a human face, you cannot initiate the political process. That is the first point I wish to make.

The second point is, there have to be certain meaningful steps taken to bring some confidence in the minds of the people. During our visit to Charar-e-Sharief, we saw posters, written placards saying that they do not want fake representatives, they want genuine representatives. There is a paranoia that when elections are held, they will not be held in a proper manner; they will be rigged they will be fake elections. I think that kind of an impression should be done away with. Enough confidence must be created in their minds all over the country, in the minds of the people who are concerned that elections will be held in free and fair manner, that what has happened in the past is past, that it is a new beginning that will be made by India for Kashmir. This is the second point I wish to make.

The third point is, in terms of economic package, you have to do certain things. You have to monitor the things so that when an allegation of corruption comes, that has to be really checked and people can be made to participate in the process of development.

The fourth point is, in terms of autonomy, what are we going to do? The Prime Minister has said that there will be some kind of autonomy given to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. I do not know, what will be the real shape of that autonomy. But I can understand that. Many people talk of 1953 position, many people talk of 1975 position, but we know that whatever autonomy they were enjoying in the past, over the years, that had been eroded. So, the first thing is to restore what had been eroded, and that will help in creating confidence in their minds.

And the fifth thing is to see that they remain part of a secular India and commit yourself very firmly to the concepts of secularism and in a very concrete manner you have to send the signal to the people of Kashmir that for the aberrations that had taken place, we stand punished for that and we will not allow any kind of fissiparous communal elements to spoil the secular content of our polity. That will help in creating a better situation in the Kashmir Valley.

With these efforts, it can be tackled in a better way. I think, it may require some more time, but really things can be salvaged and people can be brought back to the democratic process.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Berhampur): Thank you, Chairman, Sir, In the wee hours of the fateful day of the 11th May, 1995 the 535-year-old Charar-e-Sharief shrine built in the memory of the Kashmiri Sufi Saint, Sheikh Nooruddin Noorani, was destroyed by fire - a very sad occurrence indeed, for Muslims and Hindus alike of Kashmir and also for all secular-minded people. The shrine was the most important symbol of true Kashmiriyat and Kashmiri Sufism, in which an overwhelming majority of Hindus and Muslims of the Vallēy have believed for the last seven centuries.

The horrendous, despicable and shameful act of burning of the shrine was perpetrated by Mast Gul, an Afghan, in all probability under orders of his mentors in Pakistan Government and the ISI are perhaps directly responsible. Our Government has announced that shrine and the town of Charar-e-Sharief will be re-built. This is a good step and should be implemented with all speed. What must be ensured is that a committee, including Kashmiri Hindus and Muslims, should be formed to oversee this task. The Shrine was a symbol of Kashmir Sufism and secularism and this character must be maintained.

The Government's decision to extend President's rule in Jammu & Kashmir beyond 17th July, 1995 is the result of a realistic appraisal of the situation in the troubled State. While the burning down of Charar-e-Sharief by the militants is likely to be one of the immediate causes for the Government's rethinking about the holding of elections, it could not have overlooked the opinion of the Opposition parties which were, by and large, not enthusiastic about opting for the polls at this point of time. The impression which the Chief Election Commissioner obtained about the ground situation in the Valley during his recent visit to Srinagar could not have inspired confidence either. The Government must have also



[Sh. Gopi Nath Gajapathi]

taken into account the possibility of a forced election, thwarting its ultimate objective of restoring peace and normalcy in the State. The extension, which will be a smooth process in view of the support it enjoys among all political parties, will give the Government more time to plan a pragmatic election schedule. In any event, there is a growing feeling in administrative circles and elsewhere that the elections, whenever held, will have to be staggered, which means the Government must have more time.

It goes without saying that the successful holding of polls will be a fitting answer to the nefarious game plan of the terrorists, who had expected the destruction of the shrine of the Sufi Saint, to lead to violent outbreaks in Kashmir and elsewhere in the country. It will also expose their claims of speaking on behalf of the people, whose preference for an elected government, to which they can relate more easily, remains unfulfilled. Thus, the challenges before the Government is to take all the steps necessary to build a congenial atmosphere for holding the polls. The release of political prisoners was a step in the right direction and it needs to be suitably followed up. In this context, the Government may find it necessary to think in terms of installing people, who have a better understanding of the Kashmir problem and a greater political sense at the helm of the State Government. This may help it to initiate the political process.

The Centre will also have to evolve a national consensus on the modalities of holding the polls.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How long will you take to conclude?

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Another two minutes more.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall we extend the House for some time because Shri E. Ahamed desires that he should be allowed to speak today as he will not be available tomorrow?

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): I should also be allowed to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall we extend the time of the House for allowing three or four hon. members to speak?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi may please continue his speech.

18.00 hrs.

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Given the awareness across the political spectrum of the sensitiveness of the Kashmir issue, it will not be difficult for the Government to bring about such a consensus. Concurrently, the drive against the militants should be stepped up in order to break the backbone of the insurgency. In this context, our Prime Minister, Hon. Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao must be congratulated for his firm conviction in establishing a popular Government and providing the much-awaited democratic independence to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. This is a clear reflection of the Prime Minister's immense wisdom and political sagacity. The conviction is certainly a step in the right direction and, therefore, needs to be pursued with all the vigor and resources at the command of the Central Government.

Time has not yet run out. Let the people of India remain awake, while there is still hope and influence Government policies towards a solution of this problem, in the national interest. There is no doubt that the problem of Jammu and Kashmir can be solved within India, with our own resources and without going to war with Pakistan. Violence breeds violence. War is not always the only solution to problems. Experience has shown that peaceful bilateral talks have brought solutions to many knotty issues in the past. Even on the international front, many leading developed nations have expressed sympathy towards India's cause and suggested bilateral talks, as the right approach for a solution. The latest outcome of the talks between India's Union External Minister and the U.S. Secretary of State in Washington recently, is a shot in the arm for India to adopt such a modus operandi. Our Union Minister, hon. Pranab Mukherjee Babu's persevering efforts in this regard are commendable. Our sustained, firm stand on this issue will, I dare say, compel Pakistan to reach the negotiating table, are long. Iran's President, President Rafsanjani Ji's stand during his visit to India earlier this year and the latest statement of the U.S. Ambassador to India, as reported, that Kashmir is a special part of the Indian Union, add significant credence to India's unflinching stand all along, on this issue.

In conclusion, I commend the Resolution brought forward by our Union Home Minister, Hon. Shri S.B. Chavan on the extension of President's Rule in the State of Jammu and Kashmir for a further period of six months beyond 17th July, 1995, and lend my full support to it.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): At the outset, I thank Mr. Chairman for having called me to speak even after 6 O'clock.

I support the Motion.

Whenever I speak about Kashmir, I speak with a heavy heart. The things happening in Kashmir are really not to the best interest of either the country or to the people of that State. Unfortunately, things are happening like that.

As far as our country is concerned, we have a commitment to the international community to bring about an elected democratic Government in the State. But the question before us is, whether it is the right time for us to conduct the election. I say, we want elections, but this is not the right time for that. If an election is conducted now, people will not be able to participate in this, people's participation will be much less, as pointed out by my other distinguished friends here. What happened in Kashmir and what is happening is not a happy thing. It is to be admitted that there is an invisible wall between the people of Kashmir and that of the administration. Whatever is said and done, the administration could not bring the people to understand what we are intending to do. The question before the Government is whether we are prepared to have a reconciliation of the situation. Disinformation are going on there specially after the tragic incident in Charar-e-Sharief. The tragedy of Charar-e-Sharief happened when our effort to bring the people to the mainstream and also to create a conducive atmosphere was going on. The incident of Charar-e-Sharief is a watershed in the whole affairs which has totally alienated the people of Kashmir.

While on the one hand, the Government have been trying to bring to bring the people to understand the situation, the Charar-e-Sharief incident on the one hand has alienated the people of Kashmir from the administration, as pointed out by my learned friend Shri Saifuddin Choudhury. There is absolutely no effort worth mentioning to bring the ordinary people closer to the administration. The civil administration is a utter failure. Even when we visited there on a parliamentary delegation, as pointed out by my friends, the campaign was going on and the people were of one view - they were against India and the Government of India. As a matter of fact, they really would like to lead a peaceful life.

But the situation did not permit them. I was also in that delegation that visited Kashmir. People asked two relevant questions there. Firstly, why was there a sign of the Charar-e-Sharief? Secondly, who was responsible for bringing down, by setting fire, of large number of houses two days before the tragic incident of Charar-e-Sharief? Who were responsible for burning down of thousands of houses? Who were the people of that locality who did it? of course, terrorists will do anything and everything. They have no morality. They adopt any

means to achieve their ends. Local people have their own view. But it so happened that Kashmiri people were misled about our security forces. For an ordinary Kashmiri, anyone in Khaki uniform whether he belongs to the CRPF or to the BSF or in any other force, he is a military man. Why should the military do it? They have nothing to gain and everything to lose. But on the other hand, the people from Pakistan have to gain everything to gain they have nothing to lose.

Of course, there is absolutely no necessity for our Army to do that. Our Army will not do it. It has its own prestige and name. everything. But how this canard has been spread over in the entire valley? The people have been forced to believe it. Why has this disinformation campaign not been dispelled by our administration? For this, we must have an administration which must have interaction with the local people. That is one thing that I urge upon the Government to do.

Another thing I would like to say is that my information is that there are hundreds and thousands of families who have been suffering at the hands of the militants for the last many years. Many of their breadwinners have been eliminated by the dreaded terrorists. People are against terrorists. They are very much condemning the terrorists. But the local administration and the Government is not coming forward to give them relief, help or assistance. It is only in words, but not in deeds. So, the ordinary man on the one hand has been suffering at the hand of these terrorists and on the other hand he is not getting anything from the hands of the administration. Therefore the civil administration should be streamlined. They must have the interaction with the common people. We must also have the interaction with the political parties there. They should also be taken into confidence.

The Central Government should consider the proposals put forward before it by the National Conference. We have to admit one thing. The National Conference is one secular organisation in the valley and they have been fighting the terrorist. Of course, they may have their own problems, but they have put forward certain proposals before the Government. One proposal with respect to the economic and political package. I am very glad the Prime Minister was bold enough to say that the Government will grant autonomy within the framework of the Constitution. Such a statement itself has made a large number of ordinary people to understand to real intention of the Government. But quite unfortunately we were not able to do anything in this matter.

Again, it was too late for us because the Charar-e-Sherief incident has happened. Therefore the Government must be serious enough to formulate the quantum of autonomy to be

[Sh. E. Ahamed]

given to the people of Kashmir and to announce it so as to make the people to understand the importance of election and to bring about an elected government in the State.

Delhi cannot go on like this. We have already told the international community that we believe in ballots and not in bullets. So we still believe in ballots and not in bullets. We have to take certain urgent and important steps to create a conducive atmosphere. We have some more months. We shall not go at the time of elections and say we have to do this. We should do it immediately. Who will do all these things? That is what the Government should consider. Whether the present administration is competent enough to do it or the Government will bring about a change in the administration is a question that the Government should ponder. I do not want to go further into it.

One more thing I have to say, Mr. Chairman, is about Article 370. This has a history of its own. Article 370 has been included in the Constitution after we have some agreement and understanding with the popularly elected leaders of the Jammu and Kashmir like Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah and people like him. That agreement about Article 370 shall not be eroded at all. If there is any effort from any side to undermine Article 370, we shall not allow it. We have to maintain Article 370 and its sanctity and the commitment given to the people. This country has a constitutional commitment to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

I would urge the Government that under no circumstances shall we turn our back to the people of Jammu and Kashmir with respect to the commitment that we have given to them.

With these few words, I support the Motion brought about by the hon. Home Minister.

[*Translation*]

MAJ GEN (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (GARHWAL): Sir, once again we have to consider the Resolution to extend the President's Rule in Jammu and Kashmir. We are doing this for the 11th time but this time this resolution is somewhat different. In previous years, the Government has been telling us that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is not conducive to hold elections. During the last 3 ½ years, this is my experience, the Government has been telling us the same thing that we shall hold elections when situation would improve and in the meantime, President's rule may be extended. But this time, the Government is telling very boldly for

the last few months that we are going to hold elections there, come what may.

Sir, hon'ble Minister has stated just now that we have to extend President's rule for a few months. The Government is not prepared to concede that there is no improvement in the situation. You are, perhaps, not in a position to give any specific date on which elections would be held. You have been saying for the last 3-4 weeks and as Shri Jaswant Singh has said, upto 11th May you have been telling that you are going to hold elections and today on 2nd June you are telling that you will not be in a position to hold elections before 17th July. What is the reason there of? Are you so much upset owing to the incident of Char-e-sharief that you have changed your mind of holding elections or you are making Char-e-sharief just an excuse for postponing the elections. In fact, you knew it that it will not be possible for you to hold elections there. But, perhaps, due to political interest, you have been consistently telling us that you will hold elections. You have been concealing the reality. Do you think you will be able to hold elections there in next 3-4 weeks which you could not do for the last 5 years. You think you will eliminate terrorism and hold elections, how can you say that you will be able to do it now. First of all situation should improve. We cannot bring any change by adopting weak policy. I want to ask the hon'ble Minister whether he is going to adopt some new strategy to enable him to hold elections there. Your present strategy has not proved successful during the last 4 years, therefore would you like to adopt some new strategy.

Because if you fail to evolve some new strategy then you are bound to come to Parliament again to get the President's rule extended further. You will come here in the last moment and repeat the same story. Today is last day of the session. Therefore it is being extended.

Sir, the President is on a visit to foreign countries. You could not think even 3 days before that what you are going to do and now an IAS officer has gone to foreign countries to get the order signed by the President. The foreigners will also ridicule the many a things that are happening in our country, how we plan our affairs and how we solve our serious problems. They awake only when the President has already arrived in foreign countries. Can't you do this work a bit early. This is not good, it is an insult to the nation. I want to ask the hon'ble Minister whether he is evolving any new strategy or you propose to repeat your stand on giving autonomy. Are you going to bring the situation prevailing prior to 1953? Have you given due consideration on its implementation aspect. Do you think Pakistan sponsored terrorism will end, the root cause of which is your weak kneed policy. Please pay your attention to the root causes of terrorism. If you apply your

mind towards the real cause you will find that the real situation in Kashmir is quite different. As stated by one of my friends, Article 370 has been revised. Kindly recollect the situation prevailing in Kashmir a few years ago, this situation was created when corruption became order of the day. Why did you scuttle article 370? Everybody was happy. This is not very old, only 4-5 years old. This situation is the direct result of corruptions and election bungling and your party and your Government is responsible for this situation. If you want to take Kashmir to conditions prevailing in 1953, will Pakistan spare you? Pakistan will not bring an end to terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir until our country is dismembered. Therefore, you should formulate such policy which may bring an end to terrorism. A message of this type should go the Pakistan so that they may learn some lesson. You can catch votes through appeasement policy in the country, but Pakistan will neither be allured nor you can make understand. Unfortunately, this Government has not been able to make Pakistan understand. Unless some new strategy is adopted, no result can be expected. The problem cannot be solved by getting fake elections conducted. May I know whether Government will go on seeking extension of President's rule or evolve some new policy.

I want to bring to the notice of hon'ble Minister one more thing. When we i.e. parliamentary delegation visited Char-e-sharief, the Governor had told us at that time that the situation is ripe for conducting elections and the situation can be deteriorated in the near future. I want to know the basis on which you are expecting improvement in the situation. Kindly clarify. Your Governor says that the situation is likely to be deteriorated in the near future and you are keeping that the situation will improve in 4-5 weeks time and elections would be held. This is confused stated of affairs. The problem cannot be solved like this. I submit that Government should clarify its policy.

Before concluding, I would like to say one thing more. You have involved army and para-military forces. But they have not been given any authority to take action. There is no coordination among multiple authorities whatsoever. We enquired of the governor that what is meant by unified command concept. I was astonished and pained to learn the definition of unified command force. Practically there is no unified command. There is no unified command at region level. This is not proper. Coordination at lower level is called unified command. What is this definition and what are you talking and how this problem would be solved? Wherever terrorism exists in the world and similar incidents have occurred, success has been achieved through unified command. Until the higher authorities like Governor do not follow

this things, your problem will never be solved. This is what I want to tell you. What is the problem in maintaining a unified command. Army is deployed to earn bad name. When we visited Char-e-sharief, slogans with full fury were being raised against Army and the Brigadier. Army is meant for becoming scape goat as no authority is delegated to them. The problems will not be solved like this. I reiterate that you should know the root cause of the problem. Until you eliminate corruptions and prepare the people for elections psychologically, the old injuries won't heal. Until you understand that root cause of terrorism is not in Jammu and Kashmir but it is in Pakistan and until Pakistan learns a lesson, this problem will not be solved. Therefore I support the Resolution moved by you but submit that efforts should be made to solve the problem in proper manner.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is one more request from Shri Akbar Pasha to be allowed to speak today as he would not be available tomorrow. Shall I allow him?

Shri Pasha.

SHRI B.AKBER PASHA (VELLORE): Hon. Chairman, I have come forward to support the extension of President's Rule in Jammu & Kashmir.

Sir, President's Rule is expiring on 17th July this year. The President who is away on a four-nation tour has already given his assent under article 371(d) of the Constitution for extension of time by six month. Rajya Sabha has also passed it. I do not think there will be any difficulty here in this House to pass the same.

Sir, I am serving as a member on the Jammu & Kashmir Committee. Two years back, the Committee visited Srinagar and Baramulla under the leadership of our hon. Minister Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad. On that very same day, there were four killings in Sopore which falls on the way to Baramulla. The conditions were so bad. We were taken in bullet-proof cars and all along the route, there were so many police people and security guards on either side of the road. At a short gap of every 20 to 25 feet, we can see the police guards standing. That was the situation at that time. We came back and reported the matter to our revered Prime Minister that the conditions for holding the elections were not congenial. This was two years back.

The second trip was under the leadership of our hon. Minister for Home Shri P.M.Sayeed. This time we want to the

[Sh. B Akber Pasha]

Other side and visited Jammu, Leh and Kargil. In this area, there is not so much trouble and the situation is much better than in Srinagar. Still I could see traces of unrest in Jammu City.

We came together that there are about three dozen militant outfits operating in various parts of Jammu & Kashmir. While most of these groups stand for Kashmir's accession to Pakistan, the Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) and a few others founded by Maqbool Butt and Mohammad Yaseen Malik favour an independent State.

Among the prominent guerrilla groups, mention must be made of Hizbul Mujahideens. They are equipped with sophisticated weapons. Mohammad Yousuff Shah alias Syed Salahuddin is its supreme commander.

Harkatul Ansar is another powerful group having a good number of foreigners called 'guest militants'. The Afghan militants who were operating in Chrar-e-Sharief too were the so called 'guest militants'.

Al-jehad is a militant wing of the pro-Pakistan People's League. The Al-jehad split into various groups. Al-fatah Force is another group. Hizbullah, Alumar Mujahideen, Iqwanul Musalimeen, the Student's Liberation Front, People's League led by Shabir Ahmed Shah, Hizbul Moomineen which is also a pro-Pakistan group, Muslim Mujahadeen, Tehrik-ul Mujahadeen also a pro-Pakistani Group are some of the more prominent militant groups operating in Jammu & Kashmir. Then there is the group called Allah Tigers just as there is the Tamil Tigers of LTTE in Sri Lanka.

Then there is a women's' terrorist outfit called the Duktharane Millat. The leader of this women's' terrorist outfit is a lady, namely, Smt. Andrahi who has created a record of being the first Kashmiri women to be in prison for two years. The 535 year old shrine of the Sufi Saint, Sheikh Nooruddin was destroyed by the terrorists belonging to the Harkut-Ul-Ansar and the Hisbe Islami groups. I would like to mention here that these two groups are identified as the fanatical groups which would not hesitate to attack the mosques which do not belong to the Sect of these two groups.

During our visits we had been shown the arms and ammunition which were captured from the militants from Pakistan. We could see the name of Pakistan engraved and inscribed on those machine guns and other ammunition. We also partly heard the audio cassettes of the provocative speeches which are being used by the Pakistani agents to

kindle the feelings of the innocent people of Kashmir who have taken to arms. I find such a vast difference in the atmosphere of Srinagar today.

When I had been there for my honeymoon a long time back, it was a real paradise then. We stayed in a hotel which was a palace converted into a five star hotel. Today it is so painful to see that those places and palaces are in occupation of the military. There used to be the beautiful boat houses with all the amenities, with beautiful wooden carvings, carpets and all those things. Today they are not being used. That was the source of income to these people. Today, they the taxi drivers in Srinagar are weeping because they are not getting tourists; the owners of the boat houses are weeping because they are not getting visitors.

I had been to places like Venice in Italy and Amsterdam in Denmark. These are the two cities in the world which are located on sea, but those places are nothing in comparison to our beautiful valley of Kashmir. They say that Kashmir is a paradise. There is a phrase in Persian called Bihist, which means paradise. It is painful to see the State of Kashmir in such a state. The people there are also fed up with militancy. They want to live in peace and calm. They want to return to their hearth and home.

I have heard the leaders of Kashmir including Dr. Farooq Abdullah. They all are fed up with this unending turbulence in the valley. They want the Central Government to come forward with a political package before elections are held there. We cannot afford to wait for an ideal condition to return. It is indefinite. We cannot expect to wait and see that the last gun fire is not heard. We have got to start the political process somewhere. That is what our Government was doing and that was the idea of our hon. Prime Minister and our hon. Home Minister Shri S.B.Chavan. They wanted to start the political process there. Our Chief Election Commissioner, Shri T.N.Seshan went to Kashmir. But due this incident of Chrar-e-Sharief- I do not know if that was deliberately done by the terrorist outfits in Kashmir the Government had to postpone the elections there.

Mast Gul, an Afghan mercenary who holed up in Chrar-e-Sharief for two months escaped unhurt from the sealed town.

In this situation we have to wait for the normalcy to return which we had seen before the Chrar-e-Sharief incident. Till such time it has become necessary to extend the President's rule and hence the Resolution. I support it with all my heart.

I thank you for having allowed me to talk on this.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Chairman, Sir, before the House adjourns till tomorrow, I want to draw attention of the House towards what is happening in Lucknow at this time. You might be aware that all of a sudden political situation has changed. There was government of BSP-SP but BSP has withdrawn its supports. Now Samajwadi Party is in minority but it has been reported just now that it seems that life of BSP MLAs is in danger. Their MLAs have been gheraoed in the Guest House and we have learnt that five MLAs have been injured. The miscreants have tried to break open the doors of Miss Mayawati and tried to go inside. When attention of the local authorities was drawn to this situation, they expressed their helplessness. I cannot understand as to what will happen during the night. The situation arising out of withdrawal of support should be dealt in a democratic manner but if people will resort to assault and try to get the support of MLAs through intimidation then we cannot run democracy nor any work can be done in accor-

dance with provisions of the Constitution.

I want the Hon'ble Home Minister and Shri Rajesh Pilot who are present in House, to establish contact with Lucknow and ensure that violence is stopped and complete protection is provided to BSP MLAs. You can imagine that if we cannot protect the lives of MLAs, what would happen to common man I, therefore, want that the Minister of Home Affairs give an assurance and make proper security arrangements for the night otherwise this matter will be raised in the Lok Sabha tomorrow in a big way.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The discussion on Kashmir Resolution will continue tomorrow. Now the House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, 3rd June, 1995 at 11 a.m.

18.38 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned at Eleven of the Clock on Saturday, June 3, 1995/Jyaistha 13, 1917 (Saka)*