

[Dr. Asim Bala]

independence, the population has increased manifold, but the railway authorities instead of developing these stations, are proposing to convert these two block stations into flag stations.

Thousands of people and the daily commuters travel from these places. These two places are important in their own right, both hosting important educational institutions including High Schools and Colleges and having lot of other Offices. Moreover, both these places are important centres of business, particularly of jute, pottery, mats, vegetables and handicrafts.

I request the Central Government to drop the proposal of degradation of these two stations and take initiative to improve this area for the people.

(vii) Need to include Manipuri language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): There has been a mass hunger strike, a relay hunger strike, throughout the State of Manipur demanding the inclusion of Manipuri language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India since the month of December, 1991. It is participated by the Sahitya Pra Parishad, Language Demand Co ordination Committee, Teachers, Lecturers, Students, Volunteer Organisations and Business persons. Students and the youth have now started agitation in the form of non-operation. so, the situation has worsened.

In the circumstances, the Union Government is requested for the inclusion of Manipuri language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF PROCLAMATION IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF MANIPUR AND MOTION RE: REVOCATION OF PROCLAMATION IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF MANIPUR

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 7th January, 1992, under Article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Manipur."

Copies of the Reports of the Governor of Manipur and the Proclamation have been laid on the Table of the House.

Seven Members of Manipur Legislative Assembly, which has a strength of 60 Members, were disqualified on 24th July, 1990 by the Speaker under the provisions of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution. The Governor of Manipur in his report dated 2nd January, 1992 addressed to the President of India, had informed that with the Supreme Court delivering its judgment on 12th November, 1991, removing the disqualification of seven Members, there was sharp step-up in political activity in the State. The ruling United Front Government had 34 Members in the House. However, on 4th December, 1991 the ULF strength was reduced due to the withdrawal of support of three Congress (S) Members. As the situation was confusing, a special session of the Legislative Assembly was convened on 9th December, 1991 by the Chief Minister to seek a vote of confidence. On the refusal of the Speaker to

allot seats to the seven disqualified Congress (I) Members, the Congress (I) boycotted the Assembly session. The ULF Government was able to secure a vote of confidence with 29 Members voting in favour of it, excluding the Speaker.

The Governor further reported that three members of the Legislative Assembly were disqualified on 31.12.1991 under the Anti-Defection Law.

The Governor has also mentioned about the frequent change of loyalties by MLAs. According to the Governor, virtually two camps had been set up, one in the official residence of the then Chief Minister and another in the private residence of Shri R.K. Dorendra Singh, Leader of the CLP confining the Members and allowing none others to come in or to go out. There were charges and counter charges regarding detention of MLAs under duress from both the camps.

The Governor had further stated that even though the normal law and order situation in the State was under control, the sporadic activities of insurgent groups were posing serious problems. The Governor was of the view that the political instability would lead to a rapid deterioration of the situation. A Ministry with threats to its own stability, and the administration under it, was not likely to deal with the insurgents with firmness that was required. Frequent shifting of loyalties by some of the MLAs had added to the political instability. As a result, these events had brought the State administration to a virtual standstill.

The Governor had further mentioned that Shri R.K. Dorendra Singh, Leader of the Congress Legislature Party had staked his claim to form the Ministry with a list of 33 Members and declared that once he was invited to form a Ministry, he was confident of getting the support of many more Members. The Governor mentioned that out of 33

Members, 10 were already disqualified, and three were uncertain. The Governor had also added that he had no basis on which Shri Dorendra Singh's claim could be accepted as correct. The Governor did not favour formation of a Ministry as it would result in further defections. The Governor informed that he had explored all avenues, all available alternatives to prevent or rectify a break down of constitutional machinery in the State, but these had been of no avail. according to the Governor, if the existing state of affairs was allowed to continue for long, there would be serious and adverse repercussions on the State polity, which was already beset with secessionist movements.

The Governor had also mentioned that it would be preferable to suspend the Legislative Assembly because it would not be desirable so soon to have another election, which in the existing conditions of Manipur, was likely to be marred by a great deal of violence, with some of the candidates enlisting the support of one group of extremists or another. Secondly, it may also be possible for one side or the other to gather even from the present House adequate support to be able to form a stable Ministry. Thirdly, going by past experience, one cannot reasonably hope that another election would result in the election of candidates with more stable party loyalty, or better political ethics.

In view of the foregoing facts, the Governor had recommended that a Proclamation may be issued by the President under Article 356 of the Constitution and the State Assembly kept under suspended animation. The Governor has added that the situation in the mean time may be watched and if it appears that no party is able to secure adequate majority through legitimate means, the Assembly might be dissolved.

The Governor of Manipur *vide* his message dated 5.1.92 further informed that the State Council of Ministers in its meeting

[Sh. M.M. Jacob]

held on 4.1.1992 had resolved to recommend him to dissolve the existing Manipur Legislative Assembly under Article 174(2)(b) of the Constitution. Accordingly, the Chief Minister in a letter submitted to the Governor on 5.1.1992 had advised him for dissolving the Manipur Legislative Assembly. The Governor stated that he was not acting on the advice of the Chief Minister as he had already reported on the present situation.

The Union Government considered the reports of the Governor and the situation in Manipur and decided to recommend to the President of India to issue a Proclamation under Article 356 of the Constitution and keep the Legislative Assembly under suspended animation. The Proclamation under Article 356 of the Constitution was issued by the President on 7th January, 1992.

In view of the circumstances, which I have just explained, I commend, Sir, that the Proclamation issued on 7th January, 1992 under Article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Manipur be approved by this august House.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA
(Jaipur): I beg o move:

"that this House recommends to the President that the Proclamation issued by him on the 7th January, 1992, under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Manipur, be revoked". (Interruptions)

I will speak later.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Motions moved:

"That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 7th January, 1992 under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Manipur."

"That this House recommends to the President that the Proclamation issued by him on the 7th January, 1992, under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Manipur, be revoked."

The discussion on this Resolution and the Motion will take place after the Lunch break.

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 0' clock.

13.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the clock.

14.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at seven minutes past fourteen of the clock

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF PROCLAMATION IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF MANIPUR

AND
MOTION RE: REVOCATION OF PROCLAMATION IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF MANIPUR - COND..

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we shall have a discussion on the statutory Resolution regarding approval of Proclamation in relation to the State of Manipur and on the

motion moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pall): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution regarding imposition of the President's Rule in Manipur. But it is our opinion that the manner in which the State Assembly has been put under suspended animation and elections have not been ordered by dissolving the Assembly we take it as a great betrayal with the Constitution. It is a treachery with the people of the State and democracy.

There has been horse trading continuously for the last two years. Sometimes 7 M.L.As came in this party or 3 M.L.As joined the other party. The way Ministers and M.L.As have been changing sides and horse trading has been going on, it made difficult for the Government to function smoothly. I am unable to understand in which circumstances these M.L.As will be able to form a stable Government in future.

The Minister has just now told the House about Manipur State in detail as to how frequently sides were changed here and defection took place several times. Even many questions were raised about the Speaker of the State Assembly. Even Supreme Court's Orders were disobeyed several times. Supreme Court has issued a notice to the Speaker for the contempt of the court only yesterday. It is very deplorable situation. If we do not follow the basic principles of democracy in our country to the effect that our Judiciary is sovereign in every field as per the provisions made in article 141 to 144 of the Constitution, except in the case where speaker is sovereign and supreme in the House, all will have to follow the Supreme Court orders howsoever great one may be.

[English]

Law is the king of kings.

[Translation]

Manu held that law is the king of kings and it is the duty of the Supreme Court to decide a question of law. Therefore it is very distressing that the orders of the Supreme Court have been violated again and again in Manipur. The more it is condemned, the less it is.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with this a question arises that before the Presidents' order was issued, the U.L.F. of the State passed a Resolution in its Cabinet and sent it to the Governor on the 7th January. In his telex to the President, the Governor had admitted it himself. On January 2, 1992 it was written that he had many alternatives. One alternative was to invite the Congress Party or the U.L.F. to form Government and the other alternative was to dissolve the Vidhan Sabha and the third one was to suspend the Vidhan Sabha so that it might be revived in future if the situation so warranted. But so far as the suspension is concerned, there is possibility of horse-trading of Legislators. They may be lured and pressurised to cross the floor. Therefore, the only alternative left for me is to dissolve the Legislative Assembly. But in spite of this, I think it proper not to dissolve the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what he has written in the telex which is laid on the Table of the House:

[English]

"Going by past experience, one cannot reasonably hope that another election would result in the election of candidates with more

[Sh. Guman Mal Lodha]

stable party—loyalty or better political ethics. There is some psychological advantage in having, during a politically sensitive period, a Ministry which can conduct affairs with some degree of understanding and responsibility. Against these, if the Assembly is only suspended, there is possibility of support being brought by money or through lure.

[Translation]

I want to draw the attention of the House especially to this point—

[English]

"Against these, if the Assembly is only suspended, there is possibility of support being brought by money or through lure. The dissolution, on the other hand, might have chastening effect of the various political parties and candidates weighing both sides of consideration, I feel that on the whole, it would be preferable only to suspend the legislative assembly."

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that when he himself says that support will be brought by money or by lure. Thus, Democracy will be ridiculed. In the light of these points, there was no reason to suspend the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, under Article 174 of the Constitution it is mentioned that whenever the Cabinet of a State passes a resolution and sends it to the Governor, the Governor should abide by it. When the Cabinet passed a resolution to dissolve the Legislative Assembly and sent it to the Governor, the Governor does not have any other discretion on it. It has been made clear in various verdicts given by the Supreme Court. So long as the Council of Ministers is in

power in a State and it passes a resolution and sends it to the Governor, neither the Governor nor the President has the power to reject it. It is totally wrong and a contempt of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what happened there is that the Council of Ministers of the State sent its Resolution on the 2nd recommending the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly but it was not accepted by the Centre till the 7th. Later on the 5th January a telex is received which reads:-

"In continuation of my earlier message of even number, dated 2nd January, 1992, the following political development in Manipur is submitted for kind information. The Council of Ministers in its meeting held on 4th January 1992 resolved to recommend and request me to dissolve the existing Manipur Legislative Assembly under Article 172(2)(B) of the Constitution of India. Accordingly, the Chief Minister, Shri R.K. Ranibir Singh, in a letter submitted to me today (5th January, 1992), has advised me for dissolving the Manipur Legislative Assembly, under Article 174(2) (B) of the Constitution. I am not acting on this....."

[Translation]

I would like to ask as to who authorised the Governor to do so. The Constitution does not allow, nor does law do so nor do the judgments of the Courts of law permit the Governor to express his opinion. You must know that when Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav felt that the fall of his Government was imminent, he got a resolution passed and dissolved the Legislative Assembly and continued in the Council of Ministers without enjoying majority. Before the Congress-men could prove the majority of their party, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav approached the Governor at 2 A.M. and got the stay-order passed by the Governor very shrewdly. The Governor agreed with him and dissolved the

Legislative Assembly and let him continue in the Council of Ministers. [English]

I want to submit that there was identical situation in Manipur. It is our misfortune. Everyone knows how the issue of Meghalaya was played with in this very House. On behalf of the Congress Party assurance was given in this House that it was going to withdraw President's rule in Meghalaya in a day or two and democratic Government was going to be restored there. But by the time the Congress did not come in majority, the proclamation was kept enforced. The Lok Sabha session ended. But the Government breached the faith given to us and when the Congress Party was nearing majority in the Assembly, the President's rule was withdrawn. The same game is being played in Manipur. While supporting the proclamation under Article 356, we also demand the restoration of democracy in Manipur, holding of elections there and redressal of people's grievances there.

Even the regional languages of small States have been included in our Constitution, but Manipuri has not been included. Why has it not been included? It was not included because unless a situation favourable to ruling party takes place there, the aspirations of the people there are not fulfilled. This is the reason that emergency is clamped there, terrorism spreads and the people lose faith in democracy. The same situation emerged in other States and it is likely to emerge in Manipur also.

I would like to submit to the hon. Minister to get the approval of the House on the proclamation under Article 356 — but immediately after it order elections there after dissolving the Vidhan Sabha and democracy restored. Please don't repeat the game played in Meghalaya. Otherwise the people of the country would lose faith in the democracy.

PROF. M. KAMSON (Outer Manipur):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have just been listening to Mr. Guman Mai Lodha from the other side. But my point is quite different from what he said. First, I would like to support the motion. Not only that, I would also like to thank the Home Minister for taking appropriate action in this regard because the situation prevailing just before the Proclamation of the President's Rule in Manipur required such action. The Governor has already given a clear report about it. So, there was no alternative at all except the President's Rule and to put the Assembly under suspended animation. People welcome it. Normally, nobody wants President's Rule in any State as an alternative of a popular Government. But in the situation, since the Governor was not giving a chance for the Congress to form a Government, people also wanted the end of the ULF Government. That is why I say that President's Rule is better for the people of Manipur than the rule of the ULF Government. As the Governor has clearly explained in his report, I would just like to mention something about the situation prevailing just before the proclamation of President's Rule in Manipur. The situation was very very bad to such an extent that nobody liked to have the ULF Government to continue even for a single moment. It was marked by maladministration, corruption, misrule and scandal in rice and other civil supplies. There was no law and order and security to the life and property of the people. It was full of violence and killings perhaps, you might have read about it in the Governor's report and newspapers also that everyday lot of killings take place including civilians, police men, CRPF, SIB officials along with snatching of arms and ammunition. On one occasion, they had snatched Rs. 73.20 lakhs which was under the guard of the CRPF on the highway of Imphal-Morich. Lot of things had happened to this extent. Nobody wants to bear the rule of the

[Prof. M. Kamson]

ULF Government even for a single moment. That was the worst ever Government rule in Manipur State. There was kidnapping of school children for a ransom. This was the order of the day. Every alternate day, you will learn from Manipur that somewhere children of Class III or IV or V have been kidnapped, particularly children of business community belonging to the Bazar. You know that all communities of India stay in Imphal. Some communities have been staying there for hundreds of years even. During these days, lot of children were kidnapped for ransom. Parents cannot report to the Government. Sometimes, they do report to the police and the Government. But such parents get a warning from the extremist elements that if they refer again to the police, they will be punished. So, the parents have no other way out than to quietly give the amount of Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 or Rs. 10 lakhs for a child. That was the order of the day, just before the proclamation of the President's Rule. At that time, this proclamation could have been avoided, provided the Governor allowed the Congress Party to form the Government. But in his report, the Governor stated that he could not foresee any sort of stable Government there. I disagree with him on this point. There was no question of instability. At that time Congress has got a strength of 33 with the supporters of the Party. And the other side has only 26 Members.

One of our friends said that the Governor did not accept the recommendation of the Cabinet for the dissolution of the House. But the Government was already reduced to a minority of 26 in a House of 60. How could the Governor accept the recommendation of a minority Government? Therefore, Governor could not accept it. That is the explanation, if I were to explain it that way, politically.

The Governor could have given a chance to the Congress Party to form the Govern-

ment. Out of 60, the Congress Party won 26 seats in February 1990. I should say that unfortunately, the Governor refused the Congress Party to have a chance to form the Government. At that time I was very much there. When I and the CLP leader of Manipur approached the Governor at 4 p.m., he was in a position where he could not answer clearly whether he was going to give the Congress a chance to form the Government. He said that he had already given his word to the MPP which got just 10 Members after the Elections! Now their strength has increased to 11, after the by-election. Then they were only just 10 and I was surprised to know that the Governor had given chance and opportunity to a Party of 10 Members, ignoring a Party consisting of 26 Members. And Congress is the single largest Party in the Assembly. This is totally against the norms of democracy that the single large party was denied a chance to form the Government. Had the Government given us an opportunity at that time, the situation would not have definitely deteriorated like it is today. I say this because the Congress Party has been ruling the State very well. You can go back to history. You will find that the 10-year continuous rule of Congress in Manipur between 1981-89, i.e. just before February 1990 when the ULF came to power, was the most peaceful period in the Manipur political situation. Because of that also, the Congress Party could have been given an opportunity to form the Government at that time. But unfortunately, the Congress was not given a chance. At that time - I am speaking of 1st January - the Congress Party has 33 Members, when the CLP leader offered to form the Government. After five or six days later, the Governor proclaimed President's Rule in Manipur. Now, at the moment Congress has got about nearly 38 Members, while the other side has only 21.

Here I may tell you something. One of our friends has said that there has been a lot of defection. In the Governor's Report also it

was stated that he could not foresee any sort of stable government. But I disagree with him. I dare to disagree on this point and I will give you some facts and figures here which will make it very clear that it is not a question of defection. Whoever had decided to go to the side of Congress Party decided so, because they were very much suffocated and they could not bear to stay in the Government even for a single moment. They had no option but to withdraw their support from the Government. But this was not defection, because that Government was formed by so many Parties – 11 Members from MPP; 11 from Janata Dal; 6 from Congress (S); 3 from CPI and 2 from KNA a local party and 1 from NPP. In this way, so many pieces joined together to form the Government. So, there is no question of defection at all. It is a question of joining the Government or not and extending support or withdrawing support to the Government.

Now, I would like to give the names of those who withdrew their support from the Government on 4th December 1991. They are Shri Doungel, Finance Minister of Cabinet rank; Shri Selkai, Minister of Medicine – Cabinet rank; Shri Krishna Singh Revenue Minister of Cabinet rank; Shri Holkhomang, Industry Minister of Cabinet rank; Shri Jagor Singh; Shri Daison, Shri Komal Singh; Shri Thangkhanlal and Shri Hangkhanlian, all Ministers of State. Can you think that these people withdrew their support for getting some other higher post or some allurement? There is no higher post excepting the chief ministership and all of them cannot become Chief Ministers. They do not get any money and they do not take any money. How can we level the charge of allurement against them? They withdrew their support because they knew very well about the corruption, mal-administration and the nexus between the Government and the extremists and resurgence of extremist activity, uncontrol-

lable law and order situation and so on. Public resentment was so high that these Ministers could not face the people in their constituencies as also in the State Assembly. Therefore, knowing very well that it was the only way out to save the situation and serve the people of Manipur, they withdrew their support from the Government. How can you charge them with allurement of money etc.? It is just impossible because all of them happened to be Cabinet rank Ministers. So, on this point, I should say that it is not a question of defection. I disagree with the Governor that it is defection. Sir, from 4th December till this day all these people are waiting for a direction either from the Central Government or from the Governor to form the Government in order to save the situation. There was a lot of pressure on them. The ULF were offering Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 15 lakhs to one or two members so that they create the report that there is instability. There were telephone calls from the extremists to two MLAs to withdraw their support to Congress. Despite all this pressure they remained united. It is not a question of horse-trading. It is a question of saving the situation. They took the decision calmly with a determined and reasonable thinking.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Time at your disposal is very less.

PROF. M. KAMSON: With the permission of Whip, I will take little more time.

Sir, you are sitting here as the Presiding Officer of the apex body. As you know very well, **

At present, I am not concerned with the national aspect of the problem because it is not a proper time. But, I would specifically point out that the speaker has created problem in Manipur. I would rather say that this defection was created by him only.

[Prof. M. Kamson]

First of all, these seven Members were disqualified without any norm rule and procedure. He did not get any complaint from any Member. The Speaker disqualified these seven Members on the 24th July, 1990 and the complaint came later in the evening at 5.30 P.M.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. Can we criticise any act of the Presiding Officer of any other House or Assembly in this House? The Hon. Member is denouncing the action of the Speaker of Manipur Assembly. Any act of a Presiding Officer in his respective House or his ruling can't be reviewed in this House. Therefore, I would like to submit to you that the allegations on the Speaker of Manipur should be expunged.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will expunge that. That will not go on record.

PROF. M. KAMSON: Sir, what is your ruling? I am not criticising the intention of the Speaker. I am just pointing out that a person who happens to be the Speaker has created this political situation in Manipur. I am concerned only with the political aspect of it. I have never touched the Supreme Court's side nor the Speaker as the institution. Yet, if your ruling is against it, I would like to withdraw it. I would not have mentioned it if the Speaker had acted according to the rules. I will give you one instance.

Out of 19 Members the Speaker disqualified 7 Members. The provision of the Act says that one-third of the Members cannot be disqualified; there can either be a split or they should be allowed to remain in the same party. Seven Members out of 19

Members cannot be less than one-third. This is only a simple arithmetics. If the Speaker fails to know that seven is more than one-third of 19, I cannot help it or I should shut my mouth and not speak anything about it. That is my only point.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please conclude.

PROF. M. KAMSON: Sir, I belong to that State. Unless I explain to you about it who else will explain. I will take the liberty of the House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): I wish to bring to the notice of the Member, through you, Sir, that I have no objection to his taking more time but if we do not pass this by today we will have a constitutional crisis on our hand. That is the real situation and I request all the parties to co-operate. (Interruptions)

[Translations]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roseria): Election... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: I cannot have the 'chunav'.

PROF. M. KAMSON: Now, I would like to drop some small points though I feel that they are very very important for the benefit of the Members of the House. What is going on there? What is wrong there? Because of this, a problem has been created for the nation.

We know that the Conference of the Presiding Officers was called only because of this situation. That is why I am just giving you the facts.

Again, he had disqualified three more

Members during the time of President's Rule. There are many things in the Constitution and I do not want to mention all these things because of paucity of time.

Under the rules, it is mentioned. That the Speaker is not supposed to act under the Disqualification Act to disqualify or taking any proceeding during the President's rule.

It is because, with the proclamation of the President's Rule, all the functions and powers of the Legislature are taken by the Parliament. So, what was going on in the Assembly was part and parcel of the proceedings of the Parliament.

I would like to submit to you one point for your kind consideration. If something is going on in the Manipur Legislature during the proclamation of President's Rule, would you consider it as the proceedings of the Parliament or not?

It is because, the President's order clearly says:

"That with the proclamation, the powers of the Legislature of the said State shall be exercisable under the authority of the Parliament."

Therefore, all the proceedings of disqualification that were taken by him during that period shall be considered as the proceedings of this House and not of that House. So, I think it is very important. You are the Presiding Officer and it involves some sorts of encroachment upon your rights, powers and privileges as the Presiding Officer of the Parliament.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You kindly conclude. You have already taken twenty minutes. You will have to conclude now. Kindly co-operate with the Chair.

PROF. M. KAMSON: Since the hon. Deputy Speaker has told me to cut short, I will say only one thing and conclude.

In Manipur, there is a lot of problem at the moment because of the special demand by the hill people for extension of Autonomous Hill District Council under the Sixth Schedule and for the benefit of the valley people, Manipuri should be included in the Eighth Schedule. Because of this, there were strikes and bandhs. This may be looked into and at the same time, a opportunity should be given to the Congress only for forming an alternative Government. Then only, with the popular Government, the problem can be handled.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Resolution relates to the affairs of a princely State – a princely sovereign State – which fought the British for its independence in 1891.

The Governor rightly pointed out that the people, the youths there, had observed 15th October, as a Dark Day because on that day, this sovereign princely State was merged with the Indian Union. It is a border State, as you know, on the north-eastern region of the country, a very vital place.

Now a situation is created by the Congress Party under which this proclamation is caused to be issued by the President. As a result of the general election, Manipur People's Party, Janata Dal, the Congress (S) the CPI and KNA formed a United Legislature Front; and it had 34 Members against the 26 Members of the Congress (I) Party, as a result of the election. The Governor invited the Leader of the United Legislature Front to form the Government. The Governor was very right in this respect.

Subsequently, 14 MLAs made a split out of 26 MLAs of the Cong. (I); of these 14 MLAs, seven other MLAs have formed the Manipur Congress Party and seven MLAs have been disqualified by the Speaker. So, in this situation, the Legislature Front was running the Government but with much handicap. As soon as the Congress Party ruled at the Centre, the representatives of remaining 12 MLAs of the Congress (I) Party

[Sh. Yaima Singh Yumnam]

came to Delhi and asked the Central Government — I mean the Congress (I) Party at the Centre — for sending a team of three Leaders led by Mrs. Ramdulari Sinha and two other MPs. They came to Manipur on the 25th December last and engineered defection; they were successful in engineering defection by alluring the Minister of State in the United National Front to be the Deputy Chief Minister and offering lakhs of rupees. They came at the residence of **

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do not use the name.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Please expunge it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Because they are not here to defend themselves.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: I agree with your ruling.

Whatever situation my hon. friend on this side has described about the activities of the extremists is a fact. But it was a creation of the Congress Party; it was a creation of the then ruling Congress (I) Government whose two Chief Ministers were removed. One was removed during the lamented Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi. While he was the Chief Minister, she received information from other sources that he had links with the extremists, he was utilising the services of the extremists and underground for his political ends.

He was removed. Since you do not like me to name, I will not name him.

Then, the next Chief Minister was also removed by the lamented Shri Rajiv Gandhi while he was the Chief Minister because he received the news that he also was utilising the services of those underground Naga Nationalist Socialist Council, etc, for his political ends.

Again, one Deputy Chief Minister — he is no more now — of the Congress Party, also had links with the extremists. So, actually the unlawful activities at that time were a creation of the Congress Government and local leaders of the Congress (I) Party of the State. So, what happened? Then, fourteen MLAs of the Congress (I) Party had defected. The then Deputy Chief Minister had even urinated on the Chair of the Speaker. It is on record. It is the culture of the Congress (I).

Although Manipur is a small State, it creates history. Today, just now it has been mentioned in this House also, that the hon. Speaker of the State is being issued notices for contempt of court.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL (Erandol): That matter is *sub judice*. It should not be referred to here.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That matter is before the Supreme Court. It is *sub judice*.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: I accept your ruling. I can say this much, that the hon. Speaker of Manipur is so much determined that he is prepared to suffer imprisonment. He may fail in the court, but the youth and the people in the State are prepared to sacrifice for him. It will be carried in the street of Manipur. It will be taken as a political issue in the State. Please see how it is agitated here. How a Speaker of a State Assembly is supposed to be penalised. However, since you say that it is a matter which is *sub judice*, I leave it at that.

I say that I represent the Speaker, Dr. Borobabu Singh, because he belongs to my Party. We are prepared to fight his cause in the streets of Manipur and he is prepared to suffer imprisonment even. He is so much determined. I leave it. I am not going to say anything further.

But my purpose is, that this defection was engineered by the Congress (I) Party

with the end of installing a Congress Government in the State in view. The Congress although it says that the means justify the ends, that was the *mantra* of Mahatma Gandhi. How they do not follow it. Now they think that the ends justify the means. Shri Rajiv Gandhi wanted to stop these defections. That is why this anti-defection law was passed. But who is honouring his spirit now? Who is honouring him?

The local Congress Party units in the States are engineering defections, they are alluring others, doing nothing but this, only with the end of installing a Congress Government in view, in the States. That is a fact.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you had given more than twenty minutes to my friend. So I may also be given time to that extent.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That cannot be a precedent.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Sir, now I shall come to the report of the Governor. To some extent, he is correct. To say that there were defections and many MLAs were on the fence, to that extent he is correct.

The hon. Minister, Shri, Jacob, while replying in the Rajya Sabha has mentioned that the advice given by the Council of Ministers was done when it was in minority. That is not a fact. I challenge him. If he prepares to accept my challenge, then I shall give him all the facts. When the ULF Ministry was in majority, the Council of Ministers adopted a resolution advising the Governor to dissolve it. Only the Governor and the Government here have not complied with that. Under Article 174 2 (b) it must be complied with by the Governor and the Government here. So, I offer my challenge. Please accept it. It is a fact that the advice was given when the Council of Ministers was commanding a majority in the house... (Interruptions)

PROF. M. KAMSON: I would like to make one clarification. The recommendation for dissolution was made by the Cabinet

on 4th January. But by 4th December, not less than six Ministers had already left... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Yaima Singh is a Member of this House. He has come from that area. He explains it very well. When the Minister replies, he will answer to him and he definitely rebuts it.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Sir, the Governor should have acted under the provision of the Constitution and it should have been dissolved. Now, the State is put under suspended animation. It is only a dubious device of the Congress (I) Party to allow horse tradings, to allure the MLAs to their side. To keep the Assembly under suspended animation means, they are adopting another means, to allure these MLAs, to allow horse trading so that the Congress Party can be installed there. It is the most meanest device of the party in power. They are saying: "We, the Congress Party are in power at the Centre..." (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Yaima Singh, you have also taken 20 minutes. Kindly conclude. There are other Members who wish to participate in the debate. We shall have to complete this today. Your cooperation is absolutely essential.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: I was disturbed the them. Otherwise, I could have completed my speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In spite of disturbance, you have not restricted your speech.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Sir, I will have to leave many points which are very interesting for this House. Now, I come to the end of my speech as I am prepared to adhere to your ruling.

My request to the Government is this. Please do not extend this suspended animation. Please dissolve this Assembly. If the Congress Party has guts, I challenge them to face a fresh election there. I, on behalf of the

[Sh. Yaima Singh Yumnam]

U.L.F., challenge the Congress Party to face a fresh election there. Have they guts? Why are you playing this type of mischiefs? I am prepared to face the challenge if there could be any of it. Let them have guts and order elections. They have no guts. They are trying by backdoor policy and backdoor means to come to power. They have tried several times through corruption and money power. Manipur is not a State to be played by Congress (I) Party. You will understand this. If they are prepared to accept our challenge, let them dissolve the Assembly and seek fresh mandate from the people.

About the Governor, I disagree with the Governor. At the moment law and order is maintained in Manipur. I do not know why the Governor is saying that it is not conducive to hold elections here. When elections can be held in Punjab why cannot they be held in Manipur? There must be an election.

Lastly, I submit that by denying the elections, let us not create a second Kashmir or a second Punjab in Manipur. (*Interruptions*) Please take it seriously. Do not take it casually. As I described earlier, Manipur is not an ordinary State. It is in the border area. As I have told you, it has merged with the Indian Union only forty years ago. The people feel very much betrayed because of all these.

The very legitimate demand of the State is the inclusion of Manipuri language in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution. It has not been done till now. The nation has not yet recognised the feelings of the people of the State. I may submit that thousands and thousands of people, including women and students, from all walks of life, are on relay hunger strike and are agitating. The students have started non-co-operation movement. The situation cannot go on like this. In this situation, it is not advisable to prolong the animated suspension. There must be fresh election. Fresh mandate must be sought from the people.

With these words, I conclude my speech. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. You have taken three minutes more than our friends and proved your seniority. Now Shri Handique.

SHRI BHOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE (Jorhat): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir,

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that if the Government wants to get it passed today it would be better if one member, each from ruling party and opposition speaks on it. If the Government is willing, it should restrain its members.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think only one Member from Congress Party has spoken.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I only said that the Members of the Janata Dal, CPM, CPI and Forward Block are yet to speak. If all of them speak, we will not be able to finish it today. We will not be able to pass it today. You will have to prolong it

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes. There is some mistake in the calculation. It is the turn of the Janata Dal.

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan may speak.

An hon. Member: It is because of his suggestion.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I do not have any objection.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let Shri Paswan speak.

541 *Statutory Resolution Re.PHALGUNA 9, 1913 (SAKA) Re. Revocation of 542*
Approval of Proclamation in Relation
to the State of Manipur and Motion
Proclamation in Relation
to the State of Manipur
15.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my point is that the problem of Manipur is very serious and the Government has already stated that there would be a political crisis if this Bill was not passed today. You were just now talking about a Constitutional crisis. Therefore I said if this Bill is there how would the discussion on the Private Member's Bill start at 3.30 P.M. We have only half an hour and Members of all parties would like to speak on it. In such a situation, it is not possible to conclude the discussion on this issue by 3.30 P.M. I had no objection on our hon. Member speaking on it. I said that I would speak after hearing you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I oppose this Resolution about Manipur, which we are considering now. Just now our friend from Manipur told us about the number of members. In this connection I would like to say that there were 37 members of ruling party. Out of 26 members of the Congress, 7 members were disqualified. These seven members formed the Manipur Congress. That matter is now pending in the Court and is, therefore, *subjudice*. I would not go into the details and waste the time of the House on that issue. I would like to draw your attention to the report of the Governor, which is self contradictory. I think that the Governor of Manipur has mentioned all those points in his report on which our hon. friend from Manipur dwelt in his speech. If you see Page No. 2 of the Hindi version of the report of the Governor, you will find that:

"When he came know that the Chief Minister did not have clear majority, he advised the Chief Minister to prove the majority on the floor of the house and the Speaker convened the meeting of the house. Later on, Congress (I) boycotted the session of legislative assembly since the speaker did not allow the disqualified 7 members to sit in the house. The Congress (I) alleged that the speaker is prejudiced in abiding by the or-

ders of Supreme Court and the U.L.F. Government succeeded in winning the support of 29 members (except the Speaker)".

The same thing had happened in Meghalaya and that is why I want to make the comparison. This question is not of Manipur alone, it is the question of whole of the North-East area which has been peaceful. Manipur is also one of the peaceful areas but what the Government has done in Meghalaya is not good. We know that Jacob Sahib was there in Meghalaya. The Prime Minister had convened a meeting and had said the same thing, "leave it to me". Upto 16th "leave it to me, I will do it" had been his patent word. He had assured that everything would be done according to our wish by 16th of December. He had asked us to believe him. Tomorrow its period is coming to an end, therefore, leave it on us. We people had believed him but I do not have trust in him. Therefore, I was the only Member who had told the Prime Minister that did not believe him. You want to instal the Congress Government there by hook or crook. All of my senior colleagues have faith in you that is why I am keeping mum as nothing is likely to happen upon 16th and as a result of it you have formed your Government in Meghalaya. This matter is not only restricted to Manipur. It will also affect Nagaland. We are not worried as to whose Government will be formed there, yours, ours or somebody's else. This is the matter of national concern. The matter of concern is that on one hand we are facing terrorism, whether it is in Punjab or in Kashmir, while on the other Central Government is trying to spread unrest by way of its style of functioning in the State, which has been peaceful.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, if you go through the report of the Governor, you will find on page 3 that the game of hide and seek being played there for the last three weeks had seriously affected the State administration. Further he has said that since 4th December 1991, there has been two camps—the one is of the official bungalow of the Chief Minister and the other at the private residence of R.K. Dorendra Singh. From the day

[Sh. Ram Vilas Paswan]

the official residence of the Chief Minister and the camp of Shri Dorendra Singh have been converted into private camps, allegations of detaining the MLAs forcibly are being levelled by both sides on each other. They have also alleged each other of restricting the movement of MLAs so detained.

Then, the Governor says that Manipur is a border State, where all sorts of militant activities are being carried out. This is the report of the Governor. It has been informed by the reliable sources that the illegal declared terrorist outfit of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland has acquired sophisticated weapons and they are planning for lootings. Recently, they have also recruited many youths in their gang. Then, the Governor says that the M.J.R. tribals residing in the South-West area of Manipur are having links and hold on that area. There took place the heinous murder of 3 intelligence officers of military and two officers of S.B.I. on 11th June, 1991 and on 30th January, 1991, a pre-planned attack was made on the S.P. of Imphal in the heart of the Imphal township in which a police constable and a civilian were killed. The Government says further that though the law and order situation in the State is under control yet the looting activities of rebel groups are creating grave problems there. Still, we have to do a lot to contain rebellious activities and to create a sense of security in minds of the people. The Governor further comments that it will be totally unrealistic to hope that any Government having marginal majority in Manipur can work for some time even. Due to such political situations, an atmosphere of directionlessness has emerged for the last one month.

Such situation has a bad affect on the State Administration and at last the Governor says that he does not have any ground to accept their claims. It means that he had utilised all available alternative to avoid the failure of the constitutional machinery in the State or to bring about improvement therein but these have yielded no result. If this

situation is allowed to continue for a long time then it will also have a serious and adverse affects on the political set up. In a state where the separatist movement is already there, it is the need of the hour that the faith in parliamentary democracy should be restored.

I want to know the meaning of restoring the faith in parliamentary democracy. Recently you had conducted elections in Punjab. The elections in Punjab were conducted because we wanted to find some political solution to this problem and here your Governor is saying continuously but you do not pay any heed to what he says. Although, I do not want to level any charge against the Governor or it is not my intention to lower the dignity of his office, yet what is the reason that Governor who writes such things contradicts his statement in the last sentence under pressure. He says that the out going cabinet, the main opposition party, Congress-i and others would like the Legislative Assembly to be kept in suspended animation, because among other things they would not like to go for elections so early. What does it mean? We will not argue on date. Some one says that the Chief Minister said on this date, the other says on that date. The question is that the Council of Ministers had decided. It does not matter on which date it decided but I would like to submit that the situation in the State is such that some of the M.L.A.s have crossed the floor of the house four times in two months and the Governor has also reached the conclusion that there is no guarantee that Government of one party will be formed. The Governor also says that corruption is on the increase. He is also of the view that the law and order situation is deteriorating in the State. In such circumstances, I would like to know from you as to what other way out has the Central Government? Further the Governor says that we will not like to go for elections so early. Why will not we like to go for elections? Is it simply because of the fact that expenditure will have be to incurred on it? Is money more important to him than the unity and integrity of the country? After it, let me read out the second sentence. He has also stated that he

is not in favour of keeping the Assembly under suspended animation because it was elected only 22 months before and it will not be desirable that the elections should be conducted again so early there. The Manipur Legislative Assembly is 22 months old but we had conducted elections for the Central Government in 11 months. If parliamentary elections can be held within 11 months because of instability at the centre then what is the objection if the elections for Manipur Legislative Assembly are conducted after 22 months. There the Legislative Assembly remained in existence for 22 months and the Government worked for 22 months. If the Governor arrives at this conclusion after 22 months that no alternative has left, because of your Part's interest, because of political interest. If you play with one State and the whole of the North-East, then you can make out yourself whether you are much worried more about the country or your own party.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I do not want to take much time of the House and therefore, I would like to conclude after saying one more thing. The Governor in the last says that after observing the situation for some time it seems that no party is in the position to muster enough majority through legal means therefore, the Legislative Assembly should be dissolved. That means whatever the Governor says is almost repeated in subsequent paras, but while concluding his report the Governor is asked to give an option in writing that the President's Rule may be imposed for some time so that there is transaction of money and all the manoeuvring and your Government is formed somehow. I would like to tell Mr. Jacob that he is very experienced person, but this House is supreme. I would like to tell the Congressmen that they should think honestly sometimes, if not always and rise above the party feelings. Can any person from North-East believe that you can provide a stable Government in Manipur? If you are not able to do so, the Legislative Assembly of the State should be dissolved as was recommended by the Council of Ministers there, and as was challenged by our colleague here. I would not challenge the point of view of the party,

but I would definitely tell you that if elections are held there and whatever be the results, it would be thousand times better than the action taken by you. You have done the job of sending a message throughout North-East that you would remain in power in any case. Same is the reason of the Punjab problem, that you formed a minority Government by toppling the majority Government of Barnala.

If the people have developed the feeling that a political point of view is being injected in the north-east, I believe it would bring out very bad results.

Therefore, I would urge upon you that elections may be conducted there as early as possible and the Assembly be dissolved. On behalf of the Janata Party, Left Front and National Front, and on behalf of all my colleagues, I would like to say that we won't support this resolution in any case. We will oppose it. We demand that instead of the Resolution, elections should be conducted there very soon. Therefore I oppose this Motion, and Janata Dal is also opposing it.

15.14 hrs.

[English]

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUÉ (Jorhat): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the political situation in Manipur, at present, arising out of certain developments in the Legislative Assembly is a poor reflection on our parliamentary democratic practices and system. I am afraid, it has reduced the system to a farce. A situation has arisen in Manipur posing a threat to the basic principles of democratic policy.

It is true defection under any circumstances is indefensible. But at the same time, on the plea of implementing anti-defection law, an arbitrary exercise prompted by a politically motivated design is equally bad and indefensible.

Ultimately the exercise itself has denigrated one of the basic institutions of democ-

[Sh. Bijoy Krishna Handique]

racy, the judiciary. In fact, the defiance of the Supreme Court verdict on the part of the Hon. Speaker and that too for a prolonged spell of time, on various pleas, I am afraid, smacks of political consideration and has made the confusion worse confounded. Those who sermonise in season and out of season on how not to confront the judiciary, I am afraid, are keeping their eyes shut, as it appears to me. They are behaving like the proverbial ostrich. But they must not forget that the whole development is being watched by the people and if such an erosion of democratic values and norms is allowed to go on unchecked, I am afraid, the people will lose faith in the system itself.

Seeking a fresh mandate, as suggested by some no doubt ultimately may be an answer to the situation. We should, however bear in mind that the right timing to go, that is the essence of the situation. For, there are other factors to be considered, too along with that.

We must not forget that Manipur is an insurgency-ridden State. Unlike Punjab and Kashmir, militants and terrorists, insurgents and the terrorist outfits in Manipur did not interfere in the election process, particularly in the last election when the State went to the polls. This is a clear signal and we must not take this signal lightly. We cannot afford not to take heed of this signal.

One must not take comfort in the thought that holding election is just a magic touch to correct the situation. Before that, the right climate needs to be created. And it is imperative that the credibility of the system and the credibility of those who are supposed to be custodians of the system, be restored before the election is held. For that, it needs time. That restoration of credibility is essential. Those who are responsible for such a sorry state of things and an impasse, must clean up the mess themselves before they talk of election. Then and then alone the right climate, the right atmosphere, for holding the election will come. It is not enough for

a ruling party to advise dissolution of the Assembly when for them chips are down and all the trickery to continue to be in the saddle of power fails. Let us not take shelter under such a plea. People are too clever to be hoodwinked. They see through such trickery. A sordid drama of defection has been going on for quite some time. Is there any guarantee that people will accept the election that easily? People's respect for and faith in the system, faith in the election, respect for the election, is fast declining. After all, it is people's money which is being wasted. And in precisely a situation like this, a sense of alienation and politics of violence thrive.

In the present situation in Manipur, before the time runs out, what we have to do is to lift the State and its people from the quagmire of uncertainty, tension and indignation and, at the same time, we have to prevent the administration from drifting into a kind of uncertainty, instability, purposelessness and non-performance. On both the counts, it is the people who suffer. And in the meantime, the Governor rightly is trying to form a people's Government and I believe when the people's Government is formed, a representative Government can undo wrongs already done by the previous Government. Which Party forms a Government, I am not saying it now. Let us leave it to the logic of the situation. But in the intervening time also, the duly formed Government has to devote itself to the area where its service is most needed that will help by assuaging their hurt feelings of the people. Then only the right climate will prevent for holding the elections. We are not opposing the elections. It must not be misunderstood. But we must create the right climate for holding the elections. It is a question of timing the elections. Is it the correct time to hold the elections there? I do not think so. But nobody is disputing the holding of elections. What we feel is that this is not the right time to hold the elections. I do believe that the Governor, in his wisdom, will see which party will give a stable majority in the Manipur Legislative Assembly and which party will give a stable Government so that it can serve the people

better. If such a Government falls, then we can dissolve the House and go in for fresh elections. As I said earlier, no one is disputing the holding of elections. But it is only a question of timing the elections.

With these words, I support the Statutory Resolution moved by the hon. Minister of State Shri M.M. Jacob.

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Bārpeta):
 Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I oppose the Statutory Resolution moved by the hon. Home Minister. I apprehend that the imposition of President's Rule in Manipur will have serious and adverse repercussions on the political health of the State, we demand the dissolution of the Assembly and fresh elections in the State to end the instability persisting in the State at present. It is then found that the President's Rule has been imposed and the Assembly has been kept under suspended animation. As the experience in Meghalaya demonstrates, the period of suspended animation may be utilised to foist a Congress Government on the people. There may be scrape for defections, horse-trading, may be the order of the day.

Sir, if we go by the report placed by the Governor, he said that when the Leader of the Congress Legislature Party staked his claim to form the Government, he submitted a list of 33 Members. The Governor has further observed that out of the 33 Members, 10 were already disqualified and three were uncertain. Again, the Governor in his note has stated that the frequent shifting of loyalty by some of the MLAs sitting on the fence has added to the political instability and this event has vitiated the political system there. As I said earlier, we fear that the suspended animation period may be utilised to foist a Government which is unwanted by the people of Manipur. So, the best way is to obtain the mandate of the people. For that, the Assembly must be dissolved. In this connection, I want to say that the people of Manipur are badly alienated. Manipur is a very sensitive State. Some of the secessionist and militant organisations are operating there. They are exploiting the situation of alienation to their

advantage. There is another aspect. Even after so many years of Independence, the Manipuri language which is spoken by more than 20 lakh people has not yet been included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. During this period we have seen that thousands of people are coming and demanding the inclusion of Manipuri language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Its impact is being felt in Assam, as lot of Manipuri people are there in Assam. Though the language is recognised by Sahitya Academy though there is a demand raised by our party in this House to include Manipuri and Nepali languages in the Eighth Scheduled of the Constitution, yet no steps are taken so far to include these languages.

By not including the Manipuri Language in the Eighth Schedule, there is lot of discrimination done against the people. There is no economic development. There is practically no industry in Manipur. There is no university in Manipur and only one branch of JNU is there. There is no proper autonomy given to the tribal people. Autonomy to tribal people is not strengthened. All these problems are there. Because of this, a sense of separatist attitude is growing in the minds of the people and it is creating lot of problems. I think, already, the people of Manipur are neglected and deprived. They have not been given even the right of the inclusion of their language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. By continuing the President's rule in Manipur, the people will be further alienated and more problems will be created.

Some of our friends have already apprehended that the Manipur State will be another Punjab or Kashmir unless and until a good sense prevail and the assembly will be dissolved and the people will be given the chance to form their own popular Government in the State.

I again strongly oppose this Statutory Resolution and I demand the dissolution of the Assembly as also I want that the elections should be held.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, on behalf of my party, I urge upon the Government that the Legislative Assembly of Manipur be dissolved immediately and the administration of Manipur should be handed over to the elected representatives.

It is a matter of regret that due to the political intervention from the Centre in the affairs of the small States in our border areas, not only separatism but secessionism and terrorism is also growing continuously but it is also a matter of regret that in spite of the examples of Punjab and Kashmir, our friends from the Congress party who have got the biggest responsibility of running the Government of this country, are not trying to understand this difficulty and lack any such feeling. Within and outside the House there has been a persistent demand as to which party is commanding a majority and which party is in minority in Legislative Assembly should be decided in the Assembly itself and not in the dock of the Governor's House. The Governor definitely writes in his comments that the legislators are divided there into two camps, the one lead by the Congress—I leader Dorendra Singh and the other camp housed in the residence of the Chief Minister, and there is a prohibition on visiting the residences of each other, moreover a large number of legislators have been put under detention there, so it is not possible for the Governor to say which party is in majority and otherwise. However, if the Governor is not able to decide and if it has not been decided to convert it into a minority Government, if that Government and the Cabinet have decided on 4th itself that the Legislative Assembly should be dissolved and elections should be held again then. It should be determined by the people as to which party is in majority and which is in minority. That job of informing the Home Minister of the Government of India of the decision has been done by many leaders of our party by providing some facts to him at his residence. Under such circumstances, the Home Minister had no right to suspend the Legislative

Assembly of the State. When the Legislative Assembly is not functioning or, it is suspended, the expenditure involved in giving them salary is far more than the amount that would be involved in holding fresh elections. It is not like avoiding such a situation and creating a different situation. The youth, the political workers and the people there believe that the United Front Government is still in majority, and why it should be compelled to adopt the terrorist approach.

Secondly, I would say that the Congress Party got only 26 seats in the elections. In a Legislative Assembly of 60 seats, a party winning 26 seats can't claim—

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mohan Singh, you can continue later. Now, we shall take up Private Member's Business.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

(Second and Third Reports)

SHRI P.P. KALIAPERUMAL (Cuddalore): I bet to move:

"That this House do agree with the Second and Third Reports of the Committee on Private Members Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 26th February, 1992."

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Second and Third Reports of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 26th February, 1992."

The motion was adopted