

MR. SPEAKER : I have just appealed. I have only added my views to what Shri Chidambaram has said and in this there is nobody belonging to this party or that party. It is the whole House; it is one nation. I only added to what he has said.

Uniform Civil Code

*213. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government intend to enact legislation to introduce Uniform Civil Code in the country;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in the matter; and

(c) the names of organisations/bodies consulted in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As the necessary atmosphere in the country for bringing forward a Uniform Civil Code is a pre-requisite, Government is taking necessary steps to create a favourable atmosphere towards the introduction of the Code.

(c) So far, no consultation with any organisations/bodies has been made in relation to the Code. However, as and when need arises consultation shall be made with the concerned organisations/bodies.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Sir, I recall the statement of the hon. Prime Minister, to the best of my recollection made sometime in December 1986 or early 1987, in which he had outlined a two-stage approach to this constitutional goal, the first stage being the consolidation and codification of the personal laws of various communities and the second stage being the emergence of a uniform Civil Code based on the common principles, because only experience would provide a jurisprudential basis for such a code. I would like to know whether the Government are still committed to this two-stage approach or as it appears from the reply are inclined to a single-stage approach.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : I think, the hon. Member is aware of the past history. It is not only the present Prime Minister, but right from the inception of the Constitution, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and now our present Prime Minister have always declared that the approach to Article 44 will be pursued by taking into confidence the minorities involved and the dialogue with various people in the country. There cannot be a different approach than what Panditji said, what Shrimati Indira Gandhi said and what our present Prime Minister says.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Sir, although it is not the exact reply, I am satisfied.

MR. SPEAKER : For once Shri Shahabuddin is satisfied.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Sir, my second supplementary is, the Bar Council of India has to my knowledge organised with a great fanfare a National Seminar on this question of introduction of a Uniform Civil Code and I imagine with the full approval and support of the Government. At the end of that seminar it was said that a draft Uniform Code had been submitted to the Government in the form of a resolution of this august body. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister the response of the Government on what I consider a suggestion from the Bar Council of India and the present status of that document.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : As I submitted earlier, the Bar Council is one of the forums which discusses the issue of Uniform Civil Code. Various other organisations also discuss it. I discussed it with the minorities, the lawyers and other communities. The question is that approach to the Uniform Civil Code relates directly to the marriage, matrimonial cases, adoption and maintenance cases of various minorities and I thought Shri Shahabuddin must be aware of the practical difficulties of his own community. Giving respect to the sentiments expressed therein we want to have a wider dialogue in the country and I think he should appreciate that approach.

SHRI SAIFFUDIN CHOWDHARY : Sir, this is my charge.... ..

MR SPEAKER : Is this a charge or a question ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : First charge and then question.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE : Can you not say, may I charge the Government?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFFUDIN CHOWDHARY : This is my charge that this Government has taken no forward step in the direction of enacting a Uniform Civil Code.

MR SPEAKER : You had asked permission for a question, Sir.

SHRI SAIFFUDIN CHOWDHARY : In the last few years whatever steps have been taken they have resulted in the retrogression of this affair. So, I would like to know before going for the Uniform Civil Code, will you stop surrendering to the demands of the fundamentalists' forces which are taking the country backward. And then in the direction towards having a Uniform Civil Code, I would like to know with whom have you consulted and how you have initiated the thing without consulting others ?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : Sir, I thought he had understood. We have been discussing this issue with all the relevant sections of the population.

SHRI SAIFFUDIN CHOWDHARY : With whom are you discussing ?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : Will you listen to me ? Sir, he should have the patience to listen. We have discussed with the lawyers, judges, the minority organisations, majority organisations, women organisations and a dialogue is going on with them and no decision has been taken. I may remind the hon. Member that any decision taken in haste on this issue will recoil on the solution itself. I think they should apply their minds to this issue. I again request them very seriously it is no use passing the buck on us. It is a national issue which concerns each one of us and, therefore, if there is lack of appreciation,

it is always your party that does not discuss issues with the minorities.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Which party ?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : Your party. You never discuss. . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Sir, could you understand what he said ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What did you say about my party ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : Whenever there is a national question, they do not take it seriously.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We always take it seriously.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : This is my feeling.

(Interruptions)

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that various institutes, communities and sections are being consulted as to how to evolve a uniform civil code in the country and how the practical difficulties are being solved ?

May I know from the hon. Minister what happened to the comments of the institutes or communities who had been consulted or whose views had been invited so far regarding the introduction of a uniform civil code in our country ?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : I submitted that in our country, we have already 95 per cent of our laws as uniform laws, for example, IPC, Cr. P.C., C.P.C., Evidence Act, Transfer of Property Act, Specific Relief Act. They are all common. But the question is wherever there is a marriage law, adoption law, maintenance law and divorce law, there is a difference in approach of various communities. And wherever there is a question of adoption law and marriage

law on minorities, they have to be a consenting party to the Amendment. Unless that is done, you will be breaking the promises of our founding fathers against the minorities.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question.

Q. No. 214. Shri Kumaramangalam. No.

Q. No. 215. Shri Mohanbhai Patel.

Foreign Assistance for Indigenous Manufacture of CTV Picture Tubes and Kits

*215. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any foreign collaboration or assistance has been sought by the private or public sector in regard to their efforts to manufacture CTV picture tubes and kits within the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) Yes Sir, foreign collaboration has been sought by both public and private sector units to manufacture CTV picture tubes. However, no foreign technical collaboration has been sought by the private or public sector units in regard to manufacture of CTV Kits in the country.

(b) Details of foreign collaboration approvals sought in the area of colour picture tubes are given below :

Sl. No.	Name of the applicant	Name of the collaborator	Remarks
1.	M/s Punjab Display Devices Ltd. (Now M/s JCT Electronics Ltd.)	M/s Hitachi Ltd., Japan & M/s TEBA of Finland.	Approved
2.	M/s Uptron Colar Picture Tubes Ltd.	M/s Toshiba Corp. and M/s Mitsubishi Corp., Japan.	Approved
3.	M/s Samtel Colour Limited	M/s Mitsubishi Electric Co. Ltd., Japan.	Approved
4.	Shri Raghu Sudon	M/s Daewoo Electronics Co. Ltd, South Korea.	Rejected.
5.	M/s Andhra Pradesh Electronics Devp. Corp. Ltd. (APEDC)	M/s Philips Holland	} Decision not yet taken.
6.	M/s Jammu & Kashmir State Industrial Devp. Corp. Ltd. (J&K SIDC)	M/s Videocolour S.A. France	
7.	M/s Rajasthan Industrial Investment Corp. Ltd. (RIICO)	M/s Polkolor, Poland.	Rejected