

16.45 hrs.

[MR SPEAKER *in the Chair*].

That is main point. Let us implement whatever programme is there, whether it is the 20-Point programme, whether it is land reforms, programmes of IRDP or all our programmes which are meant for eradication of poverty. The basic point is that we shall see that all our programmes are implemented faithfully cent per cent and if that is done, I am quite sure, that within a period of one decade, we will be able to see that poverty is eradicated from this country.

16.46 hrs.

STATEMENT RE ARRESTS IN  
CONNECTION WITH ACTIVITIES  
DETRIMENTAL TO NATIONAL  
INTERESTS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Prime Minister to make a statement.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to take the House into confidence on an important development. As you know, every Government has to exercise the highest vigilance in regard to the protection of confidential information and intelligence. I reviewed and strengthened security procedures. It came to Government's notice that certain employees in sensitive positions were suspected to be indulging in activities detrimental to national interests. Some arrests have been made in the course of these investigations which are still proceeding. I am confident that hon. Members would not press me to say anything more at this stage as it might hamper these investigations.

RESOLUTION RE : MEASURES TO  
ERADICATE POVERTY — *Contd.*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI (Howrah) : Mr Speaker, Sir, I do not support the text of the resolution of the hon. Member from the Opposition Prof. Madhu Dandavate but, I share its spirit. Prof Madhu Dandavate is one of the learned Members present in the House and he is one of the knowledgeable persons in economic science and the economy of our country. While he speaks on such issues and subjects inside or outside the House, as students of politics and economics, we learn and try to learn more. But, unfortunately today in the House, I would say with great regret that while I share the views and I am impressed by the knowledge and wisdom of Prof. Madhu Dandavate, I do not share his conviction. He intelligently avoided certain basic issues which are responsible for poverty and made it very acute.

16.47 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*.]

Prof. Madhu Dandavate, in the last part of his speech, dealing with the resolution, tried to bring back again Mahatma Gandhi in a modest manner, highlighting and apprehending certain things about our Prime Ministers and the present Prime Minister who is functioning and has stated that the sophisticated computerised technology should not be a regular fashion in elitist view to curb the poverty line in the villages. Thus he questioned the motive of Prime Minister. With great humility and respect, I try to remind Prof. Madhu Dandavate that Mahatma Gandhi was not opposed to science and technology and, possibly Prof. Madhu Dandavate shares the view that even Gurudev Tagore had serious differences with Mahatma Gandhi during the time of Rashtriya Charka. Though many Congressmen did not like the views expressed by Tagore, ultimately it was found