

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Eleventh Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, August 10, 1988/Sravana 19,
1910 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Haj Pilgrims

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*202. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI:

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Haj
pilgrims had returned to their homes dis-
appointed due to inadequate arrangements
for their pilgrimages;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to
conduct an enquiry into the matter; and

(d) if so, by what time?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF.
K.K.TEWARI): (a) Government have asked
the Central Haj Committee and the
concerned State Haj Committees to
intimate the number of pilgrims who were
unable to avail of the charter flights from
Delhi between July 16 and 19 1988. From
estimates available the number of
disappointed pilgrims was relatively small.

(b) to (d). The Government have already
initiated an enquiry into the matter and this
is expected to be completed shortly.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir,
this matter has attracted the attention of
the whole of country. Hajis were beaten in
Delhi and there have been quarrels also.
They had to rush from Haj committee to
airport but had to return. Even then Gov-
ernment's reply is that they were making
enquiry as to how many passengers were
left behind. They said that the number such
passengers was relatively small, which had
come to their notice. I want to know the
reasons for which at the last moment two
special flights were arranged with the per-
mission of Government of Saudi Arabia.
What were the reasons for not arranging
them before hand and concerned passen-
gers could not be at their residence about
the flights by which they had to go.

PROF. K.K. TEWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as
I have told you that we have initiated an
enquiry into it and according to our infor-
mation, most of the pilgrims left behind,
were sent by chartered flight. There was
some confusion due to which the flight was
delayed, when we came to know about the
confusion and problems arising due to it,
then the Government of India requisitioned
three flights and the pilgrims were sent by
the flights of Air-India. You are aware that
all this work is done through Haj Commit-
tee and it is for them to see that how many
pilgrims have already left for Haj, what is
their total number and how many pilgrims
are left behind. They are supposed to have
these figures. We asked for a report from
them and I would like to reiterate that the
number of pilgrims left behind was very
small. It is not that a large number of pil-
grims have to face disappointment.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: I had asked that the Report concerning the pilgrims left behind should have been made available in the House by now. You are saying that there was some confusion and entire source of information was Haj Committee due to which, this confusion occurred. Would you like to tell that is it not a fact that the Haj Committee consists of such people who are politically motivated and belong to only one party? They do not bother about the Haj Pilgrims. All these things happen. Will the hon. Minister take the responsibility of providing information to the pilgrims well in advance about their scheduled flights etc., so that they should not have to go to the air-port again and again and can be saved from the exploitation by politically motivated members of Haj Committee?

PROF. K.K. TEWARI: Sir, I have already stated that enquiry is being made into it, so that in future such problems or incidents do not occur. As soon as the report is received, we will take all the steps so that such incidents do not occur again and no one is put to inconvenience.

The second question asked by the hon. Member was that the actions of Haj Committee are political and it is mainly constituted by the members of one political party. This is totally baseless. This is a statutory committee and its members are very devoted type of people who have belief in Haj and this committee has been constituted for the facility of the Haj pilgrims. It is totally baseless to say that this committee is politically motivated and actions are taken with any political considerations and I would like to reiterate that we will take necessary steps on the receipt of the report, so that such things do not occur again in future. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SALAHUDDIN: I would like to ask the hon. Minister that Hajis were called from Bihar for going to Zeddah by second "Akbar" ship and the papers sent, also showed the same information. But those 252 Hajis were stopped on arrival at Bombay and told that they have not to go by that ship. In their place, Hajis from Kashmir were sent. I wrote a letter to the then

Minister immediately but I have not got any reply till now. I would like to know clearly that why those Hajis, who were scheduled to go by second ship "Akbar", were stopped and Hajis from other state were sent. Let me have reply to this please.

PROF. K.K. TEWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question is very clear. The present question is about the pilgrims who were scheduled to go by a flight from Delhi. If the hon. Member wants the information, he should give another notice.

[*English*]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: The hon. Minister has said that there was a slight confusion in the arrangements. But I would like to mention that there was total confusion in the arrangements particularly at Delhi and there was no such confusion at any time in the previous years. Another thing which the hon. Minister has said is that they appoint only such people on the Haj Committees who are interested in Haj. Sir, the chairperson of the Central Haj Committee has never done any Haj and she has been the Chairman for the last three years. How can such a person understand the problems of the Hajis and can be expected to do anything for the people who are proceeding on their Haj?

I would certainly like the Hon. Minister to conduct this enquiry not only locally, but at three places, Central Haj Committee, Bombay and UP Haj Committee at Lucknow and that you will find that the things are revealing.

PROF. K.K. TEWARI: I am happy that the hon. Member has approved of our activities regarding Haj pilgrimage in the earlier years. Only this year, as I said, there were some problems and that is why the Government has ordered an enquiry and once the enquiry report is available to us, we will take all possible measures to remove all such irritants in future.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: Normally, a lady is never a Chairman of such Committees anywhere.

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN: The Hajis who come to Delhi normally do not have any place to stay here. Can the Minister in future organize some sort of a system for temporary accommodation of the Hajis in Delhi, or would he think of bringing in the system of building up guest houses for Hajis? That would be a very good expression of goodwill.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): I would like to submit to the hon. Members that this is not an activity which is conducted by Government directly. All this is done by the Central Haj Committee and the State Haj Committees wherever they have been constituted. Everything needs to be done through them and it is well known that we do not do anything directly. We can certainly pass on the information, pass on the suggestion to the Haj Committee, help them in whatever manner possible to enable them to do their duties properly and if something goes wrong we will look into it and tell the Parliament, tell Members how it has gone wrong, why it has gone wrong and see what can be done to see that it does not go wrong again. This is all that the Government can do. We can do the work of a catalyst and helper but we cannot take on the direct responsibility of conducting this activity. This is not possible. This is what I would like to submit to the Hon. Member. Subject to this, whatever suggestions come, we take them and pass them on to the Haj Committee, discuss with them and if they find that the suggestions are good and feasible and they can be implemented, then they will certainly do it. And we will see that some help which is needed by them in order to do these good things, is also rendered to them. This will be the position of the Government, Sir.

Help from Canadian Nationals to Terrorists in Punjab

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*203. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY:
SHRI SURESH KURUP:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of State for External Affairs during his recent visit to Canada brought to the notice of the Canadian Government that there was definite proof in possession of Government of India to show that some Canadian nationals were helping terrorists in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) From time to time Government has drawn the attention of the Government of Canada to the strong evidence of assistance provided by some Canadian nationals for terrorist activities in Punjab. This matter was discussed during the recent visit of the Minister of State for External Affairs to Canada.

(b) The Canadian Government confirmed that it would continue to cooperate with the Government of India in combating the international dimensions of terrorist activities directed against India.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Sir, the answer given by the Hon. Minister is too general to make out anything concrete from it. During the tour of the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Natwar Singh, to Canada a PTI dispatch stated that, he says, "We have identified people who send money to the terrorists in Punjab". On the basis of this concrete announcement by the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs what action did the Government of India ask the Government of Canada to take against those people whom the Minister has identified himself? I would like to have a concrete answer for this.

PROF. K.K. TEWARI: Sir, during the visit of Mr. Natwar Singh to Canada, he had discussions with his counterparts there and whatever evidence he was able to collect about the Canadian nationals of Indian origin, we have passed on this information to them. It is an on-going process. They are cooperating with us and I must say that in recent two years the Canadian Government has extended cooperation to us, and shared information with us. So, whatever

evidence come across to us we pass it on to them. It is for the Canadian Government to take action and I am sure that they will take action within the ambit of their laws.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Anyway, Sir, nothing comes out of it also. As you have identified yourself, I would like to know how many Indian nationals connected with the terrorism have sought for the refugee status in Canada and whether you have requested the Canadian Government.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Will you please hear me?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: It is not proper to ask for this information.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Why not? What is there, Sir?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: This is the information shared by the Governments with a view to initiate action on their sides. If you have any specific question then you can ask. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: That means nothing has happened. If you have identified 50 people, can't you say that we have identified 50 people? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: We are satisfied, Sir. We went into the matter. Our High Commissioner is fully in the picture. He is in contact with them. We are satisfied that whatever is possible is being done by them and we are sure that they will do whatever we want them to do within the ambit of their laws. I don't think that this information can be placed on the Table of the House. If you have any specific question, if it is possible for us to answer, we are prepared to answer.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: It is very specific question.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Whether you have asked them to extradite

certain people who took shelter there seeking refugee status?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: The extradition of those people who have been identified... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: No, you can't answer. It is all right if you don't answer.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: This will compromise whatever action we are asking them to take. So, this is not possible. If there is any specific question of about one person, yes, we can certainly, if possible, share it with the Parliament. But I would like the hon. Members to please cooperate with us so that this thing is properly acted upon, rather than just getting information and making it more difficult for action to be taken on the other side.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: I would like to know the number of terrorists who are in the wanted list of Government of India and who have sought asylum in Canada and whether the Government of Canada has given them asylum. That is all. The Minister should place before this House at least this information.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: There is no question of their asking asylum. They are already there. Some of them are Canadian citizens and some are Indian citizens. They have been indulging in certain activities and whenever those activities come to light, we bring them to the notice of the Government of Canada and it has been our experience that they have been cooperating in whatever manner it is possible to do so within the ambit of their laws.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): I would just like to add that among the countries where we are having problems with Sikh terrorists, Canada is giving us the maximum cooperation and I would request the members not to create a situation which would compromise their action against the terrorists in Canada. Thank you.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: There are certain organisations such as the World Sikh Youth Organisation which are located in Canada. They are collecting money and sending it to the terrorists. They are also going to Pakistan where they meet their counterpart terrorists and they discuss the strategy and then operate. May I know whether you are aware of this fact that there are organisations which are located in Canada? If you know them, what action has been taken by you in contacting the Government of Canada to take action against them?

PROF. K.K. TEWARI: Mr. Speaker, the organisations which have been operating from the Canadian soil and collecting money and extending help and support to the terrorists in the Punjab are known. We have taken up this matter with the Canadian Government and I must inform the House that the role of the Canadian Government in this respect has been very co-operative and very helpful. For example, the Canadian Foreign Minister, Mr. Joe Clark, has written to the Provincial Premiers there in Canada and he has also written to the elected representatives of the Canadian Parliament not to associate themselves with any of these organisations whose activities are directed against India and promoting terrorism in India. To this extent, I think the role of the Canadian Government has been very admirable.

Implementation of 20-Point Programme

*205. SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent review of the implementation of the 20-Point Programme had revealed a very dismal situation, particularly in regard to the implementation of programmes covering the minorities; and

(b) if so, the corrective measures taken to ensure the effective implementation of the 20-Point Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) No, Sir. The Ministry of Programme Implementation monitors the 20-Point Programme on a regular monthly basis in respect of 29 selected items of the Programme which are amenable to monthly monitoring but no specific review of the implementation of the Programme has recently been undertaken. The Monthly Progress Report for the month ending March'88 which covers the performance for the full year 1987-88, has revealed that out of the 29 items being monitored on a monthly basis performance under 24 items was "Very Good" (90% and above of the target fixed), "Good" (between 80% and 90% of the target fixed), under 3 items and "Poor" (below 80% of the target fixed) in respect of only two items. The performance cannot, therefore, be said to be dismal.

It may be mentioned that the 20-Point Programme does not contain any programme relating to minorities.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI KHURSID ALAM KHAN: I have gone through the Statement. I know that this 20-Point Programme has been in operation for a long time. But unfortunately, there has been no impact as far as the minorities are concerned either in education or employment or in trade and commerce. Therefore, I would like to know as to what the assessment made by the Government is. What does it reveal? What improvements have been made? What objectives have been achieved? And if not achieved, what are the reasons therefor?

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI: I have already submitted in my statement that so far as the 20-Point Programme is concerned, we have selected 29 items which we monitor on a monthly basis. On the basis of the report received for the month of March 1988, it has been found that out of

the 29 selected items which we monitor, the performance for 24 items is 'Very Good' and the performance for 3 items is 'Good'. It shows that the overall performance is very satisfactory.

So far as the problem of minorities is concerned, in our 20 Point Programme, there is no mention about any programme for minorities as such. In fact, this is dealt with by another Ministry, namely, the Ministry of Welfare.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: Sir, I am afraid the hon. Minister has not given a satisfactory answer. My question is very simple. I am asking him whether there has been a slide-back in the 3-4 subjects which I have mentioned or whether there has been an improvement in it.

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI: If it is a specific question, then of course I need a separate notice from the hon. Member.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : I am asking you regarding education employment, trade and commerce.

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI: That is why I have stated that the overall performance is very good.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: What is the criterion of being good and bad?

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI: It is already stated that we monitor the 29 items.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: Have you any statistics to support your statement?

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI: It is there in the statement. I will lay it on the Table.

AN HON. MEMBER: No, no.

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI: I will read out the figures just for the information of the Members.

As I said we have selected 29 items

which we mentioned their overall performance is very good.

(1) Fair Price Shop, 203 per cent of target

(2) House-sites allotted 167 per cent

(3) Improved *Chulhas* 166 per cent

(4) Bio-gas Plants 146 per cent

(5) Pumpsets 143 per cent

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: These are all irrelevant.

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI: I am coming to your question.

SHRI G.G. SWELL: No, no. He has asked specially about education, employment, trade and commerce, these 3-4 items.

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI: We have progressed well in the field of employment and in the field of education. As per our reports....

SHRI G.G. SWELL: You get the figures and lay them on the Table of the House.

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI: Whatever figures the Members want to know about these items, I will give them or I will lay it on the Table of the House. But the overall performance is good.

SHRI G.G. SWELL: That is all right.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Land ceiling and surplus land distribution is one of the points of the Twenty Point Programme.

Upto March last year, 77.75 lakh acres were declared surplus of which 58.36 lakh acres taken under possession and only 45.38 lakh acres were distributed. What about the balance lands which are not distributed and which are under litigation? What action is the Government going to initiate so that land is available for distribu-

tion to the landless and their economic standards can be improved?

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI: It is true that the two items are lagging behind. It includes surplus land also. But this programme is being implemented by the State Governments. There are some bottlenecks in the implementation of these programmes. It is true that this programme is not fully implemented. But as I said, we do monitor on a monthly basis all important items. Whenever we come to know of any deficiency, we naturally write to the State Governments and bring it to their notice for taking corrective steps.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon. Minister is absolutely right to say that no specific item under the Twenty Point Programme is directly related to the minorities. And all the same, there have been instructions by the Central Government, to my knowledge, as well as by various State Governments that in the process of implementation the share that goes to the minority communities should also be monitored. Gopal Singh Panel was set up by the Government to look into the share of the minorities and other backward classes in the benefits of development. That Report was submitted to the Government. Of course, we do not have that Report yet before us. It has not been tabled in the House, it has been under consideration for five years. But, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether, in view of the Prime Minister's Fifteen Point directive for the welfare of the minorities which touched upon matters of economic development, the hon. Minister has instituted a monitoring system in respect of such specific programmes, like allotment of house-sites, provision of educational facilities, employment, bank credit, etc. which are measurable? Does he monitor the share that goes to the minorities and other depressed sections of the community?

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI: As I said, so far as the programmes relating to minorities are concerned, these are looked after by the Ministry of Welfare. We simply monitor the 20-point programmes. We do not monitor this minorities' programme.

So far as the 20-point programmes are concerned, these facilities and benefits go to every community--all classes of people, those who are below the poverty line. This 20-point programme is for poor people. It includes majority and minority, and all classes and groups. Naturally, all the benefits will also go to the minorities.

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAV SINH SOLANKI): The hon. Member is right. There is some survey going on with regard to those areas, where there is a concentration of minority communities; and that survey is being done by the Ministry of Welfare. When it comes to our notice, perhaps we will be in a position to give the details.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): Sir, I would like to supplement the answer. There is a regular cell in the Ministry of Welfare and in the Ministry of Home Affairs. We monitor very closely the implementation of the 15-point programme.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: The Prime Minister also should supplement the answer.

Amount Spent on ASLV-D2 Mission

*206. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI:
SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the money spent on ASLV-D2 Mission which took off on 13 July, 1988 but failed immediately?

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): The amount spent on ASLV-D2 Mission consists of cost of launch vehicle ASLV-D2 and the SROSS-2 Satellite. The cost of the launch vehicle is about Rs. 6.00 crores and of the Satellite about Rs. 3.00 crores.

SHRI C MADHAV REDDI: This is the second failure of the ASLV launches, and the Government announced that it was only an experimental launch. I would like to know—and when I put this question I do not mean any disrespect or discouragement to the Indian scientists who are working and developing technology in the frontier areas—how fast we are learning, and whether we have found out the reasons for the failures. Last year, when the ASLV launch failed, some enquiry was conducted. I would like to know what is the result of that enquiry, and what rectifications had been carried out in the second launch.

After this second failure, Government is reported to have instituted a committee, a 'Failure Analysis Committee'. I would like to know whether the committee had gone into these aspects and whether they have reported the reasons.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: With regard to the first point raised by the hon. Member, viz. whether we have learnt any lessons at all from previous experience especially the failures, I wish to say that we have been learning lessons, especially from the failures, because that is how we can come to the real crux of the technological problem, and try to correct it, and improve upon our technology. When the first ASLV Mission had failed, a Failure Analysis Committee was set up; and I think I have already told the House what were the findings of this Committee. Unfortunately, they could not come to a single cause which was responsible for this; and, therefore, they came to three alternative, possible causes for the failure. Two of them were open electrical circuit, and closed electrical circuit failures, and the third one was random failure. They have also looked, at that time, into the entire question of the functioning of the vehicle itself; and modifications were made in ASLV-D2, as a result of this. I would like to read out the modifications:

The first stage ignition did not function in ASLV-1 and so, redundancy in pyro-initiators was added to ASLV-D2, in order

to avoid any ignition trouble. As you know, the ignition did work in ASLV-D2.

The mechanical safe arm device was deleted. They thought probably it was a new device and it might have come in the way of the ignition. Therefore, they deleted that from the device. Electrical safe arm mechanism similar to SLV-3 was adopted. The telecommand override made independent of the pyro circuit. Ignition system fully qualified under vibration and vacuum environments, because there was a suspicion that vibration during the entire take off might have affected the ignition system. Therefore, it was improved upon. As a result of it, several modifications were brought out so also in the control system. Therefore, as a result of the first failure and examination of it, we came to several new improvements. Modifications were made in D2 and the failure of D2 is unfortunate. The Failure Analysis Committee set up have not so far come to the cause of it. Millions of data have to be examined and analysed and various simulation exercises have to be conducted. If may refer to INSAT - IC, our Scientists have not been able to detect the cause of failure of one of the Solar power packs. If they are able to detect the cause of the failure, then measures would be taken to correct them if it is possible to correct them; it is very difficult to say now if it would be possible or not. But, at the same time, they are also attempting to keep the satellite in safe operation because it is functioning at 50 per cent of the capacity. Therefore, whatever they may do, we should not do anything to jeopardise the normal functioning of the satellite so that we can get 50 per cent basic functions.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: The Minister said that the cost of ASLV-D2 was Rs.9 crores—launch vehicles cost is about Rs. 3 crores. I take it that the total cost of Rs. 9 crores is not a loss, because some of it must have been spent on the infrastructure. How much of this has been spent on infrastructure which would be utilised for the future launches and how much of it would be the real loss?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: Some infrastructure is involved in it which may be of

the order of Rs. 1 crore specifically intended for this particular launch. But there is general infrastructure at Sriharikota itself which is intended not only for ASLV but for all launches; and there is a separate expenditure for it. In addition to Rs. 19.73 crores, it would be about Rs. 4.95 crores and that is a general infrastructure for all kinds of launches; it is not a loss in the sense that even in D2, certain technology has been tested and this will help us in improving our further launches.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Actually ASLV-D2 is a second failure for the scientists. In March 1987, ASLV-D1 was launched before the eyes of the hon. Prime Minister and also the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, NTR. But it fell into the Bay of Bengal after 164 seconds. This fell into the same Bay of Bengal after 150 seconds. So, there is a success actually. It is a disappointment not only for the scientists but also for the nation. After spending many crores of rupees, the picture shows that it is just like a Diwali cracker. It fell into the Bay of Bengal after lifting from the earth; actually, after 150 seconds, it fell into the Bay of Bengal. (*Interruptions*). It is our money which is being wasted. I am also a tax-payer; my money is being wasted. Do I not have the right to ask such a question? (*Interruptions*).

I am coming to the question.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: After all, Rs. 9 crores only.

SHRI KOLANDAIVELU: Mr. U.N. Rao, Chairman of the ISRO, say that all models and equipment were tested, all the conceivable tests for the success were carried out and after having tested all the equipment and then only ASLV-D2 has been launched. Why is there a failure? Of course, I understand that there are so many branches like the Aeronautics and so on. I want to know whether the Government will go deep into this in order to find out whether any CIA mission is involved among the scientists. Because, a bad name has come to India because of the failures, in the launching of ASLV D-1, D-2 and PSLV. Actually this ASLV D-2 is sought to be

looked upon as a work-horse for a new satellite programme worth Rs. 23 crores.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will initiate action against such of those scientists there who do not work hard or who have not put their minds into their work, and to find out why there are failures, again and again? Will the Government take action against them?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kolandaivelu, failures are the stepping stones to success.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: They are recurrent failures.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: We would fully agree. All of us are disappointed, every Member of this House is disappointed about this failure. The people are disappointed. Even more so, the scientists themselves are disappointed by this failure; because having put in so much dedicated work over the years if it does not become a success it is a matter of great disappointment for them. But, I think, on account of that, I cannot agree with the hon. Member that we should not continue our space programme. We cannot shoot the pianist if the music is not good, because something has gone wrong; it is only the pianist who can produce the music. (*Interruptions*)

Only our scientists can launch the vehicle and the satellites and take us into the space age. We have no other alternative. But sacking the scientists or having a kind of inquiry into the conduct of the scientist, I think that kind of a thing shows a basic misunderstanding or basic lack of understanding of the scientific process and scientific and technological creativity.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Is it not lack of coordination among the scientists?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: If something wrong is found out as a result of the inquiry, or the examination that we are making, we will certainly correct it. We have not found any lack of coordination. I want to tell the hon. Member that this kind of a failure is not a new thing. A developed

country like the United States also had it. A comparable thing is the Scout spacecraft of the United States, which is very much like the ASLV. They have failed in the first, third, fifth and the seventh flights. This has happened in a very developed country like the USA. You know what happened to the Challenger.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: India is a poor country.

MR. SPEAKER: What is there in it?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: We have to take a decision, whether we have the courage, the determination to make this a success. But if we are disappointed at the first or second to failure, then we will never succeed in this.

SHRI G.G. SWELL: All of our more consequential satellites have been lifted into the space by foreign space centres, whether it is American, or European or the Soviet Union.

Whereas our miniscule efforts have failed, I am not casting aspersions on our scientists. I will be the last person to discourage them. I agree with the Minister if we were to get into the space age, we have to get there through our scientists. Now, the Minister went into the details of nitty-gritty as to where we have failed, what ignition worked and failed. But in spite of that, this happens again and again. I would like to know whether there is some basic inadequacy in the way we are functioning in our Space Centre because knowledge is accessible from other Space Centre because knowledge is accessible from other Space Centres in the world. If basic inadequacy is there, we would fail despite all our efforts to correct the nitty-gritty. I would like to know whether we propose to take any steps to remedy those inadequacies.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, the Minister has already explained this.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: It is not factually correct to say that all our attempts to launch satellites have failed. We have launched three SLV Satellites successfully

from Sriharikota in to orbit with 50 Kgs. pay load. We have spent up 195 sounding rockets successfully from the same place. Therefore, what you are saying that our miniscule attempts have failed, is not factually correct. We have sent up three SLV satellites and it was not a small achievement....(Interruptions)

SHRI G.G. SWELL: Then, why have you failed?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: Some people have got a touching faith in foreign technology and think that if we could launch from abroad, we would succeed. INSAT 1-C was one hundred per cent American technology. Even that also did not succeed....(Interruptions)

SHRI G.G. SWELL: INSAT 1-C was not lifted into space by our vehicle, but by the European vehicles 'Arianne'... (Interruptions)

We did not make INSAT 1-C ourselves. We made it in cooperation with the Americans.

MR. SPEAKER: O.K.

Recruitment of Engineers to Military Services

*207. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the general ban on recruitment was made applicable to the recruitment of engineers in the military services;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that in spite of this ban the Southern Command had appointed 2030 persons in 1985; and

(c) if so, the additional financial burden consequent on these appointments so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 2236 persons were appointed in the Southern Command during April/May, 1985.

(c) The expenditure incurred on these appointments prior to their regularisation in November, 1986 was approximately Rs. 360 lakhs.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated in the reply that inspite of ban on recruitment, new recruitment has been made. So I want to know the circumstances in which new recruitment has been made and for that when, what and from whom the orders were obtained?

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Sir, the last circular was sent on 02.04.1985 and it was 'until further orders'. It reached the Southern Command by 18th April 1985. Therefore, these appointments were made between first April 1985 and 18th April 1985. The number of appointments made during that period was 2,236. Then, after 18th April 1985, when this message reached the Southern Command, another 206 appointments were made and they were irregularly made. The hon. Member is very vigilant on this. A court of inquiry was ordered as to why 206 appointments were made after the ban order was received by the Southern Command. Action was taken against concerned persons.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH: Sir out of the recruited people how many personnel have been posted in the country after training and how many personnel have been sent to Sri Lanka with IPKF I want to know whether all the personnel sent to Sri Lanka are safe and sound.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: This has nothing to do with IPKF. This is only regarding recruitment to military Engi-

neering service of Southern Command. Sir, we got released posts for these vacancies because the work load was expanding and we were constantly being requested for that from September 1984 onwards.

From about Rs. 340 crores the workload went upto about Rs. 460 crores. The work load was increasing because of many new projects coming up and the manpower was less. Therefore, we went on pursuing with the Government, Ministry of Finance, to give us these posts so that we can regularise these appointments. Therefore, we got released 24,000 posts for the MES of the Southern Command. We have recruited about 10,000 work force which includes the regularisation of posts already recruited?

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Are you having any proposal to have further development and further recruitment in the Southern Command at Trivandrum? Will you develop it further by recruiting more personnel there in the near future?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: I am happy that Hon'ble Member is interested in providing further employment opportunities. We are trying for that.

SHRI K.S. RAO: It is generally agreed that the training of Military Engineering Service is very tough and the people who come out of the training, are found to be more disciplined and knowledgeable and have acquired self-confidence. May I know from the hon. Minister, instead of banning recruitment in Military Engineering Service, will he think in terms of reducing the retirement age so that competent people will come out of the Military Engineering Service with confidence, knowledge and discipline who can be put to use in civil services?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: I quite appreciate the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member, Mr. Rao. But we had not put the ban. It was a general ban order. Rather we are trying to get move and move posts cleared as and when required. We know that the Military Engineering Service

people are efficient and well trained. We agree with you on that.

Punjab Terrorists Links with Drug Traffickers in Pakistan

*208. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proof of Punjab terrorists having link with the drug traffickers in Pakistan has since established by the International Criminal Police Organisation as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 17 July, 1988;

(b) whether on the basis of the reports of the International Criminal Police Organisation, Government has taken any action so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what other steps Government propose to take to solve the issue by discussing with the Pakistan Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) Periodic bulletins circulated by ICPO--Interpol have disclosed evidence regarding links between drug traffickers and terrorists.

(b) and (c). In March, 1988, the Government of India, in collaboration with ICPO-Interpol convened *ad hoc* inter-regional meeting of heads of drug services from Europe and Indian sub-continent at New Delhi. The nexus between drug traffickers and terrorists was discussed in detail and specific recommendations for action including measures for better exchange of information and intelligence and mutual cooperation were evolved.

(d) Drug trafficking, terrorism and related matters were discussed in detail be-

tween Home Secretary of India and Interior Secretary of Pakistan in May 1988, in which both sides had agreed to extend mutual assistance in fighting the menace.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has accepted in his statement that there is a link between the terrorists and drug traffickers. I want to submit that according to the report published in the press 25,000 messages have been exchanged between the Interpol and the intelligence department. Out of them 40 per cent messages that is about 10,000 messages confirm that Heroin is smuggled through India and the weapons bought from there are given to the terrorists and this work is being done on large scale. It clearly shows that drug trafficking through terrorists at such a large scale and acquiring of weapons is not possible without the connivance of Pakistan. I would like to ask the hon. Minister that what effective steps have been suggested in the meetings held at the Home Secretary level, on implementation of which this drug trafficking and smuggling of arms and making them available to terrorists will be stopped. I want to know the decisions that have been taken in the meeting of Home-Secretaries.

[English]

SHRI CHIDAMBARAM: As I said in the main answer, the two countries have agreed to exchange information and intelligence. If specific cases of smuggling of drugs come to the notice of either country, we have agreed that a flag meeting will be convened at the Company Commander level to facilitate deterrent action. Both before the meeting of May, '88 and after the meeting of May, 1988, Pakistan has shared information and intelligence with the Indian agencies. In this aspect the co-operation has been reasonably satisfactory because, I think, Pakistan is also concerned about the impact of drug smuggling on its people.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is clear that Pakistan Government is helping in drug trafficking and smuggling of arms in our country. When these things are mentioned to them, they give round about answers. It has already been established that they do not intend to stop it. I want to know whether these things will go on like this or you will take some action against Pakistan in order to stop this smuggling.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, on the basis of information with us, I can say that there continues to be an exchange of information and intelligence between the Pakistan agencies and the Indian agencies on drug smuggling. I am not willing to go beyond that. But I do not think it will be correct to say that there is no information exchange between the agencies on drug smuggling.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, the drug abuse is growing in increasing proportion in this country and this has become a concern to the parents all over. I do not think smuggling is taking place only at the borders with Pakistan, but there are other borders also which I do not want to name. I would like to know whether the Government has taken some coordinated efforts with other governments also to see that the smuggling does not take place.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Yes, Sir, smuggling takes place across other borders of India, particularly on the Indo-Nepal border and the Indo-Burma border. Hon. Members are aware that the Prime Minister has set up a high-powered sub-committee of the Cabinet, which is chaired by the Home Minister. This Committee has met, if I remember right, about seven or eight times in the last three months. This Committee monitors and directs the entire anti-drug operations. We have taken a number of steps and I think if there is a specific question, we can disclose all the steps that are being taken under the directions of this

Committee. The Minister of State for Finance, Shri Ajit Panja is a member of the Committee and he has visited Nepal and Burma and has held talks with the governments there. This Committee continues to do its work. I believe it will be a continuing Committee and a lot of steps are being taken in our fight against drugs.

[Translation]

Seizure of Fake Currency Notes

*209. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently fake currency notes were seized in Delhi and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the number of persons arrested for being involved in this racket, the value of fake currency notes recovered and the places where such currency notes were being printed; and

(c) whether Government have been able to nab the gang-dons involved in this racket?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, in so far as Delhi is concerned, some fake currency notes were seized during the current year.

(b) In Delhi 3 persons were arrested. The value of fake currency notes seized is Rs. 976/-. The places where these notes were printed have not come to the notice of Delhi Police.

(c) Neither any racket nor any gang-dons came to the notice of Delhi Police.

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it appears from the Ministry's reply to my question that my question has not been taken seriously. So far as the question of fake currency notes is concerned, the circulation of such notes is most often seen in many parts including cities of the country. More often than not, it appears as if the Ministry of Home Affairs does not have the requisite data. Circulation of fake currency notes is regarded as a conspiracy to cause destabilisation in a country and to its economy. I want to know whether the Ministry of Home Affairs takes the circulation of fake currency notes seriously? What are the state-wise details in respect of such incidents? The Ministry should not side-track this issue treating it to be states' responsibility. Will the Ministry of Home Affairs take it seriously?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, we are very serious about the forged currency, fake currency, and I would appeal to the State Governments also to be very serious about this kind of crime. Since the administration of this law regarding detection and prosecution of offences is for the State Governments, we do not compile information. But I have some information of some State Governments regarding the currencies seized in 1988. For example, the hon. Member may be interested to know that in Maharashtra 2961 rupees of fake currency notes were seized in Greater Bombay and two persons have been arrested. In Delhi, as I said, Rs.967 were seized and three persons have been arrested. We have registered a number of cases. But we are not able to identify any mafia or any group which indulges in this in an organised manner.

An hon. Member: It is the Government's failure.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, it can be construed as failure in one view and on the other it can also be construed as success when I say that the amount of currencies which has been detected as fake is small.

The point is that it is not a major crime in this country, if a very major incident of fake currency comes to the notice, certainly we will ask the C.B.I. to step in. But this is a matter which the State Government is to deal with and if the State Government ask us for help, we will certainly give necessary help. In fact, we will have this matter investigated by the C.B.I.

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that it is very small figure. The figure is small because the circulation of fake currency has not been brought under control. Efforts should be made to detect the Printing Press where such fake currency notes are printed. It is a very serious matter and shifting the responsibility to the State Governments on this count will not do. It is a conspiracy to weaken the economy of the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether some foreign countries are also involved in it?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, while I admit that there is some fake currency in circulation, I don't think that it will be correct to present or paint a very alarming picture of the crime. But I am not underestimating that this crime must be detected and must be prosecuted. If hon. Member so wishes, I will certainly accept his suggestion and I will write to the State Governments asking them to be more vigorous in pursuing this crime. But let us not paint or present a too alarming picture when it is not so alarming as is made out here.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out that very often fake currency notes are detected in the Banks. But instead of handing over such cases to the police, these cases are closed there itself. As a result of it, no police case can be made out and the information cannot reach the Government. I would therefore, like to know the number of banks where such fake currency notes have

been detected as per the figures available with the Ministry and what action has been taken against them? How many persons have been booked for this offence?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, It is not correct to say that banks do not report detection of fake currencies. On the contrary, most of the cases which are registered are based upon complaints given by the banks. For example, in Delhi, in the current calendar year, upto 25-7-1988, 17 cases have been registered and three persons have been arrested. The total value of fake currencies is Rs. 967. Most of these complaints have come from the Reserve Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra and Grindlays Bank and some other fake currencies have been detected in market places.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Has any Press been seized in this Connection and where are these printed?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, banks detect fake currencies when people come and present them either for deposit or when they come to change the currency. That is how one comes to know of it. In market places, the shop-keepers detect it when somebody gives it for buying things. In most of the cases, the man who actually presents it is innocent. He has been duped somewhere earlier. We have to trace the sources of the fake currency. We have registered cases. It is crime. It has to be investigated and prosecuted vigorously. But it is not so alarming as we may think.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Entry of Harijans into the Nathdwara temple

S.N.Q.No 1., SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to State:

(a) whether Harijans are not allowed entry into the Nathdwara Temple in Rajasthan for offering prayers;

(b) whether Union government have directed the Government of Rajasthan to provide adequate protection to Harijans wanting to enter the Temple;

(c) whether Union Government are aware of the recent march to the Temple marking a popular protest against this practice;

(d) whether Government have also taken cognizance of the recent utterances of the Shankaracharya of Puri against the entry of Harijans into temples; and

(e) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) According to reports received by Govt. there is no ban on the entry of Scheduled Castes into the Nathdwara Temple for offering prayers.

(b) The Government of Rajasthan was advised to provide protection to the Scheduled Castes who want to enter the temple to offer prayers.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) and (e). On the basis of press reports, the Government of Rajasthan was requested to examine the question of taking action in the light of the Constitution and the provisions of Section 3, 7 (1) (c) and 15 (1) of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955. The Government of Rajasthan has informed that they have got to examine the legal aspects related to prosecution as the only basis for the utterances of the Shankaracharya of Puri are the reported statements specially since he has according to the later Press Report (on 8.7.88), denied bulk of his earlier reported statements.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Sir, my question was whether Harijans are not allowed entry into the Nathdwara Temple

in Rajasthan. The answer is: "According to reports received by the Government there is no ban on the entry of Scheduled Castes into the Nathdwara Temple." I have not asked whether there is a ban or not. I have asked for a simple fact whether Harijans are allowed or not allowed into a particular temple. Sir, it is a well-known fact that Harijans during the course of the last four decades of Independence have not been allowed entry into these temples. That being the case, what is the action which the Government is now proposing to take to enforce the civil rights in respect of Harijans in that particular area? In order to ensure Harijans' entry into the temple, the Government, it appears, failed in its efforts yesterday to arrange a march to the Temple of Nathdwara and that is the latest report. Sir, under these circumstances, what is the action which is proposed to be taken by the Government of India?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Sir, I want to report to the House and the House will be glad to know that just now I received a report from the Chief Minister of Rajasthan that Harijans and all those who are *safai mazdoor* or we call *bhangis*, have all entered Nathdwara Temple and they were received by the son of the priest of the Temple. So, they were taken to the temple... (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: when?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: At about 11 A.M. I think today. Today they had entered and they were received by the son of the head priest and they were welcomed. It is not that....(Interruptions). I want to say that these people, those who have entered the temple just now, an hour back, are the local people and specially from the *bhangi* community. So, we can say that we have succeeded in persuading the priest and other people and the local people.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Why persuade? There is no question of persuasion.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: It is the right of the people (Interruptions).

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Our object was... (Interruptions). They are of South Indian origin. Our aim was that Harijans must enter the Temple. (Interruptions). That shouting will not do.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: It is the right of the people...(Interruptions).

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: I am just saying it. I had instructed the Rajasthan Government that as there is no ban on entry of the Harijans, so they should give protection...(Interruptions). Let me explain. (Interruptions). They should enter the Temple, it is our policy, and it is the declared policy of the Government and so there is no use shouting about all these things.

Sir, I am glad that the Rajasthan Government listened to our advice and they have made the effort so that now the Nathdwara Temple is open to Harijans. There is no question that it is not open to them. (Interruptions).

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing?

[English]

What are you doing?

(Interruptions).

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Sir, as you know that when I asked the Chief Minister of Rajasthan to take adequate measures for providing protection to all devotees, particularly the Harijans who want to enter the Nathdwara Temple to offer prayers now they have entered the temple and so we are all happy. We congratulate the Chief Minister.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: The chief priest should be prosecuted immediately.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Sir, the point is, there is a specific duty cast on the State Government to identify areas where the untouchability is being practised and also to take sufficient and adequate steps to ensure that penal action is taken

against all such persons who are perpetrating these obnoxious social evils for several years. When that being the case, how is it that the State Government has kept silence for the last 4 decades and only now, only today declares that some action has been taken. It is not merely that.

I would like to ask the Minister one thing. The head priest himself was absent and he was away at Bombay. And the Minister is now stated to have persuaded the son of the head priest to do it, whereas it is his duty and it is his obligation that is cast on him and he has no right to object the Harijans' entry into the Temple. So, the question is, whether the Government would take necessary steps to take over the Temple under the management of the Religious Endowment Act and appoint a Harijan as priest of the Temple.

No.2, the other thing is, words spoken or any sentence written in encouragement of the practice of untouchability is a cognizable offence. The Shankaracharya of Puri has made a public statement and committed a punishable offence. Then, steps should have been immediately taken by the Government against any persons whosoever they may be. Why was it not done? (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: It was done earlier.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Sir, he has asked me three questions at a time.

MR. SPEAKER: You reply to one of them.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: First, I would like to say that till these 40 years, the priests have taken this view that there is no untouchability practised in the Nathdwara Temple and he has given it in writing also.

I would like to read it out as to what the head priest has stated.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: When did he say?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: It is 15 days back. It is not just now. (*Interruptions*.)

SHRI SURESH KURUP: It is not true (*Interruptions*)

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: After this question was raised he said this.

[*Translation*]

It is a letter from the priest in which it is stated that according to the Pushtimargiya Sect which was funded by my fore fathers, any Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vashya and Shudra who observe 'Maryada' of the Sect becomes Pushtimargiya Vaishnva. Ours is a path of love by which one can observe 'Maryada'. One who believes in our principles becomes Krishna's favourite. It is well known that Nathdwara is a Pushtimargiya Vaishnav Temple and there is no ban on the entry of Harijans into it. The devotees of Shrinath Temple are Vaishnavs and also those who believe in Vaishnav religion.

[*English*]

He has categorically said that there is no ban on the entry of Harijans in the Nathdwara Temple. So, that is the position. (*Interruptions*.)

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: I have not received the reply.

MR. SPEAKER: About what?

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: I am asking the Minister to take over the temple and appoint a Harijan as priest. (*Interruptions*.)

MR. SPEAKER: No, Yes, Mr. Jaipal Reddy.

(*Interruptions*.)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Minister whether it is true that instead of arresting the Shankaracharya of Puri, they had arrested Swami Agnivesh and his Harijan followers while they were going to the Nathdwara temple? What are the reasons therefor?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Shri Shankaracharya has denied his own statement. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: At least try to listen. You are not accustomed to listening.

[*English*]

How do I know it?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: The second thing is, two persons in Rajasthan had gone to the court (*Interruptions*) and it is also pending in the Supreme Court against Shri Shankaracharya. It is subjudice now and we are just watching what is the judgment of the Supreme Court and the other court. So, it has already gone to the court.

MR. SPEAKER: We cannot allow discrimination.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: We cannot allow discrimination.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I asked the question about Swami Agnivesh. It is part of the question.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Don't make a noise.

[*English*]

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: This country is not governed by the preachings of people like Shri Shankaracharya. It is our country which is supreme. In this country there is no untouchability, Shankaracharya or no Shankaracharya. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: What about Swami Agnivesh?

MR. SPEAKER: He has asked about Swami Agnivesh.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Government has given all protection to

Swami Agnivesh. But, while he was going, there was some stone-pelting and there was tension and Section 144 was promulgated. In the Mandir area also, there were demonstrations and 1,000 or 2,000 people and gathered. Seeing all these things, the State Government thought it wise just not to allow him to go further. He was persuaded not to proceed further as there may be internal law and order situation.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: This is because of the class character of this Government (*Interruptions*). It is unfortunate that after 40 years of independence, Swami Agnivesh has not entered the temple. I am putting the supplementary. It is unfortunate after 40 years of independence, Swami Agnivesh had to take a march to enter the temple. (*Interruptions*) Has the Government of Rajasthan done everything to enable him to enter into the temple? May I know whether it has been taken up with the Government of Rajasthan and action has been taken against the Government of Rajasthan?

MR. SPEAKER: It is all irrelevant.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: It is enough.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Strike by Tamil Nadu Government Employees and Teachers

*204. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Government employees and teachers were on strike recently;

(b) if so, details of their demands; and

(c) the steps taken to settle the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main demands of employees and teachers were (i) Pay parity with Central Government staff; (ii) One month pay as bonus; (iii) to treat the teaching and non-teaching staff in private schools and colleges as Government employees and grant of all concessions eligible to Government Employees and Teachers; (iv) grant of medical allowances and to extend the House Rent Allowance to all the areas and (v) to grant regular pay scale to all teachers and government employees on consolidated pay system and to appoint the part-time teachers as full-time teachers.

(c) Consequent on the decisions taken on 15/7/1988 with the office bearers of the Associations, a considerable section of Government employees returned to work on 19/7/1988 itself. All the other reported for duty on 26/7/1988 consequent on the decisions taken on 22/7/1988.

Information from States

*210. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure followed by Union Government for obtaining information from the State Governments on matters of law and order or of general administration in the State;

(b) the levels at which such information is sought; and

(c) the circumstances in which any investigating or other agency of the Union Government can directly obtain information from the State without involving any political or administrative level of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) As per well established practice, fortnightly Confidential Reports on matters of law and order and general situation are sent by the State Government to the Central Government

(b) The reports are sent at the Government level by officers authorised to send such communications.

(c) As a normal practice, Investigating or other agencies of the Union Government constantly interact with their counter parts in the State Government on matters of mutual interest.

Compensation to Indian Victims in Shooting Down of Iranian Airliner

*211. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI:

Will the minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians who lost their lives in the American shooting down of an Iranian airlines over the Persian Gulf in the first week of July, 1988;

(b) the details of compensation they are entitled to and actually received by them so far from the Iranian air lries company and the Government of Iran; and

(c) the amount of compensation offered/paid by the US Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI) (a) Ten Indian national lost their lives in the incident

(b) and (c). There has been no indication so far that Iranair or the Government of Iran plan to pay compensation on the basis of their responsibility for the disaster. The United State Government on the other hand has expressed its readiness to pay compensation to the legal heirs of the deceased passengers without any admission of liability. The investigation into the responsibility for the shooting down of the aircraft has not so far been formally

released. Government have communicated the list of Indian passengers to the United State Government and action is in hand to identify their legal heirs.

Anti Terrorist Cell in the Capital

*212. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH:
SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish a new anti-terrorist cell in the capital;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed cell; and

(c) by when it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c). An Operation Cell of Delhi Police dealing with terrorists is already functioning. A proposal has been received from Delhi Administration in July, 1988 for strengthening of this Operation Cell. The proposal envisages creation of additional posts and purchase of vehicles and equipment.

Deal with Hemlock Semi-Conductor Corporation (U.S.A.)

*213. DR. SUDHIR ROY:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been able to fix responsibility for the deal between the Department of Electronics and Hemlock Semi-Conductor Corporation of U.S.A. which resulted in unfruitful expenditure of Rs. 7.92 crores, as pointed out by the C&AG in his report for the year ended 31st March, 1987 (No. 7 of 1988) Union Government (Scientific Departments);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

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) to (c). The report of the Comptroller & Auditor General is to be considered by the Public Accounts Committee. The Government had even before the C&AG's report taken action to enquire into the matter and has come to the conclusion that certain officials had failed in adequately assessing indigenous technological development in the field of polysilicon. Appropriate action against the concerned officials have been taken. As regards the payment made to Hemlock Semi-Conductor Corporation of USA, we have received from the Corporation technical know-how, process design, standard operating procedures and material requisition documents for production of polysilicon which would be indigenously used for the development of polysilicon technology especially of electronic grade.

[Translation]

Amount Spent on Minimum Needs Programme

*214. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the first three years of the Seventh Five Year Plan only about one third amount under the Minimum Needs Programme has been spent out of the total amount allocated to raise the standard of living of rural population;

(b) if so, the details and reasons in this regard;

(c) whether Government have conducted any survey to ascertain the impact on the standard of living of the rural people after spending this amount; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):

(a) No, Sir. About 60 per cent of the total outlay has spent in the first three years.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Freedom Fighters Pension Cases from West Bengal

*216. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 7,000 application for Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension from West Bengal recommended by the State Advisory Committee are pending with Union Government over different periods;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to grant permission to these freedom fighters;

(c) whether Union Government have set up any committee to settle these cases;

(d) if so, the composition of the Committee and whether the State Government was consulted in this regard; and

(e) the action taken by this Committee to settle the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b). The last date for receipt of application for Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension was 31st March, 1982. A special drive to dispose off pending cases was undertaken in July-August, 1986 and all the pending cases were disposed off. No application from West Bengal is pending. However, representations against rejection of applications have been

received for review after the drive. These are being processed. Effort is being made to dispose them off early.

(c) and (d). It has been decided to set up a non-official Committee to screen the cases of freedom fighters whose area of activity lay in the present Bangladesh. This Committee has not yet been constituted.

(e) Does not arise.

Facilities for V.C.R. Manufacturers

*217. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide facilities for VCR manufacturers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a Committee of Secretaries was also appointed for the purpose;

(d) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report and if so, the recommendations of the Committee; and

(e) by when these are likely to be implemented?

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). Letters of Intent have been issued to three parties in private sector and it has also been decided to issue a Letter of Intent to one party in public sector for the manufacture of VCR/VCP.

(c) to (e). The matter was considered by Committee of Secretaries (COS) and the Project Approval Board (PAB). Based on their recommendations these Letters of Intent have been issued.

Wireless Allowance to C.R.P.F. Personnel

*218. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after 1986 the wireless allowance has been discontinued affecting adversely the T.A., D.A., and A.D.A. to the Central Reserve Police Force personnel;

(b) whether there is a great resentment among the C.R.P.F. personnel due to this loss; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to compensate the loss caused to them?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c). Prior to 1.1.86, CRPF (non-gazetted) personnel working in Communication Branch were in receipt of special pay ranging from Rs. 40-50 which used to be taken into account for the purpose of TA/DA/ADA/ etc. Pending a review of special pay attached posts, the rates of spl. pay for such staff have been doubled on the basis of recommendations of 4th Pay Commission. In accordance with general policy decision being applied in respect of all Central Government employees (including CRPF) spl. pay is not counted for any purpose whatsoever. No proposal has been received from CRPF with regard to any grievance from the employees.

Furnishings at Residences of Heads of Indian Missions Abroad

*219. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any machinery to inspect the stocks, machinery and furnishes at the residences of the Head of Indian Missions abroad and whether a periodical inspection is made of such articles;

(b) whether the attention of Government has been recently drawn to the

fact that several articles were found missing from an Indian Ambassador's residence;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the step taken to recover the missing articles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. There are both internal checks and periodic inspection by the Ministry as well as the audit authorities.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The relevant details have been submitted to the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

(d) Recoveries are not considered necessary as appropriate remedial action has been taken to the satisfaction of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India who has stated that there is no outstanding impropriety on the part of the Embassy or the Ministry.

Terms Offered under Re-Employment Scheme for Ex-Servicemen

*220. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:
SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are schemes under implementation to re-employ ex-servicemen in different establishments under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of the same and how many ex-servicemen were absorbed under those schemes and in what categories during the last two years;

(c) whether several ex-servicemen resented on different grounds the terms offered to them under the schemes; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and Government's reactions thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT): (a) to (d). In order to rehabilitate ex-servicemen in civil posts Central Government has provided for reservation of vacancies in Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts in Central Government Departments and Central Public Sector Undertakings including Nationalised Banks, as follows:-

	Central Government Departments	Public Sector Undertakings including Nation alised Banks
Group 'C'	10%	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Group 'D'	20%	24 $\frac{1}{2}$ %

These provisions also cover civilian posts in the establishments including Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Defence. During the last 2 years (1986 and 1987), the number of ex-servicemen re-employed in Group 'C' posts is 819 and in Group 'D' posts 895 under the Ministry of Defence.

Retired Officers of the three Services can also be re-employed in the respective Services. Officers who retire as Colonels, Lt. Colonels, and Majors and seek re-employment are re-employed in the Army with their consent against appointments tenable by officers of the rank of Captains. They are normally attached to and function under the Formation Headquarters. In the Air Force, retired officers of the rank of Wing Commander and below can be re-employed against posts of Squadron Leader and Flight Lieutenant, Group Captain of Flying Branch against posts of Squadron Leader and Hony. Commissioned Officers/Master Warrant Officer, Warrant Officers/Junior Warrant Officers against posts of Sergeant/Corporal. In the Navy officers of the rank of Commanders and below on their retirement can be re-employed in the rank on which they retired or one rank below with their consent. Retired Officers can be re-employed upto the age of 56 years and retired officers of Flying Duty Branch, Hony. Commissioned Officers and Junior Commissioned Officers in the Air Force upto the age of 58 years. The number

of officers/airmen re-employed during the last two years is given below:

Army 514 Officers
Navy 50 Officers
Air Force 169 Officers and 294 Airmen.

Defence Service Personnel who have rendered minimum of five years of colour service or five years of embodied service in the case of ex-personnel of Territorial Army are also eligible for appointment in the Defence Security Corps (DSC). During the last 2 years, 3990 persons were reemployed in the Defence Security Corps, where they retire at the age of 55 years.

Some organisations of Ex-servicemen have represented demanding inter-alia counting of military service for pay fixation and seniority on re-employment of pensioner ex-servicemen in civil posts. These representations have been examined and it was not found possible to accede to this demand.

As regards re-employment in the Services, no instances of resentment by the defence personal re-employed in the Defence Services and Defence security Corps have been reported to Government. However, certain problems which have arisen in regard to pay fixation of reemployed officers in the Services are under examination.

Delay in Giving Clearance to Projects

*221. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:
SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to cut down delays in the clearance of project pending with it for years;

(b) whether any study has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND
MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMEN-

TATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c). The process of project clearance in the Central Government is constantly under review, in order to minimise delays in the clearance of projects. Studies have been undertaken as part of this process as and when required.

Ban on Communal Parties

*222. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are considering to ban communal parties in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have found out the criteria for declaring a body as communal; and

(c) if so, the total number of parties or bodies which have been found as communal and by what time the introduction of legislation to ban them is being considered?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c). There is no proposal before the Government to ban communal parties in the country. So far no definition in regard to communal parties has been evolved. However, in the context of separating religion from politics, the Government is considering the matter in depth from various angles. It would not be feasible at this stage to indicate any details thereof or the time-frame by which a final decision can be taken to introduce a Bill in Parliament.

Trailers Supplied by Bharat Earth Movers Limited

2126. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all the trailers supplied by the Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) to the armed forces have been found to be defective;

(b) whether BEML has received any complaint in this regard and whether they have inspected the trailers;

(c) if so, the details of the defects found;

(d) the steps taken to rectify those defects;

(e) total money involved in rectifying the defects; and

(f) whether BEML propose to take these trailers back and supply new ones to the armed forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (f). Government had been trying to develop sources for indigenous manufacture of Tank Transportation Trailers. Initially it was only M/s Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) who could indigenously design and develop these trailers, resulting in import substitution.

Out of 998 nos. of "50 Ton Tank Transportation Trailers", supplied so far by BEML, it was only the initial supplies of 285 trailers, made during 1976-80 which showed certain structural inadequacies namely bending of chassis, rubbing of tyres with the under carriage and bending of rocker arm. These deficiencies came to light only after trailers were extensively used by the Army units. The defects were jointly investigated by the Director General of Quality Assurance and BEML and rectification and design improvements were incorporated by BEML in all the 285 trailers at no extra cost to the Government.

In the subsequent supplies the design improvements were incorporated at the manufacturing stage itself as a result of which they are defect free.

Since the defects in the initial supplies were all rectified by BEML to the satisfaction of the Users, the question of BEML taking back any of the trailers does not arise.

Natural language for Computers

2127. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given on 4 May, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 9571 regarding suitability of Sanskrit as a Computer Language and state:

(a) the progress made at the six nodal centres so far;

(b) the stage at which the research in the field of natural language for computers conducted at the National Centre for Software Technology, Bombay stands;

(c) whether a project for this purpose has been forwarded under the FGCS/KBCS programme; and

(d) if so, the main features 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) Six nodal centres are engaged in different areas of work under the Fifth Generation Computer Systems\Knowledge Based Computer System (FGCS\KBCE) Programme. The Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore is developing parallel processing based on artificial intelligence Machine for Logic Programming. National Centre for Software Technology (NCST), Bombay will provide the Logic programming Environment on this Machine, in addition to its work in the field of Natural Language Processing. Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Calcutta is engaged in the work related to the area of Pattern Recognition and Image Processing whereas Tata Institute of Fundamental research (TIFR) is concerned with Speech Recognition and Synthesis. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras is working in the field of Expert Systems, for Engineering Applications. The Nodal Centre at Department of Electronics, New Delhi is working in the field of Expert Systems of Government applications and Legal Reasoning Systems using Artificial Intelligence of Government applications. The work in progressing satisfactorily in these

centres, after the installations of the main equipment for the project.

(b) Research in Natural Language for Computers at NCST, Bombay is being carried out in two broad areas:

- (i) Man Machine Communication using Natural Language.
- (ii) Human aided machine translation from English to Hindi (limited subject of language using a limited vocabulary)

NCST, approach emphasises the use of interaction along with Artificial Intelligence to obviate problems in Natural Language understanding.

(c) and (d). The use of Sanskrit as a natural language of the KBCS\FGCS Programme is being formulated as a definitive project. There are groups at IIT, Kanpur, IIT, Madras, IISC, Bangalore, which have shown interest in taking up this project.

Financial Assistance to Bhutan

2128. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of India's financial assistance sanctioned during the last three years, to Bhutan for the development projects year-wise;

(b) whether Government of India have offered financial assistance to Bhutan to connect National Highway No. 31 at Barobisa in North Bengal to Kalikhola in Bhutan; and

(c) by what time this pucca road will be ready?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) India's financial assistance to developmental projects in Bhutan in the past three years has been as follows: Rs. 38.34 crores as grants and Rs. 22.26 crores as loans in 1985-86; Rs. 54.98 crores as grants and Rs. 13.90 crores as

loans in 1986-87, and Rs.62.15 crores as grants and Rs. 8.87 crores as loans, during 1987-88.

(b) Government has not given any financial assistance for the project.

(c) Does not arise.

Cost Escalation of Central Projects

2129. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified any such projects during the mid-term review of the Seventh Plan, which are lagging behind schedule and have been victims of cost escalation, especially in the Ministries of Railways, Surface Transport, Energy, Communications and Industry;

(b) if so, the details of such projects of each Ministry along with the cost escalation involved in each case; and

(c) whether any steps would be taken by fixing suitable targets for their early completion?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI)

(a) The mid-term appraisal of the Seventh Plan was undertaken of all sectors of development, and of the Plan as a whole; it did not cover cost/time escalation of any individual projects. The exercise undertaken in connection with the mid-term appraisal of the Seventh Plan was already tabled in the Parliament.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Growth incentives to North-Eastern States

2130. SHRI ASHOK SHANKARAO CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Committee of Ministers for Economic Development of the North-Eastern Region was held on 1 June, 1988;

(b) if so, the agenda of the meeting; and

(c) the outcome of the deliberations and the Government's views thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. A meeting of the Committee of Ministers for the economic development of North-Eastern region was held in New Delhi on 1st June, 1988.

(b) The agenda for the meeting, inter-alia, included supply of essential commodities, movement of cement and other related problems, improvement of air facilities, development of road communication, improvement of TV and radio facilities etc.

(c) During the discussions, the Chief Ministers of North-Eastern States pressed for expeditious implementation of various ongoing schemes and improvement of existing infrastructural facilities in their States as well as the region. The Committee directed the Official Level Committee under the chairmanship of Home Secretary to examine the points raised in the meeting by the Chief Ministers and other members of the Committee and take necessary follow-up action. The Central Ministries were also requested to follow-up the suggestions of the Chief Ministers and other members of the Committee.

Integrated rural Energy Planning Training Course at Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

2131. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to impart training for Integrated Rural Energy Planning Programme at the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay;

(b) if so, the details of the programme; and

(c) the names of the States who will participate in the programme?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) :

(a) The 11th National Training Course on Integrated Rural Energy Planning Programme was organised from 4th to 9th July, 1988 under the Sponsorship of Rural Energy Division, Planning Commission and the Government of Maharashtra at Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay.

(b) The details of the programme are as follows: the topics covered in the training course included among others, Rural Energy Planning Surveys, Energy Demand Projections, Energy Technologies and their assessment, implementation aspects including people participation and extension, computer modelling for rural energy sector and field visit. Faculty of the course were drawn from eminent experts of rural energy from Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, officials from Government of Maharashtra with experience in rural programmes and Planning Commission experts. About 32 trainees participated, which include field level officers from districts and blocks where the Integrated Rural Energy Planning Programme is being implemented and other officials and field staff in the IREP Programme.

(c) The States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Goa participated in the training course.

Super Computer

2132. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States have agreed to the sale of Super Computer to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken to gain knowledge of super computer from abroad to develop it in India; and

(d) at what stage the country is at present in regard to manufacture computer in the country?

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) Yes, Sir. The U.S. has agreed to the selling of Super Computers to India.

(b) The Department of Science and Technology has ordered a CRAY XMP-14 Super Computer with M/s CRAY Research Limited.

(c) There is no proposal to import the technology from abroad. The Department of Electronics has set-up a centre for development of advanced computing (C-DAC), in Pune. C-DAC has been given the specific responsibility of development of the parallel computing system with a 100 Mega flops peak rating within a period of 3 years. Also, Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Centre for Development of Telematics and the Department of Science and Technology for the development of a parallel computing system with 640 Mega flops peak rating about 18 months period. These parallel computing systems are in the performance range of super computers.

(d) The Research and Development in this area have started in the country recently. The system architecture and design of parallel computing systems are being finalised.

Hunger Strike by Employees of Ordnance Factories

2133. SHRI B.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Non-Gazetted officers of the Ordnance factories and allied establishments had observed a week-long hunger strike in 36 establishments under the leadership of All India Association of Non-gazetted Officers of Ordnance Factories and allied establishments;

(b) if so, when the hunger strike took place;

(c) what were the demands; and

(d) the Government's response to the demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b). From 23rd to 28th May, 1988, hunger strike was observed by some of the Non-Gazetted officers in 13 units of Ordnance factories and allied establishments.

(c) The demands were as follows:-

(i) Requiring all non-gazetted officers and other employees to work systematically on overtime for 54 hours per week.

(ii) Requiring employees in project factories, viz. OF Medak and Opto-Electronic Dehradun to work overtime.

(d) As per policy of Government the Management of the factories asks employees to work overtime as per requirement related to production targets based on in-

dents from the Defence Services on the factories.

[Translation]

Suicides in Delhi

2134. SHRI KAMLA PRAŞAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of suicides reported in Delhi during the last one year;

(b) whether causes responsible for committing suicide have been ascertained; and

(c) if so, the number of persons found guilty and the nature of punishments awarded to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) 1987— 501

1988— 326

(upto 31.7.88)

(b) Yes Sir.

(c)	Persons arrested	Challanged/ Pending trial	Under investigation.
1987	118	106	12
1988	49	14	35
(upto 31.7.88)			

All these cases have been made out under sections 306 304-B of IPC.

Visit of Indian Delegations to China

2135. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government and private delegations which have visited China during the last four years and the number of Chinese delegations which visited India during this period; and

(b) the purpose thereof and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). A Statement comprising lists of delegations on bilateral visits to and from China, either sponsored by Government, or of which Government, are aware, is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library, See No. LT- 6409/88] Government's purpose in sending delegations has been to pursue action in functional and other areas of mutual interest as well as to increase understanding with China. It is assessed that these objectives have been met.

[English]

Indo-Mongolia Co-operation in Science and Technology

2136. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has recently been signed with Mongolia for co-operation in Science and Technology; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the areas identified for co-operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir. An Agreement for cooperation in the field of Science and Technology was signed between Government of India and the Government of Mongolian Peoples Republic during the visit of the President of India to Mongolia on July 14, 1988.

(b) The Agreement envisages:

- (i) Cooperation through exchange of scientists, research workers, specialists and scholars;
- (ii) Exchange of scientific and technological information and documentation;

(iii) Organisation of bilateral seminars/courses;

(iv) Joint identification of scientific and technological problems; and

(v) Formulation and implementation of joint research in industry, agriculture and other fields and exchange of experience and know-how resulting therefrom.

Dispute over Mangaladevi Temple

2137. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are aware about the dispute between Kerala and Tamil Nadu States over the Mangaladevi temple near Thekkady in Kerala;

(b) whether several representations were received from Kerala Government regarding this temple; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Union Government to solve the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). There is a divergence of views between Governments of Tamil Nadu and Kerala in regard to the location of Mangaladevi (Kannagi) Temple. Both the State Governments were advised to consider settling the matter through bilateral discussions. The Government of India, for their part, would be glad to render any assistance as the State Governments may wish to have in this regard.

Utility of INSAT-1C

2138. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what services in the spheres of television, telephony and meteorology, India multi-purpose INSAT-1C shot into orbit on 22nd July, 1988 is likely to provide to the Eastern States, particularly West Bengal?

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): INSAT system provides television, telecommunication and meteorological services to the whole of the country. INSAT-IC is intended to provide a backup to INSAT-IB and also augment the system capacity.

Conversion of Indians into Christianity in Fiji

2139. DR. B. L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether General Rabuka, has issued repeated calls for a drive to convert all Indians in Fiji into Christianity and declare Fiji a Christian nation, as per report appearing in 'New York Times' dated July 22, 1988; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to persuade the Fijian Government not to enforce conversions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). In a book by Brig. Rabuka called "No Other Way" references are made to his desire to see Indians in Fiji converted to Christianity. He is also quoted as saying that Fiji should be declared as a Christian Nation. These are, evidently Brig. Rabuka's personal views.

We have no confirmation of any actual conversions to Christianity having taken place.

Punjab Migrants in Delhi

2140. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether refugee camps in Delhi for migrants from Punjab are in an unsatisfactory condition in respect of water supply, sanitation, availability of medicines, power supply, primary schooling and arrangements for delivery cases;

(b) whether there is any machinery responsible for looking into these essential requirements; and

(c) the number of families still living in tents and by when they will be provided with "pucca" rooms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir, the Delhi Administration is responsible for looking into these requirements.

(c) About 200 families are living in tents. 600 semi-pucca tenements are at advanced stage of construction for further allotment.

Funds for Central Projects in Rajasthan

2141. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central Projects in Rajasthan for which funds were allocated during the Sixth and Seventh Plan;

(b) whether the entire amount so allocated was released;

(c) whether any assessment has been made about the on-going projects in the State and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether more funds are proposed to be allocated to Rajasthan for the purpose and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d). Allocations for Central Projects are made on an assessment of their funding requirement and overall allocation of the concerned Administrative Ministry. Actual funds are released by the concerned Ministry keeping in mind the progress being made, which is closely monitored.

The position of on-going Central Projects in Rajasthan is as given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Details of on-going Central Projects costing over Rs. 20 crores in Rajasthan as monitored by the Ministry of Programme Implementation

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Sectors/ Projects/ Districts	Date of Govt. approval Original (Revised)	Anticipated Cost	Expenditure till March, 1987	1987-88 B.E. (R.E.)	Annual Expn. till quarter (Jan-- March)	Cumulative Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Antomic Energy							
1.	RAPP 3 & 4, Kota	86/11	711.56	58.85	33.07 (42.08)	11.95	70.80
Mines							
2.	Integr. Lead Zinc Com P I, Udaipur	86/10	21.00	4.61	9.38 (17.47)	13.75	18.36
Power							
3.	Anta GPP Kota	86/10	310.54	1.59	18.94 (42.61)	27.50	29.09
4.	Anta GPP TR Line	86/10	53.38	--	15.00 (8.85)	5.10	5.10
Railways							
5.	Suratgarh-Bikaner, NR	82/03	64.88	45.79	12.00 (17.90)	15.68	61.47
6.	Modernisation W.R. Ajmer of W.S.,	85/03 (87/12)	23.52	0.68	1.50	3.07	3.75

Population of Tamil Nadu below poverty line

2142. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the population of Tamil Nadu in the year 1967 and the percentage of population which was actually below the poverty line;

(b) the present population of Tamil Nadu and percentage of population below poverty line;

(c) whether the percentage of population below poverty line compared to 1967 has decreased; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c). The estimated population of Tamil Nadu in the year 1967 was 378.75 lakhs. The estimates of persons below poverty line based on the National Sample Survey (NSS) data on Household Consumer Expenditure are available only for the years 1972-73, 1977-78 and 1983-84. The estimated population of Tamil Nadu in 1972-73 was 421 lakhs and the percentage of population below poverty line was 59.7. The estimated population of Tamil Nadu in 1983-84 was 505.6 lakhs and the percentage of population below poverty line was 39.6. Thus, over the period 1972-73 to 1983-84 there has been a decline in the percentage of population below poverty line.

(d) Does not arise.

Sea Voyage for Haj

2143. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sea voyage used for Haj from 1980 to 1988, year-wise;

(b) the reasons for reducing the sea voyage for Hajis this year;

(c) whether Government have received any representation from Hajis or their relatives for the increase of sea voyage; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) Following is the information:--

Year	No of Haj Sailings	No. of Ships deployed
1	2	3
1980	3	2
1981	3	2

1	2	3
1982	6	1
1983	6	1
1984	3	1
1985	3	1
1986	3	1
1987	3	1
1988	3	1

(b) The number of sailings depends on the availability of ships with facilities for bunk class passengers. It will be seen that the number of sailings in 1988 has been the same as over the four previous years.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The matter is under constant review by Government.

Memorandum of understanding on Arms export by Sweden to India

2144. SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have signed a Memorandum of understanding on the arms exported by Sweden to India;

(b) if so, the details of the Memorandum of Understanding;

(c) whether there is any condition on the exporters, namely, M/s Bofors to keep uninterrupted supply of defence equipment; and

(d) whether this condition of M.O.U. has been adhered to by M/s Bofors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (d). A Memorandum of

Understanding was signed on 24th March, 1986 with the Government of Sweden regarding the development, supply and production in India of the Bofors Field Howitzer FH 77B System and related matters. It provides, *inter-alia*, for the continued and uninterrupted flow of supplies of the Field Howitzer system etc., except in the case of a United Nations Security Council resolution to the contrary, which is specifically applicable to this programme. There has been no interruption in the flow of supplies from M/s Bofors.

Conversion of dry-type latrines in Kanpur Cantonment

2145. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to reply given on 4 May, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 9532 regarding the conversion of dry-type latrines into water-borne ones in Kanpur Cantonment and state:

(a) whether the residents of Shantinagar/Napier Road, Kanpur area have not yet

been given the permission to get the old System converted into water-borne sanitary system;

(b) the number and details of representations still awaiting clearance of the Cantonment Board, Kanpur; and

(c) the progress achieved in laying underground sewerage and in increasing water supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) All applications, except two, of the residents of Shantinagar/Napier Road, Kanpur Cantonment for conversion of old system into water borne sanitary system have been sanctioned.

(b) 10 applications in respect of the following premises (including 2 from Shantinagar/Napier Road area) are pending with the Cantonment Board:—

Sl. No.	Premises No.	Date of receipt	S. No	Premises No.	Date of receipt
1.	A-1, Shanti Nagar	13.7.1987	6.	136 Faithful Ganj	9-12-87
2.	A-5, Shanti Nagar	25-2-1988	7.	91 Cantt	9-5-88
3.	B-12, Khapra Mohal	16-6-1987	8.	87 Cantt	2-6-88
4.	B-17, Khapra Mohal	23-4-1988	9.	89 Cantt	2-6-88
5.	D-6 Khapra Mohal	27-8-1987	10.	166 Mirpur	5 1-88

(c) Only a small portion of the civil area has the facility of under-ground sewerage. Rs. 2.5 lakhs were spent on this account during 1987-88. Rs. 10 lakhs are proposed to be sent during the current year. A revised water supply scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.9 crores is under active consideration of the UP Jal Nigam.

Strength of horses with the Armed Forces

2146. SHRI MANIK REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the strength of the horses that are presently available with the Armed Forces in each service;

(b) for what purposes these horses are used by the three services;

(c) where do the training facilities for these horses exist and the expenditure incurred for their maintenance in the last three years; and

(d) whether the Defence Forces import any breed of horses from abroad; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (e). The position is reflected in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

There are 1353 horses in various units of the Army. No horses are authorised for Navy and Air Force establishments.

2. These horses are utilised for the following purposes:--

- (i) To exercise control by Commanders over movements of animal transport columns over difficult mountaineous terrain.
- (ii) For reconnaissance activities.
- (iii) For tactical deployment of animal columns and for ceremonial purposes.
- (iv) For imparting equitation training of officers/Cadets/other ranks in IMA, NDA, OTA and other training institutions.
- (v) For imparting equestrian training to NCC Cadets of Veterinary Colleges.
- (vi) For promoting Equestrian Sports.

3. The horses are trained at the Remount Training School and Depots at Saharanpur and Hempur. the expenditure incurred in

the last three years on the maintenance of horses held by Army units is as follows:--

1985 ...	Rs. 1,29,52,512.00
1986 ...	Rs, 1,52,74,248.00
1987 ...	Rs. 1,75,46,184.00

4. The Defence Forces also import horses and donkeys for utilisation as breeding stock (for horses as well as donkeys). The imports during the last three years were as below:--

Category	Numbers
Horse Breeding Brood Mares	330
Mountain Artillery Mules Breeding Brood Mares	680
Horse Stallions	8
Donkey Stallions	19
Donkey Breeding Brood Mares	19
Total :	1056

Publication of wrong maps

2147. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA:
SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-
MURTY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the existing law to provide for deterrent action for publication of wrong maps of India;

(b) the number of persons prosecuted in the country during the last three years for publishing wrong maps;

(c) whether it also applies to foreign journals and books which are published abroad but are imported into India; and

(d) if not, how such cases are dealt with?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) A proposal to amend the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 1981 is under consideration.

(b) Since prosecution in such cases is launched by the State Governments concerned, no data in regard to number of persons prosecuted is compiled on All India basis.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Under Section 11 of the Customs Act, 1982 the Government has prohibited import into India of Books, periodicals; maps etc., which directly or indirectly question the frontiers of India or the territorial integrity of the country.

Use of Video to propagate Naxalism

2148. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK:
SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Naxalites in the country have produced video cassettes narrating the incidents took place in the Dandakaranya area in the form of folk songs and drama;

(b) whether these cassettes are widely circulated in Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh Orissa and Delhi;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a)

There are no confirmed reports in this regard.

(b) to (d). Such cassettes have not come to the notice of police authorities in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Delhi. Information in respect of the remaining States is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Job opportunities for women in public undertakings

2149. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether more job opportunities are now being provided to women in public undertakings under the New Employment Policy;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in the number of women in Government services and the names of the Departments in which preference is being given to them; and

(c) the special measures being taken by Government to give encouragement and to provide information to women for Government jobs and to create awareness among them in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) and (b). Subject to relevant constitutional provisions, Government's policy is to provide equal opportunity of employment to all persons, including women.

There has been a gradual increase in the number of women employees under the Central Government. According to the Census of Central Government Employees, the number of women employees in Central Government rose from 117139 in 1980 to 136598 in 1983, the percentage of women to all employees having increased from 3.53 to 3.86 during the period.

(c) Through better education and media

publicity, women are being encouraged to take up employment under Government. Special efforts are being made to increase the representation of women in the Civil Services adopting a two-fold strategy of creating awareness among women about the Civil Services and of motivating them to opt the Civil Services in larger numbers, through programmes on the Doordarshan and the Akashvani and advertisements in the press.

[English]

Tours by Union Ministers

2150. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tours undertaken by Union Ministers within the country during the period from 1 March, 1987 to 31 May, 1988; and

(b) the details of the expenditure incurred on such tours including T.A. and D.A. on each Union Minister during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sales tax collection in Delhi

2151. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the actual collection of sales tax in the Union Territory of Delhi in 1987-88 and how does it compare with the actual collection made during 1986-87;

(b) the rise in the number of assessment cases in 1987 as compared to the assessment cases in 1986; and

(c) the remedial measures contemplated by Government in regard to evasion of sales tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

(c) Various steps have been taken to prevent loss of revenue and plug the possible loop-holes. Quite a large number of classes of goods have been shifted from the last point to the 1st point for the levy of tax. Dealer to dealer transactions are being got verified in doubtful cases. Surveys of dealers to detect cases of tax evasion have been intensified. More vigorous enforcement measures have also been undertaken.

STATEMENT

<i>Collection of Sales Tax</i>		<i>Increase</i>
1986-87	1987-88	
Rs. 379.19 Crores	Rs. 431.73 Crores	Rs. 52.54 Crores
<i>Assessment Cases</i>		<i>Increase</i>
1986-87	1987-88	
1,39,808	1,66,954	27146

As would be evident from the statement above, there has been substantial increase in the collection of sales tax during the period.

Financial assistance for social security schemes in Andhra Pradesh

2152. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance provided to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh for social security schemes for the weaker sections in the State;

(b) the details of the social security schemes proposed to be undertaken in the State; and

(c) the estimated number of families likely to be benefited in the State during the next two years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) to (c). The Central Government does not provide financial assistance to State Govts. specifically for social security schemes for the weaker section in the State.

Arrangements for transportation of Haj Pilgrims

2153. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the arrangements for extra aircraft/extra flights to cope with the rush in connection with the Haj Pilgrimage was made by Government;

(b) if so, the details of the arrangements made;

(c) whether any concession is being granted to the Haj Pilgrims this year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following were the special arrangements:--

(i) Three Special Air-India flights from Delhi on 16th and 17th July, 1988 carrying a total of 778 pilgrims;

(ii) Transportation from Delhi to Bombay on 19th July, of 505 pilgrims out of whom 313 flew from Bombay to Jeddah by a special charter flight while the rest were provided seats in Air-India's scheduled flights to Jeddah.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Details of the concessions are as follows:--

(i) Concessional seafares in both the first class and the bunk class were

extended to 4,675 pilgrims who travelled by sea.

(ii) Concessional airfares to pilgrims who travelled by air.

Implementation of engineering projects in Orissa

2154. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the centrally sponsored engineering projects under implementation in Orissa;

(b) whether the delay in the completion of those projects is leading to cost escalation;

(c) if so, the steps taken to expedite the execution of those projects; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) According to the Quarterly Monitoring System of the Ministry of Programme Implementation as on 31.3.1983, in respect of projects costing over Rs. 20 crores each, there are no Engineering Projects falling under Heavy, Medium and Light Engineering, under implementation in Orissa.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Manufacture of colour shells for colour T.V.

2155. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering proposals for granting licences to three units for the manufacture of colour shells for colour TV sets in collaboration with foreign concerns; and

(b) if so, how much foreign exchange is expected to be required for import of technology and equipments from foreign coun-

tries and how it is proposed to be arranged?

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) Government has received three proposals and has granted foreign collaboration approvals to two units for the manufacture of glass panel and funnels for colour picture tubes as per details below:--

Sl. No.	Name of the unit	Name of the foreign collaborator
1.	M/s. Grasim Industries Ltd.,	M/s. ASAHI Glass Co. Ltd., Japan
2.	M/s. G.N.F.C., LTD.,	M/s. Owens Illinois Inc., USA.

(b) Estimated outgo of Foreign Exchange for transfer of technology and import of machinery etc. for the two projects together will be Rs. 120 crores. The foreign exchange will be provided in the normal course as in any other project. The saving in foreign exchange due to import substitution and export earnings through the export obligation of 10% will be of the order of Rs. 100 crores per year at full production.

Steps taken to caution people about explosive devices

2156. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to caution people about the various types of improvised explosive devices used by the terrorists in the State of Punjab, Haryana and Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Suitable warnings are issued in this regard through the media by the authorities

Restructuring of PAC and CRPF

2157. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to restructure PAC and CRPF to ensure recruitment of minorities and weaker sections therein; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). 'Police' is a State subject and restructuring of the PACs concerns the State Governments. There is no proposal under Government's consideration to restructure CRPF.

As regards recruitment of minority and other weaker sections in the PACs, general guidelines have been issued by the Government of India to the State Government and Union Territories. In the CRPF also, instructions already exist to ensure adequate representation of all sections of the society.

Fire safety measures in high rise buildings

2158. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether 171 high rise buildings in
Delhi have been identified as fire prone;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to
enforce fire safety measures in such build-
ings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-
ISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-
TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) The owners/occupiers of the
high-rise buildings were directed to pro-
vide necessary fire safety requirements
within a period of 3 months. After expiry of
the notice period, a fresh survey was con-
ducted with a view to ascertain the compli-
ance with the notices. Notices have been
issued by the Chief Fire Officer to the
builders/owners to submit their action
plans within 30 days.

STATEMENT

High-Rise buildings in which necessary fire safety measures have not been provided

Sl. No	Name and Address of the Buildings.
-----------	------------------------------------

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 1 | 2 |
| 1. | Manjusha House, 57 Nehru Place. |
| 2. | Manisha Bldg. 75-76 Nehru Place. |
| 3. | Vishal Bhawan, 95 Nehru Place. |
| 4. | Hemkunt Tower, 98-Nehru Place. |
| 5. | Milap Bhawan, B.S. Zafar Marg. |
| 6. | Saraswati House, 27-Nehru Place. |
| 7. | Deepak Bldg. 13-Nehru Place. |
| 8. | Asian Bldg. 12-Nehru Place. |
| 9. | Siddhartha Bldg. 96-Nehru Place. |
| 10. | Kailash Apartment, Zamrudpur. |
| 11. | Gagan Deep 12-Rajendra Place. |
| 12. | Sethi Bhawan, 7-Rajendra Place. |
| 13. | Hemkunt House, 8-Rajendra Place. |
| 14. | DLF Shopping Complex, Greater Kailash, New Delhi. |
| 15. | Ashok Estate, Barakhamba Road. |

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16. Daily Tej Bldg. B.S.Zafar Marg.
17. Nirmal Tower, Barakhamba Road.
18. Rohit House, 3-Tolstoy Marg.
19. Atma Ram House 1-Tolstoy Marg.
20. Rivera Apartment 45-Mall Road.
21. Madan House, 26-Nehru Place.
22. Rajlok 24-Nehru Place.
23. Raja House, 30-31 Nehru Place.
24. 32-33 Nehru Place.
25. 46-Nehru Place.
26. Sehyog Building, 58-Nehru Place.
27. Sha-Kuntla Apartment, 59-Nehru Place.
28. Goverdhan House, 53-54, Nehru Place.
29. Gedora House, 51-52, Nehru Place.
30. Laxmi House, 72-Nehru Place.
31. Red Rose, 49-50 Nehru Place.
32. Skylark, 60-Nehru Place.
33. Guru Angad Bhawan, 71-Nehru Place.
34. Sanchi Bldg., 77-Nehru Place
35. Ashok Bhawan, 93-Nehru Place.
36. Skipper Corner, 57-58, Nehru Place.
37. Padma Place, 86-Nehru Place.
38. Skyline House, 85-Nehru Place.
39. Bajaj House, 87-Nehru Place.
40. Bhandari House, 91, Nehru Place.
41. Sagar Apartment, 6-Tilak Marg.

1	2
42.	Sarojini House, 6-Bhagwandas Road.
43.	Himalaya House, K.C. Marg.
44.	Pragati Tower, 47-48 Nehru Place.
45.	Madhuban, 55-Nehru Place.
46.	Sheetla House, 73-74, Nehru Place.
47.	Mansarover, 90-Nehru Place.
48.	Meghdoot Bldg, 94-Nehru Place.
49.	Asha Deep, 9 Haily Road.
50.	Deep Sikha, 8-Rajendra Place.
51.	Parbhat Kiran, 17 Rajendra Place.
52.	Kirti Mehal, 19-Rajendra Place.
53.	Pragati Tower, 26 Rajendra Place.
54.	Eros Apartment, 56 Nehru Place.
55.	Ratan Jyoti, 18-Rajendra Place.
56.	Dakeshneshwar, 10 Haily Road.
57.	Indian Express Bldg. B. S. Zafar Marg, New Delhi.
58.	Jeevan Vihar, Sansad Marg, New Delhi.
59.	Gaffar Market, Karol Bagh, New Delhi.
60.	Nurses Hostel Hindu Rao Hospital.
61.	Male Ward Hindu Rao Hospital.
62.	Mohan Singh Place, Baba Kharag Singh Marg.
63.	Yashwant Place, Chankyapuri, New Delhi.
64.	Mayur Bhawan, Connaught Place.
65.	Chankya Bhawan, Chankyapuri.
66.	Vidyut Bhawan, Connaught Place.
67.	Chanderlok Bldg. Janpath.

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68. Shakti Sadan, Kotla Road.
69. Mankalya Bhawan, B.S. Zafar Marg.
70. National Youth Hostel Trust Chankyapuri, New Delhi.
71. Manak Bhawan, B.S. Zafar Marg.
72. External Affairs M.P. Flats, DIZ area, Peshwa Road, New Delhi.
73. E.S.I.C. Bldg. Kotla Road.
74. Control Revenue Bldg. I.P. Estate.
75. A.G.C.R. Bldg. I.P. Estate.
76. Vikas Bhawan, I.P. Estate.
77. Family Apartment, Tagore Road.
78. M.S. Flats, Sector XIII, R. K. Puram.
79. Controller Auditor & General Annexe, I.P. Estate, New Delhi.
80. Drum Shape Bldg. I.P. Estate
81. Y-Shape Bldg. I.P. Estate.
82. Vithal Bhai Patel Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi.
83. Udyog Bhawan, Rafi Marg.
84. Sardar Patel Bhawan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi.
85. Krishi Bhawan, Rafi Marg.
86. Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi.
87. Election Commission Bldg. Ashok Road
88. Asia House, K.G. Marg, New Delhi.
89. Shastri Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Pd. Road.
90. Sharam Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi.
91. Indian Oil Bhawan, Janpath.
92. Curzon Road Apartment, K.G. Marg, New Delhi.
93. 8-Storeyed M.S. Flats, Minto Road

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94.	Indian Airlines House, Rakab Ganj Road.
95.	G.B. Pant Hospital, J.L. Nehru Marg.
96.	Maulana Azad Medical College, B.S. Zafar Marg.
97.	Safdarjung Hospital, Baba Kharag Singh Marg.
98.	R.M. L Lohia Hospital, Baba Kharag Singh Marg.
99.	Foreign Post Office, Kotla Road.
100.	Telephone Exchange, Hauz Khas.
101.	Telephone Exchange, Rajouri Garden.
102.	Telephone Exchange Pusa.
103.	Telephone Exchange Tis Hazari.
104.	Telephone Exchange Shakti Nagar.
105.	Telephone Exchange Idgah.
106.	Khurshid Lal Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi.
107.	Kidwai Bhawan, Janpath.
108.	National Productivity Council, New Delhi.
109.	W.C.O, Bank, Sansad Marg.
110.	Punjab National Bank, Sansad Marg.
111.	Sena Bhawan, Duplex Road.
112.	Vayui Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi.
113.	Akashwani Bhawan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi.
114.	U.G.C. Bldg. B.S. Zafar Marg, New Delhi.
115.	Asian Instt. of Planners NIE Campus, Mehrauli Road.
116.	Vallabhbbhai Patel Chest Instt. Delhi University.
117.	CSIR Complex, Pusa.
118.	M.S. Bldg. near New Delhi Rly. Station.
119.	Rail Niwas & M.S. State Entry Road.

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120. Rail Bhawan, Rafi Marg.
121. Baroda House, K.G. Marg.
122. Padma Tower, 5-Rajendra Place, New Delhi.
123. W.H.O. I.P. Estate, New Delhi.
124. City Centre, Sansad Marg, New Delhi.
125. Vikas Minar, I.P. Estate, New Delhi.
126. Guru Teg Bahadur Medical College & Hospital, Shahdara.
127. Hotel Samrat, Chanakya Puri, New Delhi.
128. Hotel Ranjeet, Maharaja Ranjeet Singh Marg, New Delhi.
129. FICCI Bldg. Barakhamba Road, New Delhi.
130. Ispat Bhawan, Lodhi Road, New Delhi.
131. S.B.I. Flats, East of Kailash.
132. Continental House, 28-29 Nehru Place.
133. Chawla House, 19, Nehru Place.
134. Kundan House, 16-Nehru Place.
135. Bank House, 21-Rajendra Place.
136. Vikrant Tower, 4-Rajendra Place.
137. Gopala Tower, 25-Rajendra Place.

138. Azad Apartment, Aurobindo Marg.
139. Dr. Zakir Hussain Coop. Group Housing Society, Okhla.
140. Vandana Building, Tolstory Marg.
141. Punj House, 17-18, Nehru Place.
142. Holy Family Hospital, Okhla.
143. Mayfair Apartment, Mayfair Garden.
144. Kanchanjunga Bldg. Barakhamba Road.

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| 145. | P.T.I. Bldg. Sansad Marg, New Delhi. |
| 146. | Deepali Bldg. 92-Nehru Place. |
| 147. | Hindustan Times House, 16-28, Kasturba Gandhi Marg. |
| 148. | Kailash Bldg. 26-Kasturba Gandhi Marg. |
| 149. | Chiranjiv Tower, 43-Nehru Place. |
| 150. | Akash Deep, Barakhamba Road. |
| 151. | New Delhi House, 27-Barakhamba Road. |
| 152. | Surya Kiran Bldg. 19-K.G. Marg. |
| 153. | Hotel Asian International Youth Hostel, Janpath. |
| 154. | Jeevan Prakash, 25-K.G. Marg. |
| 155. | Administrative Block, Hindu Rao Hospital. |
| 156. | Akbar Bhawan, Chanakya Puri, New Delhi. |
| 157. | Super Bazar, Connaught Place, New Delhi. |
| 158. | USSR Bldg. Ferozshah Road, New Delhi. |
| 159. | Golden Jubilee Halli, Pusa Complex. |
| 160. | N.P.L. Residential Flats, Pusa. |
| 161. | C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road |
| 162. | Yojna Bhawan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi. |
| 163. | Central Govt. Residential Flats, Peshwa Road, New Delhi. |
| 164. | Ashok Hotel, Chanakya Puri, New Delhi |
| 165. | Qutab Hotel, Aurbindo Marg, New Delhi. |
| 166. | Ashok Yatni Niwas, Ashok Road, New Delhi. |
| 167. | Hotel Janpath, Janpath, New Delhi. |
| 168. | Telephone Exchange, Nehru Place, New Delhi. |
| 169. | Bank of Baroda, Sansad Marg, New Delhi |
| 170. | I.I.T. Hauz Khas, New Delhi. |
| 171. | Northern Railway Flats, Panchkuin Road, New Delhi. |
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Memorandum from Ex-Andaman Political Prisoners

2159. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received memorandum representations and letters during 1 January, 1987 to 15 July, 1988 from ex-Andaman Political Prisoners and their organisations regarding their issues and demands alongwith some suggestions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). The Government have received Memoranda, representations and letters from ex-Andaman Political Prisoners and their associations making certain demands/suggestions regarding grant of facilities etc. to freedom fighters. These broadly relate to the following:

- (i) Grant of pension to 10 Ex-Andamans political prisoners;
- (ii) Enhancement of pension rate from Rs. 800/- to 1000/- p.m.
- (iii) Conversion of Cellular Jail into a national memorial;
- (iv) Upgradation of the boat cabins in which they have been allowed to travel free to 1st Class.

As regards (i), none of these persons have applied for pension. The third demand is being considered in the Deptt., of Culture. The other demands are under the consideration of the Home Ministry.

Increase in cost of Central Projects

2160. SHRI BHATTAM SRI RAMA-MURTY: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the various projects in respect of which there have been significant increase in the cost in the beginning of the financial year 1988;

(b) the details of such projects State-wise and sector-wise together with the details of increase in their cost;

(c) the number of times these projects are subject to such escalation of costs and revision of estimates; and

(d) whether Government have instituted any study into the phenomena of time and the cost over-runs and ascertained the contributory factors and remedial steps; if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). As per the data available on the Quarterly Monitoring System, there are 104 projects at the end of March, '88, which have shown significant increase, i.e. more than 20% of the originally approved cost. The details of the projects State-wise and Sector-wise, total cost, original and anticipated, are given in statements I and II below respectively.

(c) The number of times projects undergo escalation of cost and revision of estimates depend on project specific factors and therefore not susceptible of generalisation.

(d) A study has been made by the Advisory Council on Project Implementation. Recommendations contained in the report to streamline the system of project implementation are under examination at various levels of Government.

STATEMENT-I

Sl. No.	State	No. of Proj.	Total Cost (Rs. Crores)	
			Original	now anticipated
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11	3448.4	8764.9
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	--	--	--
3.	Assam	2	126.1	419.4
4.	Bihar	15	2921.6	5782.5
5.	Goa	--	--	--
6.	Gujarat	5	887.7	1376.3
7.	Haryana	2	83.7	147.8
8.	Himachal Pradesh	--	--	--
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	233.5	768.0
10.	Karnataka	2	30.9	93.8
11.	Kerala	5	189.9	475.0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8	2248.6	3698.4
13.	Maharashtra	6	790.1	1198.8
14.	Manipur	--	--	--
15.	Meghalaya	--	--	--
16.	Mizoram	--	--	--
17.	Nagaland	--	--	--
18.	Orissa	9	659.4	1512.1
19.	Punjab	1	69.3	109.7
20.	Rajasthan	1	36.0	64.9
21.	Sikkim	--	--	--
22.	Tamil Nadu	3	431.1	1201.4
23.	Tripura	1	9.7	37.1
24.	Uttar Pradesh	10	3019.9	4441.6

1	2	3	4	5
25.	West Bengal	11	1027.4	2182.6
26.	A & N Islands	--	--	--
27.	Chandigarh	--	--	--
28.	D & N Haveli	--	--	--
29.	Daman & Diu	--	--	--
30.	Delhi	--	--	--
31.	Lakshadweep	--	--	--
32.	Pondicherry	--	--	--
33.	Multistate	11	1586.4	3169.4
Total		104	17799.7	35443.6

STATEMENT-II

Sl. No.	Sector	No. of projects	Total Cost original cost	(Rs. Cr.) Latest cost
1.	Atomic Energy	3	1014.0	1792.4
2.	Coal	21	1062.0	2468.7
3.	Fertiliser	7	652.5	1814.1
4.	Mines	2	316.2	583.6
5.	Steel & Iron Ore	6	3441.9	9432.2
6.	Chem. & Petrochem.	2	109.2	156.0
7.	Petro. & Natural Gas	1	43.6	57.3
8.	Power	21	5689.1	13642.6
9.	Paper, Cement & Auto.	5	246.8	681.5
10.	Railways	29	1422.1	3408.9
11.	Surface Transport	6	786.3	1338.7
12.	Tele-Communication	1	16.0	67.6
Total		104	17799.7	35443.6

Decentralisation of pension work

2161. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to decentralise the pension work being done at the office of Controller of Defence Accounts (Pension) Allahabad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Cases under Protection of Civil Rights

2162. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases, State-wise, registered during 1987-88 under protection of Civil Rights Act;

(b) the action being taken to settle these cases and the steps taken to wipe out the cases lying pending in the courts; and

(c) whether any special courts have been set up to decide these cases, if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) For expeditious disposal of cases under Protection of Civil Rights Act, 52 Special Courts/Special Mobile Courts have been set up in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Bihar and Rajasthan.

[English]

Indigenous development of Air Surveillance, Warning and Control System

2163. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN:

DR. B. L. SHAILESH:
SHRI KRISHNA SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programme for indigenous development of an Air Surveillance, Warning and Control System (ASWAC) has been dropped by Government;

(b) if so, at what stage the development programme has been dropped and the reasons therefor; and

(c) how the decision is going to affect the development of the Indian Air Force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Development of Secunderabad cantonment

2164. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount that will be released for implementing the master plan for the development of cantonment area in Secunderabad in Andhra Pradesh during 1988-89; and

(b) the amount released in the last three years for the development work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DE-

FENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI):

(a) Cantonment Boards are given special grant-in-aid and service charges for undertaking developmental schemes. No special grant-in-aid can be given to the Secunderabad Cantonment during the current year due to paucity of funds. Rs. 40.04 lakhs have been allocated as service charges to be paid to the Cantonment during 1988-89.

(b) The following amounts were released as service charges during the last three years:--

1985-86	Rs. 79.77 lakhs
1986-87	Rs. 46.15 lakhs
1987-88	Rs. 43.00 lakhs

Land for propellant factory at Warangal

2165. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have agreed to make available necessary land near Warangal for the establishment of a Propellant Plant; and

(b) if so, whether Union Government have taken a decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Space Plans

2166. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Space Plan being prepared by India;

(b) whether the co-operation of other countries is being sought in this regard; and

(c) 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) The main thrust of the Indian Space Programme for the eighties is towards establishing National Systems using space technology for telecommunications, television, meteorology and remote sensing. The indigenous development of various application satellites, their payloads and the capability to launch these satellites, is integral to this objective. As per the Space Programme approved in the Space Profile for the decade 1980-90 the following are the main Projects and Programmes:--

- Design, fabrication and launching of the Stretched Rohini Satellite Series (SROSS) Satellites carrying scientific payloads.
- Design, fabrication and launching of the first operational Remote Sensing Satellite, IRS-1.
- Operationalisation of the two-satellite INSAT-I system, using foreign procured satellites for sustaining national services for TV and Radio networking, direct broadcasting, telecommunications and meteorology.
- Taking up the design, development and fabrication of the first two test spacecraft of the second generation INSAT-II series of satellites which will replace INSAT-I satellites during 1990s.
- Design, development and fabrication of the Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV), capable of launching the SROSS satellites.
- Design, development and fabrication of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) capable of launching IRS class satellites.
- Initiating the development of the

Geostationary Launch Vehicle capable of launching INSAT class of satellites into Geo-stationary orbit; development of Cryogenic Engine and Stage will be taken up as part of the GSLV Programme.

- Setting up of the National Natural Resources Management System using remote sensing data products, for the efficient management of the country's natural resources.

(b) and (c). The Indian Space Programme has benefited by active collaboration with almost all countries having significant space programmes of their own as well as with international agencies. India also shares her experience with other nations, especially the development countries, through selected programmes of training, consultancy and dissemination of information. The details of the cooperative arrangements are given in the Department of Space Performance Budget 1988-89 and Department of Space Annual Report 1987-88, copies of which are already available in the Parliament Library.

Aircraft control through digital computers

2167. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop indigenous design capability in aircraft control through digital computers and electronics;

(b) whether a beginning has already been made to generate know-how in the "Fly by Wire" and "Fly by Light" systems control of aircraft like the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA); and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. A beginning has been made to generate know-how on "Fly by Wire" technology for LCA. However, "Flight by light" control system is not envisaged for Light Combat Aircraft.

(c) One of our DRDO laboratories has undertaken preliminary work in the field of "Fly by Wire" Flight Control Systems.

Reorientation of medical education scheme

2168. CHAUDHARY RAM PARKASH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission propose to transfer the re-orientation of medical education scheme to the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this transfer is likely to take place?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise

Arms smuggling across Indo-Pak border

2169. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
DR. (MRS.) T. KALPANA DEVI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered in respect of arms smuggling across the Indo-Pakistan border, during January-June, 1988;

(b) the number of persons charged in each case; and

(c) the quantity of arms and ammunition seized in each case category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). The BSF has detected and got registered with the local police 26 cases of arms smuggling across the Indo-Pak border during the period from January to June 1988. 13 persons were killed and 10 per-

sons apprehended by the BSF were handed over to the local police for further necessary action. Information regarding arms and ammunition seized in each case is furnished in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Sector of the order	Date on which arms and amn. seized	Area of seizure	No. of cases registered	No. of persons apprehended	Killed	Details and Qty. of arms and ammunition of seized in each case case-wise
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Rajasthan</i>						
Pikaner Sector	9.2.88	Near Village 22 PTD	1	2	--	.303 country made Pistol -- 01 .303 live rounds -- 08
	17.5.88	BOP Sisda	1	2	--	.22 USA made Gun -- 01
	23.5.88	BOP Kotha	1	--	--	AK-47 Rifle -- 01 Magazine AK-47 -- 02 AK-47 rounds -- 18 AK-47 Rifle -- 02
	19.6.88	Near Vilalge Sarwar Khuian Abohar (Punjab)	1	1	--	AK-47 rounds 256 Magazine AK-47 -- 06
	23.4.88	BOP Khanuwali	1	3	--	.32 Bore revolver -- 01 12 Bore Pistol -- 01 .32 Bore rounds -- 15 12 Bore Cartridges -- 03
Jodhpur Sector	10.2.88	Near Village Raila	1	1	--	Single Bora Muzzle 1 sading Gun -- 01
<i>Punjab</i>						
Amritsar Sector	12.1.88	BOP Kalia	1	--	1	.30 Bore Pistol -- 01
	19.1.88	BOP MP Base	1	--	--	.32 Bore Foreign made Pistol with 2 Mag. -- 01
	17.2.88	BOP Mahwa	1	--	1	12 Bore DBBL Gun -- 01

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Faridkot Sector	11.2.88	BOP Gatti Hayat	1	--	1	303 country made Pistol 303 rounds -- 01 -- 03
	22.2.88	BOP LS Wala	1	--	1	12 Bore country made Pistol -- 01 12 Bore Cartridges -- 03
	25.2.88	BOP Lakha Asli	1	--	1	Country made Pistol-- 01
Amritsar Sector	12.3.88	BOP Burj	1	--	1	32 Bore Pistol -- 01 Magazine AK-47 -- 16 AK-47 rounds 2022 Amn. .32 Bore 297 Explosive 19.5 Kgs Dotonator -- 40 Nos. Cordox -- 150 ft. Safety Fuze -- 54 ft.
	15.4.88	Old Sundergarh	1	--	--	Amn AK-47 Rifle 1016 Magazine AK-47 -- 05
Ferozepur Sector	23.4.88	BOP Kulwant	1	--	--	.30 Pistol -- 01 .63 Pistol -- 02 Megazine Pistol -- 04 Magazine AK-47 -- 03 Amn. AK-47 -- 329 Amn. .303 -- 10
Amritsar Sector	9.5.88	BOP KS Wala	1	--	1	Bolt action Rifle -- 01 Magazine Rifle -- 01 Amn. Rifle -- 05 Amn AK-47 Rifle -- 51
	10.5.88	BOP Sherpur	1	--	--	AK-47 Rifle -- 01 7 mm Rifle -- 01 .32 Pistol -- 02 Hand C -- 15 Magazine AK-47 -- 09 Amn AK-47 Rifle 2196 Amn. 32 Bors -- 52
Ferozepur Sector	14.5.88	BOP Kassoke	1	--	--	Amn. 7 mm -- 06 7.63 Pistol -- 02 Magazine AK-47 -- 06 Amn 7.63 Pistol -- 81 Amn. AK-47 Rifle --

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Amritsar Sector	18.5.88	BOP Fatehpur	1	--	3	AK-47 Rifle .32 Pistol Magazine AK-47 Hand Grenade Amn. AK-47	-- 03 -- 01 -- 05 -- 07 --
2146						32 Bore Amn Grenade Fuze	-- 07 -- 09
	20.5.88	BOP Noorwala	1	--	2	AK-47 Rifle Magazine AK-47 Amn. AK-47 Rifle	-- 01 -- 02 -- 04
Gurdaspur Sector	26.5.88	BOP Rosse	1	--	--	-- AK-47 Rifles Magazine AK-47 Amn. AK-47 Rifle	-- 08 -- 15 -- 575
Abohar Sector	8.6.88	BOP Chak Khewa	1	--	--	AK-47 Rifle 9 mm Pistol Magazine AK-47 Magazine 9 mm Rocket Launchar Rockets R/L Tubes	--08 -- 03 -- 24 -- 03 -- 02 -- 18 -- 18
						Amn. AK-47 Amn. 9 mm	-- 878 -- 92
Amritsar Sector	11.6.88	BOP Mangli/Rajoke	1	--	1	LMC AK-47 Rifle .455 Revolver .445 Pistol Magazine AK-47 Amn. AK-47	-- 01 -- 06 -- 02 -- 03 --18 --
3000						Amn. Revolver Amn. Pistol	-- 332 -- 353
Ferozepur Sector	19.6.88	BOP Muthianwala	1	--	--	AK-47 Rifle Magazine AK-47 Amn. AK-47	-- 01 -- 02 --1210
0							
	24.6.88	BOP Neki Ram	1	--	--	Amn. AK-47	-- 179
Jammu & Kashmir Gujarat	23.1.88	BOP Golpattan	1	1	--	32 Bore Pistol	--01
	--	--	--	--	--	--	

Thorium Plant in Orissa and Bombay

2170. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether thorium plant proposed to be established in Orissa Sands Complex (OSCOM) has started production;

(b) if not, the present stage and the difficulties coming in the way of starting production;

(c) whether the production of thorium in Bombay plant has reached twelve and a half tons in the month of June, 1988 in spite of short supply of raw material and that workers have been complimented by the management in writing for the increased production; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to review its decision to close this Thorium division plant in Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Plant is under construction and is expected to start commercial production in June 1990.

(c) Yes, Sir. Workers have been complimented for the increased production as a measure of motivating the employees.

(d) No, Sir. The decision is to shift out of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) premises, Bombay, plants and laboratories which are not directly related to the R & D programmes of BARC. The Thorium Plant at Bombay is 35 years old and is beyond economic repairs and service. The new plant at Orissa will also be of a new technology.

Funds for Backward areas of Hyderabad-Karnataka

2171. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hyderabad-Karnataka area is backward in all respects;

(b) whether in order to achieve all round development of Hyderabad-Karnataka area, a Hyderabad-Karnataka Development Board has been constituted;

(c) whether Government of Karnataka have asked the Planning Commission to allocate funds for the Development of Hyderabad-Karnataka area;

(d) if so, whether the Planning commission has allocated funds for the above purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b). The State Government of Karnataka have considered the Hyderabad-Karnataka area as a backward area. The State Government, with a view to developing this area, constituted in May 1980 a Committee known as Hyderabad-Karnataka Development Committee. This Committee submitted its report to the State Government in October 1981.

(c) In July 1985, the State Government has asked the Planning Commission to allocate additional Central assistance of Rs. 130 crores during the 7th Plan and Rs. 220 crores during the 8th Plan to implement the Plan prepared by the aforesaid committee.

(d) and (e). The State Government's proposal was examined and it was clarified that the Central assistance is allocated to the States in the form of block grants and loans according to the revised Gadgil Formula approved by the National Development Council and that the Planning Commission do not have additional funds available to be allocated to the States for the development of backward areas according to their discretion. It was also pointed out that special Central Assistance was being provided for the four districts of Gulbarga Division under the Drought Prone Areas Programme, which covers all these districts.

Views of States on Sarkaria Commission Report

2172. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether time has been extended for the States to give their views to the report of the Sarkaria Commission;

(b) if so, the last date fixed for it; and

(c) whether any meeting of Chief Minister is being contemplated to consider the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The States have been requested to give their comments by 31st August, 1988.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration.

[Translation]

Atrocities on SC/STs in M.P.

2173. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the cases of atrocities on SC/ST, registered in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the number of persons prosecuted and out of these how many were convicted and acquitted; and

(c) the steps taken to check such incidents?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) The total incidents of crimes committed against Scheduled Castes and

Scheduled Tribes in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years are given below:

Year	Crimes against	
	SC	ST
1985	5133	2955
1986	4421	2721
1987	2879	1495

(b) The information is being collected from the State Govt. of Madhya Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Comprehensive guidelines have been issued from time to time to all the State Government/U.T. Administrations including Madhya Pradesh suggesting precautionary, preventive, punitive and rehabilitative measures to check crimes on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

[English]

Allocation to Kerala for 1987-88

2174. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money allocated to Kerala for the annual plan for 1987-88;

(b) the amount of money utilised by the State Government; and

(c) the sectors where the amount could not be fully utilised and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) The approved outlay for the annual plan of 1987-88 for the state of Kerala is Rs. 440.00 crores.

(b) and (c). The outlay was reduced to Rs. 380.60 crores in view of States inability to raise resources on account of prevailing drought situation. The reduction in outlay

would primarily affect agriculture and allied activities, irrigation and flood control, power, industry and minerals, transport and social services.

Demand of Dowry by IAS Officers

2175. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that some IAS officers and other Government officials are found harassing their wives and subjecting them to atrocities for extracting exorbitant dowry from them;

(b) if so, whether this is not considered as a breach of conduct rules; and

(c) what actions are taken against the concerned officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) Two instances of IAS officers harassing their wives and subjecting them to atrocities for extracting dowry have come to the notice of the Government. Regarding other Government officials, information is not centrally maintained.

(b) The acts mentioned in (a) above, if proved, will amount to breach of conduct rules.

(c) A criminal case has been instituted against one officer and major disciplinary proceeding is contemplated against the other.

VIP Squadron of Air Force

2176. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the VIP squadron is maintained by the Air Force;

(b) the number and brief particulars of the aircrafts in the squadron as on 1 April, 1988;

(c) the terms and conditions of the utilisation by Central Ministers and heads of political parties; and

(d) the particulars of such utilisation during 1985, 1986 and 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 1.4.88 the Squadron had two B 737, six HS 748 aircraft and four MI-8 helicopters.

(c) All Central Ministers are entitled to the use of VIP aircraft for official purposes only, if it is essential for the performance of their duties, and subject to availability of aircraft.

Use of these aircraft by Central Ministers requires the prior approval of the Prime Minister or the Raksha Mantri if the P.M. is out of station.

No charges are recovered for the official use of these aircraft by the P.M., the Minister of Defence, the Minister of Home Affairs and the Minister(s) of State in the Ministry of Defence. All other Central Ministers are charged for use of these aircraft at the charter rates stipulated from time to time.

Besides the charter rates and detention charges laid down, the expenses incurred on actual boarding, lodging and transport of the aircrew operating the VIP aircraft, if detained at outstations, are also to be borne by the Ministry of indenting agency.

No recoveries are made in cases where P.M. rules that the aircraft be provided free of charge.

Except the P.M. and that, too, on payment basis, no other heads of political parties are entitled to use of these aircraft.

(d) The particulars of utilisation of these aircraft for 1985, 1986 and 1987 are given in the appended Statement.

STATEMENT

NUMBER OF AIRLIFT/HELILIFT OF CENTRAL MINISTERS

	1985		1986		1987	
	Air HQ Comn. Sgn.	Other Commands	Air HQ Comn. Sgn.	Other Commands	Air HQ Comn. Sgn.	Other Commands
JAN	4	25	7	4	7	2
FEB	2	5	6	-	17	12
MAR	19	2	22	8	12	20
APR	10	8	9	-	7	3
MAY	10	2	17	3	7	6
JUN	6	2	11	13	7	16
JUL	14	11	11	5	5	3
AUG	7	6	13	11	16	7
SEP	8	8	13	22	7	15
OCT	8	20	3	22	11	24
NOV	2	7	7	2	6	10
DEC	6	18	4	-	9	10

Economical Viability of North Eastern States

2177. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the States of Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh are not economically viable; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to make these States economically viable and self-sufficient?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). The States of Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh have certain peculiar features like difficult hilly terrain, long international borders, ethnic diversity and remote areas which inhibit economic development to some extent. However, the Govt. of India are seized of the problem of the peculiar characteristics of the North Eastern Region.

Following major steps have been taken

to improve the economic condition of these States including the other two States (Assam and Tripura) of the North Eastern Region:

(1) All the five States mentioned above, are considered Special Category States for purpose of Central Assistance. These States are given 90% of the Central Assistance as grant and 10% on loan basis, as against the General Category States which receive 30% of Central Assistance in the form of grant and 70% in the form of loan.

(2) The Central Assistance to the North Eastern Region during the Seventh Five Year Plan was envisaged at Rs 5642.3 crores representing 109.7% of the total outlay of the Seventh Five Year Plan for the region as a whole. This includes the Central Assistance rendered through the North Eastern Council Sub-Plan for the Hill areas development as well as the Sub-Plan for the tribal areas of Manipur, Tripura and Assam.

(3) The North Eastern Council was created to pay a special attention in development of infrastructure in the North Eastern Region comprising the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura. It is an advisory body and is expected to take up matters of common interest to the North Eastern Region States. For securing balanced development, it is required to formulate proposals of unified and co-ordinated regional plans in regard to matters of common interest to the North Eastern Region. The Seventh Plan outlay under the North Eastern Council was envisaged at Rs. 675 crores.

(4) A number of incentives to encourage industries have also been extended. For example, (i) The entire North Eastern Region is included under Category 'A' in Central North Investment Subsidy Scheme of the Ministry of Industry. New Industries are eligible for 25% capital subsidy subject to a ceiling of Rs. 25 lakhs for general industries and Rs. 50 lakhs for setting up of electronic industries in the Hill Districts.

(5) To assist industries, a transport subsidy to the extent of 90% of the transport cost of industrial raw materials that are brought into the region and finished goods which are taken out of these areas, is given

between the industrial locations in the NE Region and Siliguri. Transport subsidy would interstate movement of 'finished goods' within the region but the subsidy available would be 50% of the transport costs on the movement of the goods from the location of the industrial units to the nearest Railway Station by road and thereafter by rail and vice-versa.

(6) A Committee of Ministers for Economic Development of North Eastern Region under the Chairmanship of Minister of Home Affairs has been reconstituted in 1986.

(7) The Committee of Ministers for Economic Development of North Eastern Region is assisted by a Committee of Secretaries of the Govt. of India. All these measures are expected to strengthen the economic base of the region.

Disparity in Rural Urban Income

2178. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast disparity in the average income of rural and urban persons;

(b) if so, the average income of rural and urban persons according to 1981 figures; and

(c) the special steps taken to remove this disparity?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). According to the estimates compiled by Central Statistical Organisation for the year 1970-71 the average per capital income for rural and urban areas was Rs. 499 and Rs. 1201 respectively. Corresponding information for the subsequent years is not available.

(c) The major thrust of planned growth in the country has been to reduce disparities in income. Almost all the points of the Twenty Point Programme including Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) are oriented towards the target group in rural areas. These programmes have been continued in the Seventh Five Year Plan with an accelerated pace with emphasis on agricultural growth, developing the poten-

tial of dry land agriculture and adoption of special measures to increase the productivity of small and marginal farmers.

British Frigates to Pakistan

2179. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Britain has sold its decommissioned Leander class frigates to Pakistan;

(b) if so, details of this deal; and

(c) the reaction of the Government towards this deal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two Leander class frigates have been bought by Pakistan from Britain. One has been delivered in July and the other is expected to be delivered in August.

(c) Government carefully monitors all development having a bearing on the country's security and takes appropriate measures to ensure full defence preparedness at all times.

Link between various insurgent group in North-East

2180. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received reports of collusion between various insurgent groups in North-east, tribal areas of Assam and Bihar Naxalites in the East and Central India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the political initiative taken to defuse such insurgency and agitations for separatism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Government have reports about links between some insurgent groups operating in the North-East.

However, there are no confirmed reports to establish the linkage between the various insurgent/disgruntled groups and the naxalites.

(b) The National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) has succeeded in forging links with the Meitei extremists belonging to the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and the United National Liberation Front (UNLF) of Manipur as also the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) of Assam. The NSCN is providing shelter and imparting training to the cadres of other insurgent groups besides facilitating their contacts with the Kachin insurgents of Burma. As regards the Naxalites the left extremist groups in general have been noticed espousing the cause of the minorities including the tribals in various states.

(c) In the North-Eastern Region, if any extremist group is willing to find a solution through negotiations the Government's policy in regard to holding talks with such groups is that it should fulfil the two pre-conditions namely:

(i) it should accept the Constitution of India; and (ii) it should stop its violent activities.

Compensation paid to Families of the Deceased IPKF Personnel

2181. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the details in regard to the total compensation paid to the families of the deceased IPKF personnel during the past one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): The total payments made to the families of deceased IPKF personnel from Aug. 87 to 31 July, 1988 comes to Rs. 2,19,09,650.00.

The details are given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Details of payments made to the families of IPKF casualties during the last one year (August 87 to 31 July 88) are as under:—

From Government Funds

- (a) Liberalised Family Pension
- (b) Death-Cum-Retirement Gratuity
- (c) Pending Enquiry Award
- (d) Family Gratuity
- Total:

--	Rs. 44,85,330/-
--	Rs. 44,20,167/-
--	Rs. 25,550/-
--	<u>Rs. 22,13,191/-</u>
--	<u>Rs. 1,11,44,238/-</u>

I. *AGI and AFPP Funds*

(a) Army Group Insurance	--	Rs. 78,15,000/-
(b) Armed Forces Personnel Provident Fund	--	Rs. 15,19,481/-
Total:	--	<u>Rs. 93,34,481/-</u>

II. *Non Governmental Funds*

(a) Army Wives Welfare Association @	--	Rs. 4,64,000/-
(b) Army Officers Benevolent Fund	--	Rs. 3,26,300/-
(c) Regimental Funds and Disabled Army Personnel Widows and Orphans Fund	--	Rs. 6,40,631/-
Total:	--	<u>Rs. 14,30,931/-</u>
Grand Total I + II + III =	--	<u>Rs. 2,19,09,650/-</u>

Note: @ The position in respect of AWWA and AOBF is as on 04 Aug. 1988.

Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council

2182. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council has identified 20 broad areas of industry and technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the purpose for which the Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council has been formed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b). After a detailed consideration of various factors, the Council has narrowed down a few technology areas on which detailed studies will be done for recom-

mending specific course of action. These cover Petrochemicals, Energy, Agriculture, Water Technologies, Manufacturing Technologies, etc. Some of these studies will be of a short-term nature, spanning about 6 to 12 months and some would be of long-term basis.

(c) The objective is to establish an appropriate system in the country to examine and evaluate the existing state of the art of the technology and the direction of few technological developments in various sectoral areas, both in India and abroad. Such forecasting coupled with capability for assessment of technology can ensure timely availability of requisite technologies relevant to the needs of the country through an appropriate R & D, technology acquisition, technology upgradation, etc. It is intended to cover technologies in the manufacturing sector, agricultural sector and services sector. The Council will also enable establishment of an information system in the country to facilitate technology assessment and forecasting activity. The system will be available to all users in the country—industry, government, private agencies, etc.

Delay in Completion of Projects

2183. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of 319 public sector projects in which the anticipated cost has risen by 48 per cent compared to the original estimate;

(b) the details of 35 projects scheduled for completion in 1987-88 but have not been completed as yet;

(c) the details 157 projects that have put back their date of commissioning; and

(d) the conclusions arrived at the recent two days conference of top executives of public sector projects?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) As on 31st March, 1988 319 central projects, each costing over Rs. 20 crores in 14 sectors are under the Quarterly Monitoring System, viz. 6 in Atomic Energy; 3 in Civil Aviation; 73 in Coal; 11 in Fertilisers; 1 in Finance; 5 in Mines; 14 in Steel and Iron Ore; 6 in Chemicals & Petrochemicals; 24 in Petroleum and Natural Gas; 45 in Power; 11 in Paper/Cement/Auto (DPE); 82 in Railways; 33 in Surface Transport and 5 in Telecommunication sectors. The total cost of all these projects taken together as anticipated at the end of March, 1988 shows an increase of 48% in relation to the total originally approved cost.

(b) 35 projects which put back their commissioning dates in 1987-88 fall in various sectors as under:

Coal-10; Fertilisers-2; Mines-1; Steel & Iron Ore-6; Chemicals and Petrochemicals-1; Petroleum and Natural Gas-5; Power-2; Paper/Cement-2; Railways-2; Surface Transport-4.

(c) 131 projects have reported additional delays during 1987-88; some of these

projects have reported delays more than once during the year. These fall under the sectors:

Atomic Energy 2; Civil Aviation 1; Coal 37; Fertilisers 7; Finance 1; Mines 4; Steel & Iron Ore 10; Chemicals & Petrochemicals 6; Petroleum & Natural Gas 16; Power 17; Paper/Cement/Auto 7; Railways 9; Surface Transport 13; Telecommunication 1; thus totalling 131.

(d) The main conclusions arrived at the Seminar on Project Implementation *inter alia* include:

Provision may be made in the project cost estimate for the impact of inflation over the life of the project.

Greater use of computers in project management for network scheduling, data management, etc.

Project management is emerging as a distinct discipline and, therefore, there is a need for introducing it in the academic institutions.

Every project should have, besides time and cost planning, a quality assurance plan incorporated in the contract for plant & equipment.

A comparative study of the features of MOUs already signed by Government with 11 public sector undertakings may be undertaken to consider in what ways further delegation of authority commensurate with accountability, could be achieved.

Project Enterprise should have an implementation manual giving detailed guidelines for project implementation.

Foreign Collaboration in High Technology

2184. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to made joint collaboration on high technol-

ogy with West Germany, Japan and the United States;

(b) if so, the details of the collaboration;

(c) the steps taken to give speedy clearance to these collaboration proposals; and

(d) the time by when such clearance is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) and (b). The Government is interested in high technology transfers from all leading sources. A Memorandum of Understanding on transfer of technology has so far been signed only with the U.S. Government.

Major agreements on high technology collaboration with the United States include: indigenous manufacture of controlled Date Corporation Mainframe Computers (CDC 810, CDC 830 and CDC 930) sophisticated technologies and equipment for the LCA Project; acquisition of Cray XMS-14 Super Computer Import of main frame computer IBM-3090; and manufacture in India of Micro VAX-2 computers.

Technical collaborations and transfer of technology arrangements between India and Japanese organisations and companies have also been under discussion in various fields such as digital microwave transmission equipment, CNC machine tools, floppy disk manufacture, ultra sound scanners, digital control equipment, test and measure instruments machining centres etc.

With FRG, there is research collaboration in advanced areas.

(c) and (d). To facilitate expeditious processing of technology transfers from the United States detailed implementation procedure for the MOU have been worked out between the two Governments. Procedures for speedy clearance of proposals have also been worked out with other countries. No specific time limits have been set for processing of individual cases.

However, for Japan, these are handled on a time-bound basis.

Guidelines Regarding Framing of Constitution by the Service Association

2185. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Civil Services (Recognition of Service Associations) Rules, 1959 are inoperative since long consequent to the Supreme Court intervention;

(b) whether the provisions of the above said Rules have been invoked by the authorities in dealing with service Association in the matter;

(c) if so, the justification thereof; and

(d) whether Government have issued any guidelines regarding framing of the Constitution by the service associations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) The Central Civil Services (Recognition of Service Associations) Rules, 1959 are at present being treated as inoperative consequent on Rule 4-B of the C.C.S. (Conduct) Rules, 1955, with reference to which, inter-alia, the Recognition Rules had been framed, having been struck down by the Supreme Court.

(b) and (c). While the 1959 Recognition Rules are at present inoperative, the service associations already recognised are governed by the conditions of recognition imposed upon them at the time of recognition.

(d) No, Sir.

Schemes for Lanjia Saura Tribe

2186. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced any scheme for the upliftment of Lanjia Saura tribe living in Koraput district of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there has not been any change in the standard of living of this tribe despite various measures taken by Government for their socio-economic development; and

(d) if so, the steps taken for the upliftment of this tribe?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A micro project has been formulated for the Lanjia Sauras identified as a primitive tribal group in 8 villages of Sogada Gram Panchayat in Gunupur sub-Division of Koraput District for accelerating their socio-economic development. The special schemes in the micro project include those of education, health, housing, communication, drinking water supply and resettlement, etc. A separate Lanjia Saura Development Agency has been established to ensure effective implementation of various schemes meant for this group. Action plan has been prepared with a total outlay of Rs. 44.90 lakhs to assist 134 families.

(c) The measures taken by the Government have benefitted these people. Report received from the State Government indicates that standard of living of this tribe is improving.

(d) Does not arise.

Provision of Creches in Government Colonies

2187. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the policy in regard to providing of creches in Government colonies;

(b) whether the policy has been implemented;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to provide creches in Government colonies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) There is no Government Policy in regard to providing of creches in Government Colonies. However, Grih Kalyan Kendra, a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and working under the aegis of Department of Personnel & Training is running creches in some of the Government residential colonies.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

However, Grih Kalyan Kendra is running 25 creches and the NDMC 8 creches in the Government residential colonies.

Rally Staged by Scientists

2188. SHRI SWAMI PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether scientists and research Fellows have staged a rally in New Delhi, recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take for redressal of their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b). There has been no general rally by the Scientists. However, the Research Fellows of ICAR Institutes staged a rally on 15th July, 1988 regarding enhancement of fellowship and terms and conditions of Research Fellows.

(c) Steps have been taken for redressal of the grievances of Scientists and Research Fellows by improving the pay scales of scientists and the emoluments of research fellows. Government have issued revised guidelines on emoluments and other conditions of service for research personnel in R & D programmes of the Central Government Departments/Agencies.

Resident Schools in Tribal Areas

2189. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan under consideration to assist the State Government to establish one residential school in each gram panchayat in tribal areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Establishment of residential schools is a State sector scheme. However, Special Central Assistance is made available on specific proposals submitted by the State Governments for construction of residential schools for primitive tribes.

Development of Backward Areas

2190. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the special measures Government propose to take for the overall improvement of economically backward chronically drought affected districts like Kalahandi in the State of Orissa; and

(b) whether any programme has been finalised and money sanctioned and if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Incentive for Multinationals for Procuring Electronic Goods

2191. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to evolve an incentive package to lure multinational corporations to procure the bulk of their requirements in electronics from India;

(b) if so, whether any study has been made in this regard; and

(c) 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) to (c). A number of incentives have been extended to multinational companies for procuring electronic goods/establishing production base in the country for meeting their requirements. These incentives include five year tax holiday and permitting 100% foreign equity holding, in 100% Export Oriented Units (EOU) and those located in the Export Processing Zones (EPZ). In addition, the Cash Compensatory Support (CCS) scheme has recently been extended to cover these units.

New Sainik Schools

2192. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State has approached Union Government for setting up new Sainik Schools during the remaining years of the Seventh Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the likely date by which new Sainik Schools will be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b). Sainik Schools are established only at the specific request of a State Government/Union Territory Administration, as the entire capital expenditure and a major portion of the recurring expenditure of the school has to be borne by them. There is no proposal to set up more Sainik Schools as no specific request for the same has been received from any State Government/UT Administration.

Meetings for Development Plan of Hill Areas

2193. SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether development plan of hill areas was discussed in a meeting with Members of Parliament and if so, in what manner it has resulted in making the plan a socio-economic development of hill areas;

(b) in what respect it differs from the development plan used to be prepared by the Planning Commission itself; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c). No, Sir. No development plan of hill areas was discussed in the meeting with the Members of Parliament representing Himalayan Region held on 19.8.1987. The meeting was mainly aimed at discussing the problems and prospects of the development of the Himalayan region with a view to pooling experiences and thinking on the subject so that the strategy and programmes for the Himalayan region could be improved upon. The specific observations/suggestions made by the Hon'ble Members were forwarded to concerned State Govts. and Central Ministries/Departments for appropriate action. The suggestions of general nature were kept in view in the Mid-term Appraisal of Seventh Five Year Plan already laid on the Table of the House on 22nd March, 1988. The development plans are being formulated by the State Govern-

ments concerned keeping in view the approach and strategy of hill area development outlined in the National Plan Document. The annual plans of the States are finalised in a meeting of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Chief Minister of the respective State.

Island Development Authority

2194. SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the islands for which the Island Development Authority has been created and what is its tenure;

(b) how many meetings of this authority have so far been held and the agenda of each meeting and the outcome thereof;

(c) the composition and terms of reference of the Authority;

(d) whether as a result of these meetings any concrete shape has been given to the development plans of these islands; and

(e) if so, whether any instructions have been issued on the lines on which development of these islands is to take place?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Island Development Authority was set up in August, 1986 to decide on the policies and programmes for an integrated development of Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands. It is a continuing body.

(b) Four meetings of the IDA have so far been held. The main items considered in the meeting include: transportation, communication, tourism, human resource development, setting up of industries, environment, forest development, fisheries land use pattern, unemployment, developmental norms, carrying capacity of the islands, personnel policies, incentives for the islanders, etc. Many of the items discussed by the IDA have been implemented

and some others are under implementation. To give a few examples; introduction of helicopters inter-island service in Andaman and Nicobar islands; this also carries inter-island mail which has revolutionised the inter-island mail system; a chartered vessel NAJD-II commissioned between mainland and islands; approval for 22 new inter-islands vessels given; provision of LPG sanctioned; packaged materials being made available at the same price to the islanders as in the main-land; air travel extended on a subsidised basis to Class B, C and D; Govt. employees when a seat in ship is not available; two Navodaya schools and a second polytechnic to be operational by August, 1989; mainland islands ships ordered; STD facilities introduced; telecommunication facilities extended to the islands; a Lakshadweep Corporation and Islands Development Corporation set up in Lakshadweep and Andamans to deal with the marketing fisheries development, etc; 30 studies on different subjects commis-

sioned; 19 completed; reports being used for preparation of environmentally sound development plans.

(c) The composition and terms of reference of the Authority are given in the Statement below.

(d) and (e). As a result of the creation of IDA, new dimensions have been given to the development plans of these islands; several new projects and schemes have been launched to benefit the islanders and the expert groups are examining various studies and reports to prepare few development plans for the two groups of Islands on the directions and guidelines given by the IDA. The policies and programmes would fully ensure the protection and conservation of the fragile marine and terrestrial eco-systems of the islands, meet the aspirations of the local people and implement developmental schemes which would be in harmony with environment.

STATEMENT

Prime Minister	Chairman
1. Minister of Human Resource Development	Member
2. Minister of Home Affairs	Member
3. Minister of Planning and Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission	Member
4. Minister of Finance	Member
5. Minister of Defence	Member
6. Minister of Communication	Member
7. Minister of Environment and Forests	Member
8. Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting	Member
9. Minister of State for Tourism	Member
10. Minister of State for Surface Transport	Member
11. Minister of State for Planning	Member
12. Minister of State, Department of Food Processing Industries	Member

13.	Prof. M.G.K. Menon, Scientific Adviser to P.M., Member, Planning Commission and Chairman, Steering Committee for IDA	Member
14.	Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, Member of Parliament, Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Member
15.	Shri P.M. Sayeed, Member of Parliament, Lakshadweep Islands	Member
16.	Dr. B.D. Sharma, Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	Member
17.	Shri N.D. Jayal, Director, INTACH	Member
18.	Shri Romi Khosla, Architect	Member
19.	Dr. Harsh K. Gupta, Vice-Chancellor Cochin University	Member
20.	Dr. S.N. Dwivedi, Additional Secretary, Department of Ocean Development	Member
21.	Dr. (Mrs.) Manju Sharma, Scientific Secretary to SA to PM, Chief (Science) Planning Commission and Secretary, IDA	

The Authority will:

- i) Decide on policies and programmes for an integrated development of the Islands keeping in view all aspects of environmental protection as well as the special technical and scientific requirements of the Islands.
- ii) Review progress of implementation and impact of the programmes of development.

Indian Ships Detained by Pakistan

1295. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Indian ships have been detained by Pakistan;

(b) if so, the number of ships detained by Pakistan;

(c) whether Government had taken up the matter with Pakistan Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Three Indian sailing vessels were captured by Pakistan in January, 1988.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government has protested to the Government of Pakistan and requested for the release of these vessels.

(e) The Government of Pakistan have agreed to consider the question of the release of these vessels.

New Atomic Power Plants

2196. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to establish new atomic power projects in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the names of the State Governments which have approached the Union Government to establish new Atomic Power Projects in their States; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Punjab, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Orissa and Karnataka.

(c) The Site Selection Committee appointed by the Department of Atomic Energy have submitted their report which is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Kapoor-Mittal Committee

2197. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high powered Kapoor-Mittal Committee had been constituted to inquire into the November, 1984 riots cases;

(b) if so, the time by which the Committee had been asked to submit its report;

(c) the number of occasions on which its period has been extended so far along-with the period of extension each time;

(d) when the Committee is expected to submit its report; and

(e) whether any further time is likely to be given to this Committee for submitting its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (e). A Committee consisting of Justice Dalip K. Kapur and Kumari Kusum Lata Mital was appointed by the Administrator of Delhi to enquire into delinquencies of individual police officers and men with respect to matters relating to reported passivity etc. on the part of police officers and also good conduct of individual police officers and men and to recommend such action as may be called for.

According to the order issued by the Administrator of Delhi in Feb. 1987 the Committee was required to submit its report to the Administrator within 6 months. However, period of 6 months has been extended on two occasions. The present term of the Committee is upto 22nd August, 1988. The Committee is expected to submit its report to the Delhi Administration by 22nd August, 1988.

[English]

Prevention of Deafness in Children Scheme

2198. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a bid to prevent thousands of children in rural India from becoming deaf, the Department of Science and Technology had launched the prevention of deafness scheme in 1986;

(b) if so, to what extent, the three-year scheme has reduced hearing impairments in children;

(c) whether this scheme has been launched in almost all parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, and other steps being taken to check the deafness in children?

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

In 1986, Department of Science and Technology has funded a project entitled "Feasibility study for development of a module for primary and secondary prevention of hearing impairment in rural areas".

The study envisages prevention at three levels:

- Primary prevention in which healthy habits are being emphasised and unhealthy habit are being deleted by public education.
- Secondary prevention which involves giving of anti-microbial drugs and nose and ear drops to prevent new children from getting hearing impaired.
- Tertiary prevention which involves surgery on selected children and giving of hearing aid for rehabilitation.

The impact of the above mentioned interventions will be known after analysis of data on completion of the study.

(c) and (d). This module is being tried out as pilot project in Delhi and Trivandrum only. It is not being launched as a public health measure yet.

Seizure of Hashish in Delhi

2199. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI MANIK REDDY:

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY:
SHRI SITARAM J. CAVALI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the 'Indian Express' dated 29 June, 1988 wherein it has been stated that 125 Kg. of hashish worth Rs. 2 crores was seized in North Delhi (Azadpur);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any arrest has been made in this regard;

(d) whether any inquiry has since been made in this matter; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). In two separate raids conducted by the Vigilance Branch of Delhi Police, 125 Kgs. of Hashish was recovered from a hotel and a guest house in North Delhi. Two cases under FIR No. 110 & 112, dated 27.6.1988 u/s 20/61/85-N.D.P.S. Act Police Station, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi were registered. No arrest has been made.

Developing of Drought Warning and Assessment System

2200. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Remote Sensing Agency is going to develop a national drought early warning and assessment system;

(b) if so, whether this will go a long way in optimising allocation of scarce financial and other resources; and

(c) if so, the broad features of the system?

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) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The National drought monitoring system, which will involve integration of remotely sensed satellite data with conventional data, can provide a mechanism of assessment of drought and enable planning priority relief measures as well as corrective actions for minimising damages.

Diseases among Andaman Tribals

2201. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item in the Times of India dated 10 June, 1988 regarding "diseases cripple Andaman tribals", highlighting the problems faced by the tribal population in the Andaman Islands due to high incidence of tuberculosis, syphilis and anaemia; and

(b) if so, the preventive measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) The Island Development Authority (IDA) has constituted an Expert Group to study the socio-cultural pattern of tribal population (aboriginals) and others, their living style, occupation and health conditions etc. The Expert Group has submitted its interim report wherein they have mentioned about the high incidence of tuberculosis, syphilis and anaemia among the tribal communities of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(b) A project entitled "saving the tribal group of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

from extinction: an action-oriented research" has already been sanctioned to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. The main objectives of the project are:

- (i) To establish the demographic profile of the onges, the Andamanese and the Shompens.
- (ii) To assess their health and nutritional status.
- (iii) To carry out a thorough medical examination to ascertain their medical and genetic problems.
- (iv) To determine their reproductive performance and identify the factors which lead to reduce fertility, increased sterility and high infant mortality among them.
- (v) To discuss the issues with the local officers to initiate action to help these communities. At the fourth meeting of IDA, the recommendations of the expert group have been approved and action initiated, on the short term measures to look into the problems of the Tribal population in A & N Islands.

Request from Maharashtra regarding retention of record of births and deaths

2202. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra had approached the Union Government to provide relaxation to retain the records of births and deaths in the villages at the Gram Panchayat level for a period of eight years by increasing the existing period of one year to eight years and the people in rural areas are mostly illiterate or are not aware of the provisions of rules thereby facing great difficulties in obtaining births and deaths certificates and also for

amendment of Rule 19(3) of the Maharashtra Registration of Births and Deaths Rules, 1976; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Maharashtra had approached this Office for amendment of Rule 19(3) of the Maharashtra Registration of Births & Deaths Rules 1976 in a manner that would have enabled them to retain the records of births and deaths at Gram Panchayat level for a period of 8 years. Currently, these records are being retained at the Gram Panchayat level for a period of one year after the close of the calendar year.

(b) The Central Government did not agree to the proposal.

Landing of Tahiti Aeroplane at Ahmedabad

2203. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for landing of the Tahitian aeroplane at Ahmedabad airport and for how long was it detained;

(b) whether any inquiry was held about this matter; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Of the three Tahitian Airways aircraft on flight from Delhi to Karachi, one aircraft deviated from the prescribed route. Despite repeated instructions and signals it failed to correct its course. As this action was improper, the offending aircraft was forced to land at Ahmedabad. The other two aircraft followed suit. The three aircraft were detained for 7 days.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) From the security point of view nothing adverse came to notice.

Rehabilitation of disabled

2204. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are preparing a comprehensive plan for rehabilitation of the disabled in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) and (b). The primary responsibility for the welfare and upliftment of the handicapped rests with the State Government. However, in its coordinating and pace-setting role, nevertheless, the Centre has been assisting the State Government as well as the voluntary organisations in programmes designed for rehabilitation of the handicapped. The Central Govt. has set up the following 4 National Institutes as apex level organisations in their respective areas of disability:—

- (1) National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun.
- (2) National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta.
- (3) All Yavarjung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Bombay.
- (4) National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad.

In addition to these following two institutions has been set up primarily as service institutions for providing general services to the handicapped persons:—

- (1) Institute for the Physically Handicapped, New Delhi.
- (2) National Institute of Rehabilitation, Training and Research, Olatpur, Orissa.

The Central Govt. is also implementing the following programmes for the rehabilitation of the handicapped:--

Scheme of Assistance to Organisations for the Disabled Persons

Under this scheme, grant-in-aid is provided to the organisations working for the welfare of disabled persons. The financial assistance is given to such voluntary organisations who provide educational, training and rehabilitation facilities to disabled persons.

Assistance under the scheme is provided for developing services for (i) detection, intervention of primary nature, prevention of disability, (ii) education and/or training, (iii) rehabilitation, physical, psychological, social and economic.

Scheme of Assistance to Disabled persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances

Under this scheme grants are given to voluntary organisations for providing aids/appliances whose value ranges between Rs. 25/- and Rs. 3600/- to disabled persons (i) free of cost if their income is less than Rs. 1200/- per month and (ii) at 50% cost if the income ranges between Rs. 1201/- to Rs. 2500/- per month. This scheme is implemented through voluntary agencies spread all over the country.

Under the scheme, aids/appliances are provided to the visually handicapped, hearing handicapped and orthopaedically handicapped.

Scholarships for the Disabled persons

Government of India have a scheme for providing scholarships to physically handicapped students, including the blind, for pursuing education from IX Class onwards. Scholarships are also provided for technical and professional training, correspondence courses of study and on-the-job training to the handicapped. In addition to the scholarship, which varies depending on the course of study, for day scholars and hostellers, reader's allowance to the blind is also given.

Integrated Education of Children

Under the scheme of Integrated Education, handicapped children are given education in normal schools. This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and the entire cost of scheme is being met by the Central Government.

District Rehabilitation Centre Schemes

The Scheme of District Rehabilitation Centres was launched on a pilot basis. Through these Centres, efforts are made to provide comprehensive and coordinated services to the disabled population in the rural areas by suitably reorienting and augmenting the infrastructure so as to reach the services at a minimum cost with as few specialists as possible. So far 10 District Rehabilitation Centres have been set up across the country.

Employment

- (i) 3% reservation is given to physically handicapped -- 1% each for the visual, hearing and orthopaedically handicapped in group C and D Posts for appointment in Central Government and Public Sector Undertakings. Similar reservations have been given by the State Govts. The handicapped, including the blind, are also given age concession in the upper age limit and relaxation in the medical standards for entry into Government services.
- (ii) 22 Special Employment Exchanges and 40 Special Cells for the handicapped persons have been set up exclusively to help the handicapped, in their gainful employment. Besides, the normal employment exchanges also help the handicapped persons in finding suitable employment.
- (iii) Self-Employment is promoted through the following:--
 - (a) Allotment of vending stalls, kiosks, and petty shops;

- (b) Loans from Nationalised banks at nominal rates of interests under differential rate of interest scheme;
- (c) Allotment of public telephone booths;
- (d) 7% reservation in distribution of petrol pumps, kerosene depots, etc.;
- (e) Loans upto Rs. 35,000/- are available under scheme of 'Employment of Educated Youths'.

Manufacture of V.C.P. and V.C.R.

2205. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British Physical Laboratories has been issued a letter of intent to manufacture VCP and VCR in India;

(b) if so, whether some Indian companies have also been issued such letters of intent; if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which VCP and VCR manufactured by British Physical Laboratories will affect the Indian manufacturers; and

(d) the criteria adopted in issuing letter of intent?

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) Yes, Sir. BPL Sanyo Ltd., which is an Indian Company has been issued a letter of intent to manufacture VCP and VCR in India.

(b) and (c). In addition to M/s BPL Sanyo, the letters of intent have already been issued to M/s Bharat Forge Co. Ltd. and Shri PKNL Dhoot (M/s Videocon International Ltd.) and it has also been decided to issue letter of intent to one party

in public sector for the manufacture of VCR/VCP.

(d) The criteria for consideration of VCR/VCP applications both for setting up new units as well as enlargement of scope of existing Video Tape Deck Mechanism units was that the units should be prepared to commit sizeable investment for suitable vertical integration with an accelerated phased manufacturing programme which have the requisite inbuilt capacity to keep pace with the changing technology.

Supply of Microwave Radio Equipment by Bharat Electronics Limited.

2206. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some orders were placed with Bharat Electronics Ltd. for development and supply of microwave radio equipment;

(b) whether these orders were executed by the Bharat Electronics Ltd.;

(c) whether due to delay/non-compliance of these orders the Government lost several crores of rupees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. From time to time BEL has been receiving orders from various agencies for different types of microwave radio equipments and executing these orders.

(c) and (d). In one case, while the development order was successfully executed, the purchaser went in for an advanced version of the equipment and free flow production did not materialise as a result of which loss of Rs. 1.59 crores was incurred. However, BEL gained by way of expertise in microwave technology and systems concepts for future design and development.

Setting up of Nuclear Power Plant in Kerala

2207. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experts sent by Union Government to locate suitable sites in Kerala for setting up the Nuclear Power Plant have submitted their study report;

(b) if so, the details of the studies made and the findings thereof; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Sites in Kerala which form part of Southern Electricity Region have been assessed by the Site Selection Committee appointed by the Department of Atomic Energy for setting up of Nuclear Power Stations. Its report is under consideration of the Government.

Setting up of B & W T.V. Glass Shell Units by Japanese Companies'

2208. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Japanese companies have shown interest in setting up of Black and White TV glass shell units in India;

(b) if so, whether Government have offered equity to 40% with a provision of technology transfer;

(c) if so, whether any final agreement in this regard has been reached; and

(d) 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) While one Japanese company has shown interest in setting up of B & W Glass Shell Unit in India, no formal application has been received.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Recruitment to BSF and CRPF in U.P.

2209. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of recruitments made for Border Security Force and Central Reserve Police Force in Uttar Pradesh during 1988 and the place where such recruitments were made;

(b) the total number of constables recruited; and

(c) the time by which all these persons will be sent for training?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) During the year 1988 BSF had detailed eight recruitment Boards (upto June, 88) and CRPF had carried out recruitment four times (up to 31.7.88) in U.P. The places where recruitments were carried out and the number of candidates selected at each place are mentioned in the statement below.

(b) BSF - 4042
CRPF - 1282

(c) In the BSF offers of appointment were issued to 3592 candidates and the remaining 450 candidates were placed in

the waiting list. All the persons who were selected and reported so far have been sent for training.

All the persons recruited by the CRPF have been sent to training institutions for their basic training.

STATEMENT

Place of Recruitment.		No. of Candidates Recruited from Each Place.
1	2	3
1.	Meerut	179
2.	Allahabad	80
3.	Gazipur	108
4.	Varanasi	159
5.	Bareilly	96
6.	Barabanki	125
7.	Fatehpur	129
8.	Agra	71
9.	Sultanpur	122
10.	Aligarh	44
11.	Pilibhit &	
12.	Shahjahanpur	67
13.	Almora	12
14.	Ranikhet	21
15.	Bijnore	55
16.	Group Centre, CRPF, Rampur	
Total		1282

BSF

1.	Gorakhpur	141
2.	Bulandshar	188

1	2	3
3.	Muzaffarnagar	159
4.	Bareilly	101
5.	Etawah	311
6.	Lucknow	174
7.	Shahjahnpur/Rampur	286
8.	Bulandeshahr	120
9.	Meerut	169
10.	Muzaffarnagar	232
11.	Sharanpur	18
12.	Meerut	251
13.	Uttarkashi/Tehri/Gopeshwar/Srinagar/Jairikhal	503
14.	Gorakhpur	155
15.	Azamgarh	175
16.	Chazipur	72
17.	Varanasi	166
18.	Mirzapur	182
19.	Almorah/Pithoragarh/Bageswar Tharali	430
Total		4042

Foreign Contribution Received by Organisations in Delhi

2210. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the organisations and individuals in Delhi who have received foreign contributions during the past three years;

(b) the organisations and persons, out of them who have got themselves registered under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976; and

(c) whether any of the organisations/persons in Delhi has been placed in the banned list or in the category of those who are required to obtain prior permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The following is the information relating to the number of organisations who have reported receipt of foreign contributions to this Ministry and the number

of organisations registered under the FC (R) Act, 1976; year wise:

Year	No. of Organisations registered	No of Organisations in receipt of F.C.
1985	322	186
1986	31 + 322 (old orgns.)	225
1987	22 + 353 (old orgns.)	232

(c) No organisations/individual in Delhi has been placed in the prohibited category. However, Association for Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development, New Delhi has been placed under prior permission category.

Protocols Signed by India During 1988

2211. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: Will

the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of protocols signed by India during the period from 1 January, 1988 to 31 July, 1988;

(b) the countries with whom these protocols have been signed; and

(c) the nature of each of these protocols?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K. K. TEWARI): (a) to (c). India signed 12 protocols during the period from 1 January, 1988 to 31 July, 1988. The statement below contains information on the countries with whom these protocols have been signed and their nature.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the country	Title of the protocol
1	2	3

BILATERAL

- | | | |
|----|-------------|---|
| 1. | Afghanistan | Protocol on Cooperation in the Field of Television between Doordarshan India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of the Republic of India and the State Committees for Radio, Television and Cinematography of the Republic of Afghanistan. |
| 2. | U.S.S.R. | Protocol of the Seventh Session of the working Group on Cooperation in Coal Industry within the framework of the Intergovernmental Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. |
| 3. | U.S.S.R. | Protocol signed between the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism of India with Soviet Counterpart-U/O Avisexport, Ministry of Radio Communications Industry and Ministry of Radio Industry of USSR in January 1988. |
| 4. | U.S.S.R. | Protocol of the 3rd Meeting of Indo-Soviet Working Group on Machine Building and production Corporation in February 1988. |
| 5. | U.S.S.R. | Protocol of the 1st Meeting of the Indo-Soviet Working |

1	2	3
		Group in the field of posts and Telecommunications in February, 1988.
6.	U.S.S.R.	Protocol of the Second Meeting of the Indo-Soviet Working Group on Cooperation in the field of Irrigation and Water Management in March 1988.
7.	U.S.S.R.	Protocol of the 9th Meeting of the Working Group on Ferrous Metallurgy, in the framework of the Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation on April 1988.
8.	U.S.S.R.	Protocol of the 6th Meeting of the Working Group on Computers and Electronics, in the framework of the Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation in April 1988.
9.	U.S.S.R.	Protocol of the 9th Meeting of the Working Group on power of the Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation in May 1988.
10.	U.S.S.R.	Protocol of the 6th Meeting of the Indo Soviet Sub-Group on Production Cooperation in June 1988.
11.	Yugoslavia	Protocol of the 17th Session of Indo-Yugoslav Joint Committee on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation in June 1988.
12.	Yugoslavia	Protocol on Cooperation in the field of Sports signed during Prime Minister's visit in July 1988.

[English]

**Registration of Cases against
organisations by CBI on Kudal
Commission Report**

2212. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation as a follow up action of Kudal Commission Report;

(b) the organizations against whom the cases have been registered; and

(c) the details of the charges labelled against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):
(a) Fifteen (15) cases have been registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation as a follow-up action on the Kudal Commission Report;

(b) and (c). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT*Position of Kudal Commission of inquiry cases registered by CBI*

S. No.	Name of the Organisation on whose name cases have been registered.	Details of the charges
1	2	3
1.	Gandhi Memorial Museum, Madurai.	Secretary, Gandhi Memorial Museum Madurai and other employees of the Museum indulging in unethical practice of money lending to the co-employees of the Museum at exorbitant rates.
2.	Sarva Seva Sangh, Copuri, Wardha.	Alleged writing off Rs. 3,65,192.63 by the suspects from the accounts of the Sarva Seva Sangh, Copuri, Wardha.
3.	Sarva Seva Sangh, Wardha	Misappropriation of Rs. 3,08,244.38 by officials of Sarva Seva Sangh, Wardha.
4.	Sarva Seva Sangh, Wardha	Some officials of Sarva Seva Sangh, Wardha, allegedly misappropriated a sum of Rs. 1,17,959.64.
5.	AVARD	Shri A.C. Sen, VicePresident of AVARD has allegedly pledged an FDR of AVARD for Rs. 50,000/- as collateral security for getting a loan to Shri R. Patel, Treasurer, AVARD of Rs. 45,000/- for his personal benefit.
6.	Gandhi Peace Foundation Centre, Bhagalpur.	Alleged misappropriation of a sum of Rs. 5,380/- by Gandhi Peace Foundation Centre, Bhagalpur by producing fake documents in connection with purchase of certain items.
7.	Nirmali Prakhand Swarajya Sabha, Bhaptiali Bazar, Bihar.	Some officials of Nirmali Prakhand Swarajya Sabha, Post Office Building, Bhaptiali Bazar, District Saharsa, Bihar could not properly account for a sum of Rs. 81,000/- given to them for setting up a Rural Marketing Centre.
8.	Sarva Seva Sangh, Wardha	Some officials of the Sarva Seva Sangh, Gop-

1	2	3
		uri, Wardha had allegedly written of a sum of Rs. 4,10,023.36 without just and sufficient reasons.
9.	Kanva Ashram Gram Swaraj Samiti, Uttar Pradesh.	Misappropriation and conversion for personal use by Shri Man Singh Rawat of properties both movable and immovable donated or leased out for public purpose to the Kanva Ashram Gram Swaraj Samiti.
10.	AVARD	Unauthorised publication of maps in respect of some restricted areas by AVARD.
11.	Muzaffarpur Development Agency, Bihar & AVARD.	That the Secretary of Muzaffarpur Development Agency unauthorisedly paid Rs. 5.5 lakhs to AVARD for the funds received from the Government under the 'whole Village Development Programme'. Another allegation is that the Muzaffarpur Development Agency submitted a proposal for the year 1978-79 for subsidy of Rs. 4.1 lakhs for construction of tubewells etc., which in fact has been already constructed prior to 1975 itself.
12.	Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya Samiti Rajghat, New Delhi.	That during the period 1970-72, the Secretary, the Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya Samiti, Rajghat, New Delhi wrongfully adjusted Rs. 36,75,600/- without prior approval of its governing body, irregularly reduced the fixed assets of Rs. 29,10,668/- and also failed to account for Rs. 1,50,000/- advanced to Aga Khan Place Samiti in the accounts i.e. balance sheet for the period ending 31.3.1970 and 31.3.72 etc. of the said Samiti in a fraudulent manner.
13.	AVARD Foundation for Rural Development (AFFORD)	That AFFORD opened on 26.6.1974 saving account No. 946 in Syndicate Bank on Barakhamba Road, New Delhi but did not disclose this in its own account books. AFFORD did not also show in its account books a deposit of Rs. 60,359.05 which was deposited on 29.5.86 in the said saving account. AFFORD also did not show in its accounts, the purchase of a Pay Order for Rs. 70,000/- on 1.6.76 by debiting the said savings account. The encashment of this pay order on 2.6.76

1	2	3
		was also not shown in the accounts of AFFORD.
14.	Gram Nirman Mandal, Gaya.	All India Handicrafts Board, New Delhi wide order dated 28.3.1979 entrusted a Grant-in-aid of Rs. 968,400/- to Gram Nirman Manda Gaya for setting up 11 Rural Marketing Centres. Out of these funds, Gram Nirman Mandal, Gaya by falsifying its accounts: (a) Misutilised Rs. 60,811.40 in contravention of the terms of entrustment. (b) Wrongfully incurred expenses/misappropriated Rs. 3,24,431.26/- out of seed Capital Money of Rs. 550,000/- and (c) wrongfully incurred expenses/misappropriated Rs. 42,229/- out of Rs. 50,000/- entrusted towards samples.
15.	Gandhi Peace Foundation, Rajghat, New Delhi.	The Gandhi Peace Foundation, Rajghat, New Delhi was sanctioned grant to the tune of Rs. 8,95,739/- by All India Handicrafts Board, New Delhi during the period 1978 to 1981. Their balance sheet for the year 1981-82 showed Rs. 2,04,775.78 as unutilised balance out of the above grant. However, they had also shown Rs. 11,736.56 as the minimum balance. Thus Rs. 1,93,039.22 was misappropriated. Further, Rs. 1,45,000/- out of the sanctioned grant was also wrongfully utilised thus misappropriating the said amount by falsifying their accounts. Besides, a sum of Rs. 50,000/- sanctioned for non-formal educational programme was falsely shown to have been refunded to the Ministry of Education thereby misappropriating the said amount. By diverting the amounts in question is contravention of the terms and conditions of the sanctioned grant, the accused persons committed criminal breach of trust.

Medical help to Freedom Fighters

2213. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to give free medical help to Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension holders; and

(b) if so, the rules guiding this help and

the agency through which this help would be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Freedom fighters and their dependents receiving Central Pension are provided with indoor and outdoor medical facilities in the Central Govt. Hospitals. Separate counters have been opened in these hospitals so that freedom fighters do not have to stand in the general queue. No specific rules have been framed in this regard but administrative instructions have been issued.

Talks with Spain on Defence Research and Development

2214. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether talks regarding defence research and development were held with Spain during the visit of the Prime Minister;

(b) if so, whether any agreement in this regard has been reached with the Spanish Government;

(c) if so, the other subjects discussed and the decisions arrived at; and

(d) by what time the implementation of the agreement is likely to take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Exploratory discussions on the potential for co-operation in defence science and technology were held between MOD officials of Spain and India in the 2nd week of July 1988.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.

Indigenous Production of Submarines and Aircraft Carriers

2215. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state by what time India will produce its own submarines and aircraft carriers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): Submarines are already under construction at the Mazagon Dock Limited, Bombay, from imported material packages. The indigenous construction of a Sea Control Ship is also presently under the consideration of the Government. Concept Design Studies for the purpose are proposed to be undertaken with foreign collaboration. The feasibility of indigenous construction of the Sea Control Ship will be considered after the Concept Design Studies have been completed. Further details cannot be disclosed in the interest of national security.

Gangs involved in Forgery of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Certificates

2216. SHRI R.M. BHOYE:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are aware of organised gangs of cheats involved in forgery of certificates of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes busted in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the details of such cases, State-wise, during the last two years and the action taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) No such instances have come to the notice of the Union Government except a case reported by the Delhi Administration pertaining to the Union Territory of Delhi.

(b) One bogus certificate issued in the

name of Shri Jag Pravesh Chandra, Chief Executive Councillor, Delhi Administration was recently detected. The Office of the Commissioner of Police, after conducting preliminary police investigations, has revealed that some miscreants were involved in stealing blank Scheduled Caste certificates from the stationery stores of the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Delhi and then fabricating the caste-certificate. The accused have since been arrested. Further investigation is in progress.

[Translation]

Dacoities and Robberies in Delhi

2217. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of dacoities

and robberies reported in Delhi during the last six months;

(b) the number of cases solved and the number of incidents which have not yet been solved; and

(c) the steps taken to solve these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

(c) Modern scientific methods of investigation are being adopted in conjunction with traditional methods of gathering criminal intelligence to solve these cases. Investigation of such cases is closely monitored by senior officers and by the Crime Branch of Delhi Police.

STATEMENT

Year	Cases reported	cancelled	Challaned/ Pending Trial	Pending - investigation	Untraced
DACOITY					
1988 (Upto 31.7.88)	3	--	--	3	--
ROBBERY					
1988 (Upto 31.7.88)	108	1	21	84	2

[English]

Central Assistance for New Scheme to Orissa

2218. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Orissa has decided to create self-employment for two lakhs educated un-employed in the State during the current financial year;

(b) whether 25,000 dugwells and 48,000 shallow wells have been allotted to Orissa under the Central Scheme of Jeevan Dhara; and

(c) if so, the details regarding this new scheme and the central assistance provided to the State in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) The Govt. of Orissa has reported that

they have decided tentatively to create self-employment for 2 lakh unemployed in the State during 2 years 1988-89 and 1989-90.

(b) It is proposed to construct 25,000 dugwells under the Million Dugwells Scheme and 48,234 Shallow Tubewells under the Special Foodgrains Production Programme in 1988-89.

(c) The Million Dugwells Scheme has been launched this year to provide irrigation facilities to small and marginal farmers belonging to SCs/STs living below the poverty-line. This scheme is being financed under the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) upto 50% of the cost and balance of the cost is being met under the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP). This task is to be completed in the 2 years 1988-90.

Under the Special foodgrains production programme 6 lakh Shallow tubewells are to be installed in various States including Orissa during 2 years 1988-90 for the benefit of small & marginal farmers.

This is to be financed from the on-going scheme of Assistance to small & marginal farmers, expenditure on which is shared between the Centre and the States on 50:50 basis.

[Translation]

Allotment of Land for Balmikis in Ranikhet Cantonment

2219. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allot some land in Ranikhet cantonment area to Balmiki community for construction of a building;

(b) if so, whether the land has been selected for this purpose; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be selected and allotted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION &

SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[English]

Central Schemes Lack Flexibility

2220. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been pointed out that many centrally sponsored schemes which are initiated without prior consultation with the State Governments have not reflected the aspirations and the needs of the people of different geographical regions;

(b) whether a Study Report made by the Official Group set up by Union Government has also found substantial merit in the numerous complaints made by the State Governments that the centrally sponsored schemes do not incorporate sufficient flexibility in their guidelines to suit the local needs;

(c) if so, the main points mentioned in the Working Group's Report; and

(d) to what extent their suggestions have been found fruitful and are being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The Report of the Working Group is currently under examination of the Government and the contents of the recommendations have not been made public so far.

Seizure of Arms in Punjab

2221. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the total number of arms and ammunitions captured from the terrorists in Punjab during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Total number of arms and ammunition captured from the terrorists for the period 1.1.88 to 30.6.88 is as follows:

Revolvers	111
Pistols	498
Rifles	211
Guns	142
Mousers	3
Stenguns	4
Carbines	18
Rockets	57
Rocket launchers	11
Rocket Charges	6
Handgrenades	97
Bombs	17
Missiles	16
Power Charge units of anti-tank grenades	14
Cartridges	43728

Outages in Rajasthan Atomic Power Station

2222. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

SHRI S.M. GURADDI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experts committee have pointed out that indigenisation efforts have resulted in great deal of unreliability of pressurised heavy water reactors and taken toll by way of occurrences and outages;

(b) if so, whether the Committee have reviewed important unusual occurrences and outages of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station and made certain observations;

(c) if so, the other recommendations made by the Committee; and

(d) how many of the recommendations have been accepted and implemented?

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) An expert Committee, constituted by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) reviewed the unusual occurrences and outages at Rajasthan Atomic Power Station. The Committee has remarked in their report that the use of locally procured components and equipment had to some extent caused outages and lead to unreliability but has also remarked that the experience generated has its own inestimable value.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The recommendations of the Committee relate to (a) design improvements in layout and accessibility of equipment for maintenance (c) proper choice of materials and equipment of proven quality (d) adequate stocking of spares (e) authorised procedures for operation and maintenance activities (f) endurance/cyclic tests for indigenous components.

(d) The Committee's recommendations are under implementation.

India Hungary Agreement for Manufacturing Electronic Goods

2223. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Hungary have decided to sign an agreement for joint manufacture and marketing of electronics and micro electronic goods and components;

(b) if so, whether a high level Hungarian delegation visited India recently; and

(c) if so, the salient features of the agreement reached and by what time a final decision is likely to be taken?

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) Yes, Sir. India and Hungary signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in October, 1987 on Trade and Cooperation in the field of Electronics.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Both countries expressed their understanding on the importance of the joint development efforts in compliance with the agreed concepts on development and agreed to promote further cooperation in the area of electronics. During the visit of the delegation to India in April 88, they showed interest for cooperation in the area of micro-electronics, colour picture tubes and computer peripherals. A contract was signed between Electroimpex of Hungary and M/s. Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation (ET&T) of India for imports & exports of Test & Measuring instruments. Discussions in the area of other electronics are continuing.

Consultative Committee under Tamil Nadu State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1988

2224. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has appointed a Consultative Committee under Tamil Nadu State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1988 since Tamil Nadu is under President's Rule;

(b) whether the committee after the formation, held any meetings so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So far no meeting of the Consultative Committee has been held.

(c) The Committee is to be consulted whenever considered necessary to do so.

Amnesty International Report on I.P.K.F.

2225. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Amnesty International in its report on human rights violations in Sri Lanka has charged the IPKF of rape and brutality; and

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the basis on which the report has been given by the Amnesty International and what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWER SINGH): (a) The report says that Amnesty International has received some allegations to this effect.

(b) According to the Report, many of the allegations were made by the LTTE and most could not be substantiated. The Report, however, lists some cases which it claims were from independent sources.

Government rejects wild allegations of rape and brutality made against the IPKF. Every specific complaint received from any source about the behaviour of IPKF troops has been investigated. Most charges have been found to be baseless; whenever such charges have been proved, quick and salutary action has been taken against the guilty.

Long Term Plan for Modernisation of Army

2226. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the modernisation of Army is very necessary in view of the changing Geo-political situation in our neighbourhood;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in that regard during last three years;

(c) whether any long term plan has been drawn up for modernising Indian Army; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A long term plan for modernisation of the Army has been drawn up. As a result of the modernisation process a number of new weapon systems and equipments have been introduced in the last three years, and major facilities for modernisation of existing systems and platforms set up.

[Translation]

Pending Projects of U.P.

2227. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects lying pending for a long time for approval by the Planning Commission;

(b) the extent to which their cost has escalated due to this delay;

(c) the reasons for delay in according approval to them; and

(d) the steps proposed to accord early approval to these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a), (b), (d). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

Details of the Projects Lying Pending for Approval in Planning Commission

(Rs. in Crores)				
Name of the Project	Date of receipt	Estimated Cost	Latest estimated cost	Reasons for pending clearance
1	2	3	4	5
A. Major & Medium Irrigation				
1. Raising of Meja Dam	21.3.86	29.69	30.69	i) Information about forest clearance awaited from State Government. ii) Concurrence of State Department of Agriculture to the cropping pattern is awaited from the State Govt.
2. Modernisation of Upper Ganga Canal (Replacement works only)	16.10.86	251.00	Not available	i) Information regarding revised B.C. Ratio on the basis of updated cost of the project is awaited from Central Water Commission. ii) Information about environment and forest clearance is awaited from the State Government. iii) Information about obtaining assurance from U.P. State Electricity Board for power supply to Pathri and Palra Power Station and 33

1	2	3	4	5
				Augmentation tubewells at Bulandshahr is awaited from State Government.
B. Flood Control				
1.	Project estimate for construction of Alabas hund in Distt. Chaziabad and Bulandshahr.	15.4.85	1.95	i) Information regarding inclusion of scheme in 7th Plan and availability of adequate funds in 7th plan awaited from State Govt. ii) Information about approval of the scheme from State Flood Control Board awaited from the State Government.
2.	Construction of Raya Byonhi Bijhari Drain	9.4.86	0.98	Information regarding availability of adequate funds in 7th plan and Annual Plans 1988-90 awaited from State Government.
3.	Scheme of strengthening 14 Bigha Dhaluwala flood protection works near Rishikesh.	31.7.86	0.83	i) Information regarding inclusion of the scheme in VII Plan and provision for adequate funds in VII Plan awaited from State Govt. ii) Concurrence of the State Finance department awaited.
4.	Scheme for construction marginal embankment on both Banks of river	16.10.1986	4.53	i) Concurrence of State for providing adequate funds in 7th plan awaited from State Government.

Ami an Kausiram to
Gorakhpur, Khajni road.

5. Project estimate
for strengthening of
spurs of Railway
embankment at (ch 3180
M. ch. 4700 M. Ch. 4941 M) on
right bank of river Gandak.

14.7.87 1.22 1.22
ii) Information on Forest clearance
from State Government awaited.

6. Project estimate for
Protection of Kashipura
Dubauliya Bund from
Km. 200 to 3.80 and
left Banks of Ghagra
River

28.7.87 1.56 1.76
i) Clearance of scheme from State
flood control board is awaited.
ii) Inclusion of scheme in 7th Plan of
the State provision of adequate
outlays in 7th plan and remaining
plan period awaited from State
Government.

iii) Information on Forest clearance
from Forest (conservation) Act,
1980 awaited from State Govt.

C. Power

1. Khara HEP
(3 x 24 MW) 10.5.1985 110.07 162.00
Inter State aspects between Uttar
Pradesh and Haryana yet to be
resolved.

2. Sobla Mini Hydel
(3 x 2 MW) 15.10.1985 7.33 Not avail-
able Forest clearance awaited.

3. Unchahar TPS Extn.
(2 X 210 MW) 5.7.1985 433.65 443.65
Inadequate funds in State Plan.

4. Kajhat HEP
(3 x 15 MW) 30.5.1985 37.47 Not Avail-
able Forest clearance awaited.

1	2	3	4	5
D. Water Supply				
U.P. Sub- Project VI.	16.2.1988	22.43	Not avail able	Department of Rural Devel- opment was requested to seek certain clarifications from the State Govt. Reply is awaited.

Note: Col.3 and 4 represent the extent of cost escalation.

*[English]***Welfare Homes for Juvenile Delinquents**

2228. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of juvenile delinquents arrested in each State during the years 1986-87 and 1987-88;

(b) whether any children homes have been established in the country; if so their number in each State;

(c) the details of the schemes introduced for the welfare of juvenile delinquents; and

(d) whether the condition of certain homes is very pitiable and most of the children in those homes lead very miserable life, if so, the details thereof with reasons?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) to (d). The information has been called for from all State Governments and union Territory Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Testing of Agni Missile

2229. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a proposal to test 'AGNI' missile at Chandipur in Balasore District of Orissa;

(b) by when this test will take place;

(c) the steps being taken to shift the people living near the test range for safety and the number of such persons;

(d) the details of compensation which will be paid to them;

(e) whether the local people have protested against the test;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE: (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) (a) and (b). The Defence Research & Development Organisation is developing number of missiles. Testing of missiles is a continuous process in nature and it is not in national interest to give the details of such tests before these are completed.

(c) Arrangements for shifting approximately 10,000 people for a very short period for their safety during certain launchings have been entrusted to the State Government.

(d) The compensation will be paid as per existing rules.

(e) and (f). There has been some protest by certain people living in the affected villages. This has been mainly because of misinformation and people's apprehensions about safety of their belongings during their absence.

(g) District officials alongwith officers of Interim Test Range have held meeting and discussions with the local political leaders, Press and Sarpanches of the affected Villages. As a result, there is now better understanding of the defence requirements by the local people.

Bangladesh Infiltrators

2230. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of Bangladeshis are entering into India every year;

(b) if so, the present number of such infiltrators in the country;

(c) whether such infiltrators are reported to have applied for Indian Citizenship by furnishing fake documents; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Despite various steps taken to prevent infiltration, the possibility of some Bangladeshi nationals infiltrating from across the border without detection cannot be ruled out. The State Governments have been given standing instructions to expel/push back such infiltrants as soon as they are detected. The State Governments have also powers to take action against them under the Foreigners Act, 1946. No precise estimates of such persons are available.

(c) and (d). Bangladesh nationals who came to India on or after 25th March, 1971 are not considered for grant of Indian citizenship, as they were expected to return to their country as soon as the conditions permitted. However, a few cases have been reported by the State Governments where Bangladesh nationals of this category managed to obtain citizenship certificates from the local district Collectors who were earlier competent to issue such certificates, by suppressing material information. The concerned State Governments were requested to take appropriate action. The powers of the district collectors under the Citizenship Act, 1955 have since been withdrawn w.e.f. 1-4-86 and now only the Central Government is competent to grant Indian Citizenship.

Arms Production

2231. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) India's position in arms production in the world; and

(b) the steps being taken, if any, to raise this position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION &

SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b). It is not possible to state with any degree of certainty the position attained in India in arms production vis-a-vis the other countries in the world. There are no positional yardsticks to compare India's defence production efforts, related to its threat perception, with that of other countries. It may, however, be stated that as far as the defence production effort of India is concerned, a fair degree of self-reliance in the manufacture of conventional armament exists within the country. In the area of sophisticated weapons efforts are continuously made to increase indigenous capability.

It would not be in the public interest to disclose further details.

State Plan Boards

2232. CHAUDHARY RAM PARKASH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the States where State Planning Boards have been set up so far;

(b) the steps taken by Government so far to persuade the other State Governments to form such Planning Boards; and

(c) the measures Government have taken so far in this regard in view of the reported decision to initiate planning process from district level?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c). State Planning Boards have been constituted in all the States, except the States of Sikkim and Karnataka. In Karnataka however, there is, in place of the Planning Board, a state level Economic and Planning Council.

As far back as in 1972, the State Govts. were advised to strengthen their planning apparatus and they were requested to constitute an apex body at the State level with the Chief Minister as the Chairman and the Finance Minister, the Planning Minister,

and the technical experts representing various departments and disciplines, as Member. It was also pointed out that this apex body should be supported by Steering Group, set up under the chairmanship of technical experts. The secretariat functions for the apex planning body were expected to be provided by functional units like the Perspective Planning Unit, Monitoring, Plan Information and Evaluation Unit, Regional District Planning Unit, etc. To help meet the additional expenditure involved in strengthening of the planning apparatus on the lines indicated, it was also decided that the Centre would share the additional expenditure with the States.

Similarly, to facilitate planning at the District level, among other measures, States have been urged to set up district Planning Boards/Councils, with appropriate composition.

Negotiations for HDW Submarines

2233. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government continue to negotiate with HDW for the supply of the 5th and 6th sub-marines;

(b) whether it is proposed to buy them in knocked down condition;

(c) the total amount paid per unit for the first four sub-marines; and

(d) the extent to which the cost in rupees is likely to rise for the sub-marines under negotiations?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT) : (a) to (d). A proposal for the acquisition of additional submarines in under consideration of the Government. No negotiations are, however, presently being carried out with M/s HDW of the FRG. Further details cannot be disclosed in the interest of national security.

Afghanistan's Desire to become SAARC Member

2234. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Afghanistan has expressed the desire to be a member of SAARC;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government of India and the other members of SAARC thereto;

(c) whether any country has applied for observer or guest status in SAARC; and

(d) if not, whether SAARC propose to create such a status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India supports Afghanistan's application for membership of SAARC. The reaction of the other member countries is likely to be known when the subject is considered by the Standing Committee at its 10th Session in Kathmandu on August 9-10, 1988.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The question of granting observer/guest status is likely to be considered by the Standing Committee at its 10th Session in Kathmandu on August 9-10, 1988.

Approval to Maharashtra Bill

2235. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Bill from Maharashtra containing amendments to Chapter VIII-A of the Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Act, 1976 dealing with the transfer of ownership rights to the occupants of old buildings is pending for approval with Union Government for a long time; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Bill, 1987 was received in June, 1987 for the administrative approval of the Government of India before its introduction in the State Legislature. Administrative approval was conveyed to the Government of Maharashtra on 21st July, 1988.

(b) Does not arise.

Death of HAL Workers

2236. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some HAL workers died recently while cleaning the underground pipeline of the plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outcome of the enquiry made in this regard;

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(e) compensation paid to the families/dependents of the deceased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (e). A contract for cleaning the Neutralisation Plant Section Tanks situated in the HAL, Koraput Division, was awarded to a private contractor. During this work on 12th July, 1988, two contract labourers viz S/Shri Rajesh Hyal and Nidhan Khosla, and a company employee Shri G.C. Samal, who entered the tank were trapped inside and died. All efforts by the fire fighting personnel of the Division and the State Fire Fighting Team to extricate them proved futile and it was possible to take out the dead bodies of the three workers around 1800 hrs.

2. The cleaning work involved removal of debris from the bottom of the tanks and it was made clear that the removal was to be done through the manhole cover outlet by means of buckets, ropes etc. after completely dewatering the tanks. Both the contract enquiry and the letter awarding the contract had specifically mentioned the need for extra safety precautions as the neutralisation tank water contained toxic material.

3. HAL Management had constituted an enquiry committee to enquire into this accident. The enquiry report has revealed lapses on the part of the contractor in the following safety measures. It has also shown lapses on the part of the officials in charge of award and supervision of the work. The HAL Management has suspended two concerned officers, the Executive Engineer (Factory) and the Assistant Executive Engineer, pending departmental enquiry. The Chairman, HAL, has also appointed an expert group to suggest standard procedures to be followed for cleaning affluent tanks for ensuring safety of workmen.

4. An amount of Rs. 66,516/- has been deposited by HAL on 30.7.1988 with Workmen's Commissioner under the Workmen's Compensation Act as compensation payable to late Shri G.C. Samal, a company employee, for disbursement to his legal heirs. Regarding two labourers of the contractor, it is the responsibility of the contractor to deposit the compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act with the Workmen's Commissioner. The contractor has, accordingly, been advised by the HAL Management to deposit the compensation. Local HAL Management has, however, been advised to deposit the amount of compensation as Principal Employer with the Workmen's Commissioner, in case the contractor fails to deposit the same. The compensation payable to late S/Shri N. Khosla and Rajesh Hyal under the Workmen's Compensation Act works out to Rs. 26,546.40 and Rs. 27,026.40 respectively. The Management has already offered employment to one of the dependents of each of the three deceased personnel.

Chakma Refugees in Tripura Refugee Camps

2237. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Chakma refugees from Bangladesh in the refugee camps in Tripura at the end of 1987;

(b) the number of those which have returned to Bangladesh by the close of the year 1987;

(c) the number of Chakma refugees who died in the refugee camps so far due to disease or other reasons; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to provide medical care and other amenities in the refugee camps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) 46028.

(b) None.

(c) 2466 refugees had died in the camps as on July 4, 1988, due to natural causes.

(d) The refugees are provided food, shelter and basic medical assistance in the camps.

Composition of U.P.S.C.

2238. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) the number of Members of the Union Public Service Commission at present;

(b) the number of vacancies of Members;

(c) whether in the matter of appointment of Members of the Committee representation to the States is given; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). At present there are seven Members in the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) including the Chairman (as against eleven posts). Four posts are vacant.

(c) and (d). According to the Proviso to Article 316(1) of Constitution, as nearly as may be one-half of the Members of the UPSC shall be persons who at the dates of their respective appointments have held office for at least ten years either under the Government of India or under the Government of a State. The Constitution does not provide for representation to the States in the matter of appointment of Members of the UPSC.

Appointment of Administrative Reforms Commission

2239. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) when the last Administrative Reforms Commission was appointed;

(b) whether there is any proposal before the Government to appoint another Administrative Reforms Commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The last Administrative Reforms Commission was appointed in January, 1966. In March, 1981 an Economic Administration Reforms Commission was appointed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Schemes for Handicapped in Rural Areas

2240. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any schemes to provide comprehensive and coordinated services to handicapped persons living in the rural area; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) and (b). In order to provide comprehensive rehabilitation service to the handicapped living in rural areas, the District Rehabilitation Scheme, a pilot project was initiated by the Ministry of Welfare. This project is presently being implemented in 10 States with a Rehabilitation Unit at the District level and covering two Primary Health Centres each. These Centres are located at:

1. DRC, Virar, Thane District (Maharashtra);
2. DRC, Kharagpur, District Midnapur (West Bengal);
3. DRC, Chengalpattu, District Chengalpattu (Tamil Nadu);
4. DRC, Sitapur, District Sitapur (Uttar Pradesh);
5. DRC, Mysore, District Mysore (Karnataka);
6. DRC, Bhubaneswar, District Puri (Orissa);
7. DRC, Bilaspur, District Bilaspur (Madhya Pradesh);
8. DRC, Vijayawada, District Krishna (Andhra Pradesh);
9. DRC, Kota, District Kota (Rajasthan);
10. DRC, Bhiwani, District Bhiwani (Haryana);

Through this project a house to house survey is carried out to identify the disabled through Village Rehabilitation Workers and assessment clinics organised at the Primary Health Centres and village level where the rehabilitation plan for each individual client is prepared. A new kind of manpower of village Rehabilitation Workers, Multipurpose Rehabilitation Workers, Multipurpose Therapists, Multipurpose Rehabilitation Technicians have been developed under this programme. The District Centre has specialists attached to it in the area of physiotherapy, occupational therapy, prosthetic and orthotic engineering, physical medicine and rehabilitation, social work, vocational counselling, speech therapy, psychology, etc. which provides the specialised expertise necessary for the development of a referral network. In order to meet the training needs of the specialists attached to the District Rehabilitation Centres and the Village Rehabilitation Workers, Multipurpose Rehabilitation Workers etc., four Regional Rehabilitation Training Centres have also been set up Lucknow, Bombay, Bairoi (Cuttack Orissa), and Madras respectively. The project is presently under evaluation by the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. After the evaluation is complete a decision will be taken regarding the future shape of the project including possibilities of further expansion.

The Ministry is also funding non-governmental organisations under various programmes some of whom provide services in the rural areas. They also organise camps for fitment of aids and appliance for the rural disabled. The Ministry has also a scheme of scholarship for the handicapped from Class IX onwards which is implemented through the State Governments and this facility is also available to the rural disabled.

Import of Electronic Information System

2241. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: SHRI C. JANGA REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a case relating to the import of two-sets of computer based electronic information systems for the operations room of a ship, Government accorded preferential treatment to a foreign firm against the recommendations of an Expert Committee as disclosed in the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31 March, 1987; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b). Government decision in the matter was taken in the best interests of the Armed Forces after considering the recommendations of several Expert Committees.

Implementation of 20-Point Programme by Kerala

2242. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made by Government of Kerala in implementation of the 20-Point Programme in the State during January to June, 1988;

(b) whether the implementation is in accordance with the targets set for the purpose; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the agencies responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):

(a) A statement showing the progress made by the Government of Kerala in implementation of 20-Point Programme in the State during January-March, 1988 and April-June, 1988 separately is given below covering the period January to June, 1988.

(b) From the attached progress report, it will be observed that the performance of the Government of Kerala has been "poor" (below 80%) in respect of implementation of five items of the programme in January-March, 1988 and for the quarter ending April-June'88, the performance has been "poor" in respect of ten items.

(c) The programme is being implemented by the State Government who are responsible for any shortfalls in achievement. The "poor" performance of the Kerala Government in respect of certain items was brought to the attention of the Chief Secretary with the request that the administrative machinery be geared up to ensure that targets are achieved in the future.

STATEMENT

Point No.	Item	Unit	1987-88 (Jan-March '88)		1988-89 (April-June '88)			
			Target	Achievement %	Target	Achievement %		
1 A	I.R.D.P.	Families	34626	26512	77	12370	12624	102
1 B	N.R.E.P.	Lakh Mandays	34.52	26.19	105	17.31	20.26	117
1 C	R.L.E.G.P.	Lakh Mandays	32.57	27.74	85	12.90	12.91	100
1 D	S.S.I. Units	Nos.	1000	2657	266	1713	1267	74
5 A	Surplus Land Distribution	Acres	500	887	177	200	117	59
7 A	Drinking water Problem Solved (Villages)	Nos.	100	205	373	23	102	443
8 B	P.H.Cs	Numbers	120	135	113	0	0	0
8 C	Sub-Centres	-do-	400	500	125	0	0	0
8 D	Immunisation of Children	'000 Nos.	163.1	226.2	139	76.9	72.0	94
9 A	F.P. Sterilisation	'000 Nos.	75.2	69.5	92	30.0	37.5	125
9 B	Equivalence Sterilisation	'000	26.9	11.7	43	19.8	14.4	73

9 C	ICDS Blocks Operational (Cum)	Nos	1	0	0	73	73	100
9 D	Anganwadis	Nos	158	0	0	8596	7976	93
11 A	S C Families	Nos	13972	30940	221	7500	664	9
11 B	S T Families	Nos	1226	4362	356	675	34	5
14 A	House Sites		1400	4177	298	1050	679	65
14 B	Construction Assistance		4200	16671	397	3150	11216	356
14 D	EWS Houses	Nos	3720	4713	127	1116	3592	322
14 E	L I C Houses	Nos	109	989	907	33	1034	3133
15	Slum Improvement	Numbers	4200	8690	207	3150	4996	159
16	Tree Plantation	Lakh Seedlings	161.5	448.7	278	200.0	8.25	4
19 B	Pumpsets Energised	Numbers	4730	6530	138	660	534	81
19 C	Improved Chullahs	'000 Nos	10400	12287	118	4800	3722	78
19 D	Biogas Plants	Numbers	1500	891	59	300	930	310

Inter-State Council

2243. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
SHRI AJAY BISWAS:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether article 263 of the Constitution provides for constituting an Inter-State Council to inquire into disputes between States and between the Centre and States;

(b) whether this provision of the Constitution is yet to be implemented;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Inter-State Council will be constituted as recommended by Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The under mentioned three bodies have been set up for specific purposes under the provision of article 263:

(i) Central Council of Health set up on 9th August, 1952.

(ii) Central Council of Local Self Government set up on 16th September, 1954.

(iii) Council on Sales Tax and State Excise Duty was set up on 1st February, 1968 for each of the four zones.

In addition, five Zonal Councils for the Eastern, Western, Northern, Southern and Central Zones constituted under the States Reorganisation Act, 1956 are also functioning, besides the North Eastern Council for the States of the North-Eastern Region, constituted under the North Eastern Council Act 1971. These Councils are also providing forums for consultation among the States and between the Centre and the States.

In so far as recommendations of Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State rela-

tions is concerned, the process of examination has already been initiated and views of the Members of Parliament, State Governments and others, have been elicited. Government will take a final decision only after taking all these into consideration.

Action against Tamil Nadu Government Employees and Teachers participated in Strike

2244. SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Government has taken disciplinary and penal actions against Government employees and teachers participated in the recent strike there; and

(b) the number of employees and teachers who were arrested, suspended or dismissed from services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). No instructions have been issued by the Government of Tamil Nadu for initiating disciplinary action against the striking employees. However, as per Tamil Nadu Government Servants Conduct Rules no Government servant can participate in the strike or similar agitation. During the strike various disciplinary authorities under the State Government initiated disciplinary action against the Government servants who participated in the strike. Persons found to have involved in activities like intimidation, violence, sabotage and other unlawful activities were suspended.

The Government of Tamil Nadu have informed that in the State administration, there are innumerable disciplinary authorities at different levels who initiated disciplinary action against the Government servants. Consequent on reaching of agreement with the various Associations of the Government employees who have ended the strike and resumed duty, instructions have been issued that there will be no victimisation of the employees for mere participation in the strike. Instructions have

a.so been issued for the revocation of suspension orders in all the cases. except where suspension was on account of violence, sabotage and other unlawful activities.

25,403 members were arrested during the strike period and released. Only 39 persons are involved with violence, sabotage and unlawful activities.

British Frigates to Pakistan

2245. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Britain has delivered two frigates to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the extent to which each of these frigates are superior to the Indian frigate "Virat" purchased from Britain some-time back;

(c) whether Government have asked the British Government to equip "Virat" with the latest devices as are fitted in the frigates sold to Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the reaction of British Government towards this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI):

(a) The Government have seen reports to the effect that the Pakistan Navy have recently contracted the purchase of two Leander Class frigates from the United Kingdom. One of these frigates is reported to have already been delivered.

(b) The INS "Virat" is an aircraft carrier and cannot be compared with a frigate.

(c) and (d). Do not arise in view of answer to part (b).

Expert Committee for suitable site for rocket launching

2246. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sriharikota base for launching ASLV and other rockets is not found a suitable site;

(b) if so, whether an expert committee has been set up to find out suitable site;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether some place is being located in Andhra Pradesh for the purpose; and 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) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

News-Item Captioned "Pak Arms Industry Thriving"

2247. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen a news item in the Economic Times dated 16 July, 1988 captioned "Pak arms industry thriving";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the Military strength of Pakistan will be increased; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in reaction to this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (c). Government have seen the news-item. Pakistan is reported to be self-sufficient in the manufacture of certain arms and ammunition. Her collaboration with advanced countries in the field of defence production is likely to give her a state-of-the-art weapon technology.

(d) Government keep a watch on all developments which have a bearing on our national security and take appropriate measures to ensure effective defence preparedness.

Financial Position of the United Nations

2248. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Quellar has asked or is going to ask the member States for interest-free loans to save the world body from a situation of running out of funds after the United States declined to pay its dues;

(b) whether according to the U.N. Secretary-General, the U.N. will be facing this situation by the end of October this year and therefore will be unable to continue its operations thereafter;

(c) if so, whether Government have received any such request from the U.N. Secretary for giving long-term loan, if so, the amount asked for in terms of dollars; and

(d) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes Sir. The U.N. Secretary-General has made a proposal for interest free loans from member countries to tide over the crisis in UN's financial resources. It is understood that the precise modalities of such loans are presently under consideration.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The outcome of the considerations is still awaited.

(d) Does not arise.

Residential Accommodation in Medak Ordnance Factory

49. SHRI MANIK REDDY:
SHRI C. SAMBU:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the employees working at the Ordnance Factory Medak at Yeddu Mailaram in Andhra Pradesh have been provided with residential accommodation;

(b) if so, how many employees are provided with accommodation in each category;

(c) the total strength of the employees in the factory in each category;

(d) whether there is any proposal for the construction of more accommodation for the employees and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Ordnance Factory provides any accommodation to the staff of the Kendriya Vidyalaya situated in the campus;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the facilities provided by the factory to bring its staff from twin cities and take them back?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) No Sir.

(b) Accommodation has been provided to 602 employees as per details given below:-

Gazetted Officers	..	49
Non-Gazetted Officers	..	189
Non-industrial employees	..	300
Industrial employees	..	64

Besides, 330 quarters have been provided to allied establishments.

(c) The present strength of the factory is as under:

Gazetted Officers	..	58
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Non-Gazetted Officers	..	195
Non-industrial employees	..	448
Industrial employees	..	602
Total		1303

(d) Yes, Sir. 808 quarters are under construction and administrative approval for 1100 quarters is under process.

(e) and (f). Yes Sir, Kendriya Vidyalaya staff have been given 17 quarters.

(g) The employees have hired chartered buses to bring them from the twin cities and to take them back.

Deployment of CRPF etc. in States

2250. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some states had asked for sending central police and para military forces during the first six months of this calendar year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Central forces have been sent to states without the consent of the state;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the centre and states have evolved any guidelines in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). During the period from January to June 1988, requests were received from Tripura, Meghalaya, West Bengal, Haryana, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Andhra

Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Delhi and Pondicherry for deployment of Central Forces. Subject to availability of forces, deployment of forces was made in these States/UTs. It will not be in the public interest to disclose the strength of Central Forces made available to these States/UTs.

(c) No Central Forces were deployed in any State without the consent of the State.

(d) to (f). Do not arise.

Collaboration with USSR for Martian Environment

2251. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soviet Union has invited India to collaborate in its probe of the martian environment including the recent Phobos probe;

(b) if so, the response of the Indian Space Research Organisation thereto;

(c) whether, the other International Space Missions sponsored by national space organisations of different countries have invited India to join in the various space probes scheduled for the next 20 years; and

(d) if so, the response of our Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (d). The Soviet Union, as a part of its long term plans in space exploration, is planning a number of experiments relating to the exploration of the planet Mars. Apart from launching two un-manned spacecraft 'Phobos' this year to explore the Martian atmosphere and surface besides studying the Martian satellite Phobos, the Soviet Union has planned another spacecraft series to study Mars around 1944. As a part of the overall Indo-Soviet co-operation in

space research, various possibilities of Indian participation in the scientific experiments for the 1994 mission are being explored.

Crime in Punjab

2252. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given on 16 March, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 3383 regarding crime in Punjab and state:

(a) the number of cases of bank dacoities/robberies and murders reported in Punjab during the last two years ending December, 1987;

(b) the number of persons arrested in this regard and the number of cases solved; and

(c) the steps taken to check such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). According to the information furnished by the Government of Punjab, 14 incidents of dacoities, 58 robberies and 7 murders took place in banks in the State during the years 1986 and 1987. Eleven persons were arrested in cases of dacoities, 65 in cases of robberies and 7 in cases of murders. Five cases of dacoities, 34 of robberies and 4 of murders were solved.

In order to check such incidents in Punjab, patrolling parties and naka-bandis reconnoitre the areas of banks in cities as well as rural areas. Guards have been provided at currency chests of vulnerable banks. Most of the banks have been connected with hot-line with the nearest police station. Alarm systems are being provided in banks.

Free Medical Aid for SC/ST in Punjab

2253. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have implemented any comprehensive schemes of free medical aid to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and backward classes in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Backward classes covered by such schemes in Punjab particularly in Hoshiarpur district till the end of June 1988?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the State Government of Punjab and will be laid on the table of the House.

Action Plan for the Protection of Bombay High

2254. SHRI SHRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Navy has been entrusted with the task of protecting Bombay High;

(b) whether Government have introduced an action plan to give proper protection to the Bombay High; and

(c) if so, since when and the details of the steps taken under that action plan to protect Bombay High?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Further details cannot be divulged in the interest of national security.

Export of Defence Related Products

2255. SHRI SHRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a tremendous po-

tential for exporting defence related products into the international defence equipment market;

(b) if so, whether Government have explored the possibilities of making an entry into the international defence equipment market; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (c). There is large scale international trade in arms which fluctuates according to political conditions. As our Defence Production Units are primarily engaged in the production of defence stores to meet the requirements of our own Armed Forces, export of defence stores as such has not been our priority. Limited export of defence stores surplus to our requirements, is, however, undertaken on a very selective basis to friendly countries.

Production of Scientific Gadgets

2256. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a special production agency to fabricate scientific gadgets for use in a broad spectrum of activities including agriculture and defence;

(b) if so, which organisation or the department has recommended to the Government to set up such agency;

(c) the basis on which recommendation has been made; and

(d) when that agency is going to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a)

to (d). Working Group set up by the Science Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (SAC-PM) has recommended setting up of a special production agency to fabricate selected number of sophisticated instruments on a crash basis. The recommendation is under processing.

Off-Shore Patrol Vessels

2257. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have placed orders with South Korea for Off-Shore patrol vessels;

(b) if so, the reasons for not placing orders with the Hindustan Shipyard Limited for indigenisation of Indian Navy;

(c) whether Government have sought transfer of up-to-date technology from different countries for Indian Navy; and

(d) if so, the countries that have agreed to transfer technology for Indian Navy and on what terms and conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (d). Three offshore patrol vessels are being imported from S. Korea. In addition, a contract has been entered into with M/s Hindustan Shipyard Limited for the construction of similar vessels from imported material packages. Wherever feasible and necessary, the transfer of up-to-date technology for the manufacture of vessels and equipment in India is sought from various countries. The terms and conditions of such transfers vary from case to case.

Further details cannot be divulged in the interest of national security.

Electronics Exports to U.S.A.

2258. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken

steps to boost electronic exports to the United States;

(b) if so, the specific steps taken in that regard;

(c) whether any scheme of incentives has been drawn up; and

(d) 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) Yes Sir.

(b) For promoting software exports to the United States (US), six conferences were organised in the US during October-November, 1987. Two conferences are planned to be held during November, 1988.

Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation has launched a new project called ESSO (Electronics Sales Support Organisation) for providing warehousing facility and 'Catalogue Sales' in the US market.

India would also be participating in the Computer Conference & Exposition (COMDEX) Exhibition in the US in November, 1988.

(c) and (d). Under the ESSO Scheme launched by ET & T, Warehousing facilities would be provided to Indian Companies desirous of exporting electronic products to United States. All exports will be on C.I.F. basis. The exporters will be offered the facility of operating from ET & T's Office in California using its address on their Business Cards/Stationary which will enable Indian Exporters to operate virtually like an authentic US Stocking and Market Company.

In addition a number of incentives have been extended to the Indian Electronics Industry for promoting electronics exports which include 5 year tax holiday to 100% Export Oriented Units (EOUs) and units

under Export Processing Zone, extension of Cash Compensatory Scheme to units in EOU/EPZ and enhancement of the rate of Import Replenishment Licences.

Proposed visit to Spanish Team on Defence Cooperation

2259. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to establish cooperation with Spain in the field of defence;

(b) whether Government of Spain would send military experts to India to visit the military institutions and thereafter to specify the areas of co-operation; and

(c) if so, when the Spanish team is expected to visit India in that connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) The Govt. is exploring the possibility of defence technology cooperation with Spain in areas of mutual benefit. Preliminary discussions were told during the visit of a team from the Defence Research & Development Organisation in Madrid during July 14-15, 1988.

(b) and (c). To explore the potential for cooperation, it is expected that a defence technology team from Spain would visit India towards the end of 1988.

Security Forces Personnel Killed in Punjab and Chandigarh

2260. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of police and paramilitary forces personnel killed by terrorists in Punjab, and Union Territory of Chandigarh forces-wise and rank-wise during the last three years ending 30 June, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-

ISTRY OF PERSONNEL; PUBLIC
GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MIN-
ISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):
The information for the period 1.7.83 to
30.6.88 is given in the statement below.

STATEMENT

I. Number of police and para-military forces personnel killed by terrorists in Punjab during the period 1.7.83 to 30.6.88

Rank	Name of the force and number of personnel killed		
	Punjab Police	CRPF	BSF
Constable	85	30	10
Head Constable	41	8	6*
Assistant Sub-Inspector	25	-	-
Sub-Inspector	21	2	1
Inspector	5	2	1
Deputy Supdt. (D.S.P.)	3	1	-
Supdt. of Police	2	-	-

* The figures include Naik/L/Naik also of CRPF/BSF. In addition 1 Sub-Inspector of Haryana Police was killed in the State.

II. Number of police personnel of Chandigarh police Killed by terrorists during the period 1.7.83 to 30.6.88

Rank	No. of personnel killed
Head Constable	2
Sub-Inspector	3
Inspector	1

Redressal of Grievances in States

2261. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any arrangements where people in different States can submit their grievances in the

State itself where the responsibility of redressal rests with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are maintaining State-wise information about the grievances and those resolved; and

(d) if so, the position with regard to Orissa for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) and (b). So far as the grievances relating to Union Government offices located in States are concerned, the members of the public can send their grievances to the concerned office in the State itself. Moreover, all Central Government offices have been asked to observe one day of the week as a 'meetingless day' on which officers make themselves available for receiving public grievances.

(c) and (d). State-wise information about the grievances relating to Union Government is not being maintained.

Tribal Autonomous Bodies in Bihar

2262. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tribal autonomous bodies in Chhotanagpur area in Bihar

(b) whether Government have a proposal to revive those tribal bodies; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) There are two autonomous bodies for tribal areas of Chhotanagpur in Bihar. Both these Authorities are functioning since 1978 and are primarily intended to supplement, supervise and coordinate the efforts of the State Govt. for tribal development.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Monitoring of Cease-Fire Between Iran-Iraq by India

2263. SHRI SWAMI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether United Nations had requested India to provide personnel to monitor a cease-fire between Iran and Iraq;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). The United Nations has informally approached India, among several other countries, with a request to provide personnel to make up an Observer Group to supervise a cease-fire between Iran and Iraq. No formal proposal has so far been received.

(c) Government has agreed in principle to the request.

Diplomatic Relations with Israel

2264. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister was approached in New York/Washington by representatives of the Jewish community for a change in India's policy towards Israel;

(b) if so, whether the recent decision to upgrade the Israeli consulate in Bombay is a consequence thereof; and

(c) whether it is proposed to establish full diplomatic relations between India and Israel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) Some American Jewish representatives met the Prime Minister during this recent visit to New York. The unscheduled meeting was at their initiative and the exchanges were of a general nature.

(b) There has been no change in the status of the Israeli Consulate in Bombay. The vacant post of Consul in the Israeli Consulate in Bombay has been filled as a result

of a routine clearance and not on the basis of any intervention

(c) There is no proposal under consideration for establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Israel

Study on Dwindling Tribal Population in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

2265 SHRI AJOY BISWAS Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state

(a) whether the team of experts appointed to study the dwindling primitive tribal population of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands has since submitted its report, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI)
(a) Yes, Sir

An interim report has been submitted by the expert Group constituted by Island Development Authority (IDA)

(b) The interim report has dealt with the living style, occupation, nutritional status etc. of the tribals of great Andamanese Onges, Jarawas and Shompen. Both short and long term measures have been suggested, giving the need for new organisational structures, setting up of interdisciplinary expert groups and continuing studies on nutritional and health status of the tribes

[Translation]

Manufacturing and Selling of Erroneous National Flag

+2266 SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the report published in the Hindi 'Blitz' dated 30 April, 1988 about manufacturing and selling of erroneous national flag,

(b) if so, whether manufacturing and selling of incorrect national flag is a serious crime in accordance with the law,

(c) whether Government have taken any action in the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S BUTA SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (d) According to Khadi & Village Industries Commission, the allegation were enquired into and found baseless

Electronics Industry in Ujjain

2267 SHRI SATYANARAYAN PAWAR Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the names of districts of Madhya Pradesh where electronics industries have been set up or are proposed to be set up,

(b) whether Government propose to set up Electronics Industries in Ghatia Tehsil of Ujjain district which is predominantly inhabited by Hanjans and does not have any industry;

(c) if so the details thereof; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

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) Electronic Industries have been set up or are proposed to be set up in Madhya Pradesh at the following locations -- Bhopal, Indore, Mandideep, Bilaspur, Raipur, Gwalior, Dewas, Morena, Bhilai, Jabalpur, Raigarh, Dhar, Pithampur, Goharganj, Rewa, Bhind, Raigarh, Raipur, Chhatrapur, Malanpur and Visha

(b) to (d) The Seventh Five Year Plan approved for Department of Electronics does not envisage setting up of new units in any State by the Government of India in-

cluding Madhya Pradesh. Government encourages setting up of electronics industries throughout the country in any permissible area. The State Government endeavours to create conditions conducive for setting up such industries and Department of Electronics gives necessary guidance.

[English]

Nuclear Deal Between Pakistan and Iran

2268. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that Pakistan and Iran have signed a secret nuclear deal and Iranian nuclear experts are in Pakistan to receive advanced training; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) Government have seen a report carried by the Sunday Observer of June 12, 1988 regarding a secret nuclear deal between Iran and Pakistan under which six Iranian nuclear energy experts are reportedly already in Pakistan receiving advanced training. Both Governments have officially denied the veracity of this report.

(b) Government continuously monitor all developments which have a bearing on our national security.

Death of Chakma Tribal Refugees

2269. PROF. RAMAKRISHNA MORE:
DR. B.L. SHAILESH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chakma tribal refugees from Bangladesh have died in Indian relief camps in Tripura;

(b) if so, the number of deaths and the causes thereof;

(c) whether any fresh negotiations have been held recently with Bangladesh about their return; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 2466 refugees had died in the camps due to natural causes as on July 4, 1988.

(c) and (d). Government have been in continuous contact with the Bangladesh Government to persuade them to take the necessary steps to create conditions in the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh, which would give the refugees the confidence to return to their homes voluntarily.

Freedom Fighters Pensions Cases

2270. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any pending cases for the sanction of freedom fighters pension have been decided during the first quarter of the financial year 1988-89; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise including the names of such freedom fighters from Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). State-wise position in regard to the cases in which pension was sanctioned to the freedom fighters during April, May and June, 1988 is given below:--

Name of the State Government/ U.T. Administration.	No. of Sanctioned cases.
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	1
Delhi	4
Haryana	7

1	2
Himachal Pradesh	1
Karnataka	3
Madhya Pradesh	3
Maharashtra	19
Rajasthan	4
Punjab	1
Uttar Pradesh	7
Gujarat	1
Total	51

One Shri Kazan Singh S/o Shri Shoba Singh of Mandi (H.P.) has been granted pension from Himachal Pradesh.

Benefits of the Outlay on Public Sector

2271. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY:
SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent exercise has revealed that out of the public sector outlay of 1,80,000 crores in the Seventh Plan, only Rs. 30,000 crores have made its way to the people as has been indicated by the Honourable Prime Minister in his concluding address to the Seva Dal Volunteers on July 7, in New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to plug all the loop-holes in programme implementation so that the end-users get the full benefit of plan funds?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):
(a) Planning Commission is not aware of any such study.

(b) Does not arise.

Increase in Allocation to Rajasthan

2272. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the allocation for Rajasthan State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):
(a) There is no proposal under consideration for increasing the allocation for Annual Plan of 1988-89 of Rajasthan.

(b) Does not arise.

Utilisation of Amount for Anti Poverty Programme to Rajasthan

2273. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount allocated to Rajasthan for anti-poverty programmes during the last three years has been fully utilised by the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of money allocated to the Rajasthan for the current year for anti-poverty programmes?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):
(a) and (b). The major anti-poverty programmes being implemented throughout the country including Rajasthan are: Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), and National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP). During the last three years, viz., 1985-86 to 1987-88, the allocation of resources to Rajasthan and utilisation by the State Government are given below:—

(Fig. in Rs. lakhs)

Programme	Allocation	Utilisation
IRDP	6990.22	7617.63
NREP	15815.84	15626.11
RLEGP	5715.75	7120.98

(c) The following resources have been allocated to Rajasthan for the Year 1988-89:

(Rs. in lakhs)	
Programme	Allocation
IRDP	3229.64
NREP	3581.29
RLEGP	2697.10

Execution of Dandakaranya Project

2274. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALICK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of drawbacks in the execution of Dandakaranya project have been pointed out by the Comptroller and Auditor General in his report for the year ending 31 March, 1987;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(c) the corrective measures taken or contemplated in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). The Report refers to certain drawbacks in the implementation of various schemes since inception of the Dandakaranya Project in 1958. Remedial measures were taken to rectify the shortcomings whenever these came to notice. Wherever required, responsibility was fixed on the officials responsible for the shortcomings and punitive measures initiated.

Diversion of Explosives for Thein Dam to Terrorists

2275. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of explosives meant for the Thein Dam have reached in the hands of terrorists in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by Government in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Long Range Orientation and Perspective Planning

2276. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the views expressed by some economists that there should be a corporate plan upto the end of the 20th Century, spanning the Eighth and the Ninth Five Year Plans, so as to give the long range orientation and perspective to planned development; and

(b) if so, Government's response to the

views and the likely date by which a decision would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). Perspective Plan for the economy is prepared normally for viewing the perspective of development over a period of 15 years. The 7th Five Year Plan document contains such a perspective up to the end of the 20th century.

Clearance to Telugu Ganga Project

2277. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has given clearance to Telugu Ganga Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c). The technical parameters of the Telugu Ganga Project are still under examination of the Ministry of Water Resources and are not yet finalised. The stage for consideration by the Planning Commission of this project has not, therefore, reached.

Indo-Srilanka Talks on Withdrawal of IPKF

2278. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India had talks with the Srilankan Government regarding the gradual withdrawal of Indian Peace Keeping Force from Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the agreement arrived at in this regard; and

(c) steps taken to implement the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) to (c). The strength of the IPKF in Sri Lanka figured in the discussions during the visit of Raksha Mantri to Sri Lanka from May 30 to June 1. It was agreed that as the situation in the Northern and Eastern Provinces continued to improve, the IPKF force levels will be reviewed depending on operational requirements and the situation on the ground.

Operational level discussions are held periodically with the Sri Lankan Government for such reviews.

[Translation]

News Items Captioned "Videsh Mantralaya Ki Ochapoh Se 55 Lakh Rupe Ka Phaltu Kharch Utanhana Para"

2279. SHRI JALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in Jansatta dated 25 May, 1988 with the caption "Videsh Mantralaya Ki Ochapot se 55 lakh Rupe Ka Phaltu Kharch Utahana Para", wherein it is stated that the expenditure on the purchase of Chancery building in Hong Kong has been adversely commented by the Comptroller and Auditor General in his report for the year ended 31 March, 1987; and

(b) if so, the persons who are responsible for this extra expenditure and the action taken so far against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item is based on Paragraph 15 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the period ended March 31, 1987. The Ministry's explanations have been submitted to the Comptroller and Auditor General.

[English]

News Item Captioned: "Government May Demonopolise IAS Hold on Top Posts"

2280. SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Government may demonopolise IAS hold on top posts" appearing in the Hindustan Times of 28 June, 1988 wherein it is stated that Government are considering a scheme to 'demonopolise' the posts of Secretary and Additional Secretary which have so far been generally held by officials of the Indian Administrative Service;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme;

(c) whether there is any proposal to transfer out of Delhi all IAS officers who have done a tenure of three years in the post of Additional Secretary/Joint Secretary and

(d) if not, what is the policy of transfer of these senior IAS officers and the reasons for its being different from that for other categories of staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No change in the existing scheme under which top posts in the Government of India are filled is being contemplated. These posts are held by officers belonging to the Indian Administrative Service as well as those belonging to other Services.

(c) and (d). There is a uniform tenure policy for the officers holding these posts irrespective of the Service to which they belong. There is no proposal to change the policy. The policy is as follows:

- (i) Additional Secretary - 5 years when posted directly as

Additional Secretary. When promoted from Joint Secretary at least 3 years as Additional Secretary, subject to a total tenure of 8 years.

- (ii) Joint Secretary : 5 Years

Expenditure on Sri Lankan Repatriates

2281. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred by Union Government during the year 1986-87 for the rehabilitation of Sri Lankan repatriates;

(b) whether more funds are proposed to be allocated for this purpose; and

- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Expenditure of Rs. 444.34 lakhs was incurred on the rehabilitation of repatriates from Sri Lanka during the year 1986-87;

- (b) yes, Sir.

(c) A sum of Rs. 201.76 lakhs has been spent on the rehabilitation of Sri Lanka repatriates during the year 1987-88 and a Budget Provision of Rs. 516.82 lakhs has been made for the year 1988-89.

Himalayan Afforestation Scheme

2282. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn a Rs.100 crore Himalayan afforestation scheme in commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of Independence and the Jawaharlal Nehru Centenary; and

- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SMT. SHEILA DIKSHIT):

(a) and (b) For the Commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of India's Independence and the Jawaharlal Nehru Centenary, a number of programmes/events have been framed, emerging from the suggestions received from the Members of the National Committee for Commemorations, Members of Parliament, Central and State Governments, Intellectual Groups and others. Reafforestation of the Himalayas is one such. Details of the programmes, including the financial outlays required therefor are under discussion with the Ministry of Environment and Forests, State Governments concerned and the Ministry of Finance.

Sewagram (Wardha)

2283. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in "Times of India" dated 3 July, 1988 wherein it is stated that there is a threat to serenity of Sewagram (Wardha) where the Father of the Nation spent last twelve years of his life;

(b) whether threatening letters are being received by the Kutir Incharge; and

(c) if so, the measures being taken by Government to protect the Kutir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

News Item Captioned, "Foreign Hand Sways LTTE"

2284. SHRI SANAT KUMAR, MANDAL:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Foreign hand sways LTTE" appearing in 'Times of India' dated 20 July, 1988;

(b) whether a foreign hand is suspected behind the reluctance of the LTTE in coming to a settlement on ethnic conflict;

(c) whether LTTE has warned the people of North and East provinces of Sri Lanka not to have any dealings with IPKF personnel; and

(d) Government's thinking on the holding of elections in North and East provinces of Sri Lanka with or without participation of LTTE?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While Government have no definite information in this regard, there have been several reports about LTTE's links with foreign agencies.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The question of holding elections in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, even if the LTTE does not accept the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement and refuses to join the political process, is one of the possible options which are under constant review of the Government. LTTE's attempts to prevent such elections are denying to the Tamil population, of these provinces, the benefits of devolution, which have now been extended to the Sinhala-dominated provinces.

12.13 hrs.

[English]

SHRI SANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): The Chief Minister of Karnataka has denied the letter. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please don't shout. I will listen to you but not like this. You belong to the ruling party

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: He has denied the letter. (Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Mr. Speaker, sir, I rise on a very important point about which I have given a notice. Yesterday, when I raised the question of telephone-tapping in Karnataka, you may recall some Members, with the best of intentions said "what about the value-based politics?" and they demanded Shri Hegde's resignation. I have come here and I am rising to announce that I, as the Chairman of the Parliamentary Board, have received a letter from Shri Hegde that he is resigning from the Chief Ministership because though he was not personally involved, he has taken the moral responsibility and he has called a meeting of the legislators...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the place.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Listen to me, Prof. Sahab....

(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: They are not ordering a judicial enquiry. M.P.s have complained that their telephones are being tapped. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing him.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Will you go on speaking or will you listen to me?

(Interruptions)

[English]

I have not allowed him.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Acharya Sahab you are a leader and you don't know that I am standing. I am standing but you are still going on speaking.

Prof. Sahab, this is your right. Whatever you have to announce, you can do it outside.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: They asked me what about value-based politics. Mr. Hegde has resigned. The Prime Minister should also resign.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shantaram Naik.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I have asked Mr. Naik to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, Mr. Hegde cannot shirk his responsibility by tendering his resignation. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Reddy, you are so irrelevant. I have asked Mr. Naik to speak. When I ask you, you can speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing Mr. Reddy. I have called Mr. Naik to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Sir, we have given notices of Adjournment Motions and Privilege Motions. Has he given Adjournment Motion or Privilege Motion? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Amal Datta, that does not entitle you to speak. It is a wrong notion you have got that giving notice of Adjournment Motion entitles you to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed. Don't be under that impression. I allow you certain times because you are in the Opposition. That is all.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: We have given Adjournment Motion.

MR. SPEAKER: No question of Adjournment Motion. I have not allowed it.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: By tendering resignation, Mr. Hegde cannot shirk his responsibility. He has to answer the question as to who ordered the IGP to tap the phones...

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing doing. Not allowed.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing goes on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU (Madras North): Sir, in Tamil Nadu more than 150 LTTE men have been arrested.

MR. SPEAKER: It is law and order problem. I cannot do anything. Not allowed.

*(Interruptions)**

DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN (Chengalpattu): Sir, 150 LTTE men have been arrested. The police have unnecessarily arrested them. Please ask the Minister to make a Statement. This is a very serious issue. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: I have given Adjournment Motion.

MR. SPEAKER: It is law and order problem. I have not allowed them.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Saifuddin Chowdhary.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed Mr. Saifuddin Chowdhary to speak. Why don't you understand this? What are you doing? All the time, you are interrupting. I have allowed Mr. Saifuddin Chowdhary. You don't understand this thing. All the time 10 people or 15 people are shouting at the top of their voice. I say that I have called Mr. Saifuddin Chowdhary to speak.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Even when one man is speaking, you interrupt, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: No. I don't interrupt.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: (Bankura): Sir, you please allow me.

MR. SPEAKER: Why should I allow you? If there is any point of order, I will allow you but not otherwise.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): Sir, please allow me. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I don't know. I will see according to rules. There is no compulsion on me.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa): Sir, I draw your kind attention and the attention of the whole House to the motor launch tragedy that took place in Bihar. There is a criminal connivance with the private owner of the ship by the government administration there who are not taking any steps to recover the dead bodies; they are sabotaging the operations...

MR. SPEAKER: I have already admitted it. It has been balloted and it is coming up on the 16th.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: It is a very serious tragedy. You ask the Minister to make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER: I agree it is a very serious thing. It concerns the life of the people. That is why I have allowed it.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Please ask the Minister to make a statement.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): I am responding to you. Government will make a statement on this tragedy...

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed it for the 16th.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Government should have come forward with a *suo motu* statement.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: We are demanding a *suo motu* statement from the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already allowed that.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: When are they going to make the statement? Today?

MR. SPEAKER: I have already allowed a Calling Attention on this on the 16th.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, in the other House Members were allowed to express their opinion on the decision about Mr. Ajitabh Bachchan...

MR. SPEAKER: I am not concerned with the other House.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: You are not allowing a discussion here.

MR. SPEAKER: I did not say anything like that. I said, "If you want anything, you can give me a motion".

SHRI SURESH KURUP: I have given a notice

MR. SPEAKER: No problem. We follow our own rules. I do not deviate from our rules. They follow their rules.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will you allow a discussion, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: What you have given me is under my consideration.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I did not say that I would not allow it. I told Mr. Jaipal Reddy yesterday, "Give me the facts".

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kaliabor): Sir, 85 members belonging to the Shram Parishad of Assam have staged a dharna at the Boat Club for early implementation of the Assam Accord...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: In Tamil Nadu they are harassing the LTTE people. We want the Minister to make a statement.

DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN: It is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: If it is a law and order problem, it is a State subject.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not allow anybody now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: We are walking out of the House. Sir.

[*Shri N.V.N. Somu and Dr. S. Jagath-Pakshakan then left the House*]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I want to bring to your notice that yesterday I complained in your presence in this House to the Prime Minister that my telephone is tapped...

MR. SPEAKER: You can give a motion....

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you. That is all. What can I do?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: The privilege of a Member is being breached. How can we remain silent spectators...

MR. SPEAKER: You can complain. Mr. Jaipal Reddy, there are laws in this country and you can sue them. You are free to lodge a complaint and register a case against them. I do not mind.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We want a judicial inquiry, Sir.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot do anything.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not deny the privilege. Now, papers to be laid on the Table. Mr. Chidambaram.

12.23 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification under All India Services Act and U.P.S.C. (Exemption from consultation) Second Amendment Regulation, 1987

(*English*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC

GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): I beg to lay in the Table:

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All-India Services Act, 1951:--

- (i) The Indian Police Service (Uniform) Amendment Rules, 1988 published in Notification no. G.S.R. 587 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd July, 1988.
- (ii) The Indian Police Service (Regulation of Seniority) Rules, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 815(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 1988.
- (iii) The Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Sixth Amendment Rules, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 831(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 1988.
- (iv) The Indian Forest Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Third Amendment Regulations, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 834(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 1988.

[*Placed in Library. See No. LT-6381/88*]

- (2) A copy of the Union Public Service Commission (Exemption from Consultation) second Amendment Regulations, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 74 in Gazette of India, dated the

6th January, 1988 under Article 320(5) of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6382/88]

12.24 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

"I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Services of Employees) Bill, 1988 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th May, 1988, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th August, 1988, with following amendments:—

CLAUSE 1

1. That at page 1, for lines 9-10 the following be substituted, namely:—

Short Title and Commencement

"1. (1) This Act may be called the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination) of Conditions of Service of Employees) Act, 1988.

- (2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 2nd day of July, 1988."

New Clause 4

2. That at page 3, after line 20, the following be inserted, namely:—

Ord. 6 of 88

Repeal and Saving

- "4. (1) The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Ordinance, 1988, is hereby repealed

- (2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the said ordinance shall be deemed to

have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of this Act."

I am, therefore, to return herewith the said Bill in accordance with the provisions of rule 128 of The Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha with the request that the concurrence of the Lok Sabha to the said amendment be communicated to this House."

12.25 hrs.

[English]

BHARAT PETROLEUM CORPORATION LTD. (DETERMINATION OF CONDITIONS OF SERVICES OF EMPLOYEES) BILL, 1988

(Returned by Rajya Sabha with Amendments)

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Services of Employees) Bill, 1988, which has been returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): I have given an Adjournment Motion about acquisition of Westland helicopters...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Amal Datta, you can do like this. You can give me a motion. I will find out the facts and put it for a discussion. No problem.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Yesterday you assured this House that if the telephones of the Members of the House are tapped, it is a privilege....

MR. SPEAKER: I did not say...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: We are complaining that our telephones are being tapped.

MR. SPEAKER: Professor, don't misquote me. If these things happen with my Members, I ask the Home Minister to look into it.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You said, it is a privilege.

MR. SPEAKER: I did not say what you said.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Thambi Durai.

12.26 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS RESOLUTIONS

(Fifty-fifth Report)

[English]

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI (Dharmapuri): I beg to present the Fifty-fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

[English]

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kaliabor): 85 members belonging to the Sharma Parishad have staged a dharna at the Boat Club...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The matter has ended. Everyday there are demonstrations, what should I do?

[English]

Nothing doing. They are free to do it. This is a free country. I cannot deny them that thing.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL (Gulbarga): Just now, Mr. Dandavate, the Hon. Member, announced the resignation of the Chief Minister of Karnataka...

MR. SPEAKER: What can I do about that?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: As you correctly pointed out this is not the forum for announcing the resignation. (Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You were demanding his resignation yesterday. You were saying: where is the value-based politics? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, may I say that the conduct of the Chief Minister, we don't discuss that. I have never allowed that.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed only Mr. Veerendra Patil.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed it. No challenge here.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a challenging board.

[English]

I do not know what these Hon. Members are doing without my permission. If responsible Members do like that, what can I do. I have not allowed these Members to go on record. They have not sought my permission.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am restraining both of you. It is not a challenging board here.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: What I want to submit...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is the problem?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: Give me only one minute. By tendering the resignation, a sin committed by the Chief Minister of bugging the telephones of Hon. Members of this House since 1985 cannot be washed off. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Wherever there are skeletons, they should be unearthed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mahabir Prasad.

12.29 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(RAILWAYS), 1988-89

[English]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) for 1988-89.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Matters under Rule 377. Shri Basavaraju to speak.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What happened, Sir? What should I do? I can listen if there is some point of order.

[English]

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: You know that very rarely I stand up during Zero Hour. Because Mr. Dandavate mentioned about value-based politics that I said yesterday, I have to say something. What he has said is that he has tendered the resignation. I want to remind the Hon. Member and also the House what was the reaction of the Chief Minister when he met the press yesterday... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know. It is not for me. I am not allowing him.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not for me. I cannot allow him.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now matter under Rule 377. Shri Basavaraju.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the forum for that discussion. Mr. Virendra Patilji this is not the place, go outside and do it. I am not allowing you Sir. No statement Sir, I am not going to allow it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Basavaraju,
[Translation]

Do you want to speak or not?

[English]

Next, Shri Juihar Singh.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing him. As everybody persists, he also persists. I have not allowed him.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): Have you allowed whatever he has said to go on record?

MR. SPEAKER: Guptaji, I have been calling Mr. Basavaraju all the time. Why don't you understand this? I have gone to the next member even.

(Interruptions)

12.31 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Demand for planned development of fisheries in Haroti regions of Rajasthan

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH: (Jhalawar): The progress of the rural areas of Haroti Region of Rajasthan has been slow compared to

other parts of the State. Lack of development of the communication system, of irrigation potential and the lack of serious land utilisation programmes have been some of the reasons for this slow development. But the main reason of slow development has been that no steps have been taken to diversify the occupation of rural population from Agriculture to other allied occupations like Dairy projects and Fisheries etc.

Haroti region has the poorest quality of cattle in Rajasthan. This region has however great water potential for development of fisheries in a serious and a planned manner. There are vast areas with water logging problem along the Chambal canals in Kota and Bundi districts where no crop is grown at present. This water logged area can be profitably utilised for developing a number of fish farms in a planned and proper manner.

In view of this necessity, I request the Agriculture Minister to take steps for development of fisheries in a planned and serious manner in haroti region of Rajasthan.

- (ii) **Demand for authorising the Rajasthan State Electricity Board to get loan from REC or float debentures to raise funds for giving electric connections to farmers' tube wells etc.**

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: (Alwar): Lakhs of farmers of Rajasthan State are awaiting for electric connections for their wells and tubewells for the last five to seven years. All of them may not get electric connections even during the current year as the Rajasthan State Electricity Board is short of funds to provide electric polls, wires, insulators, meters and other necessary material and equipment. There is an immediate need of introduction of crash programme for energising wells and tubewells meant for irrigation. But it can be possible if sufficient funds are made available to Rajasthan State Electricity Board. It is suggested that Central Electricity Authority of India to Rural Electrification Corporation of India may raise funds by floating debentures and a sum of rupees one hun-

dred crores could be advanced to the Rajasthan State Electricity Board by way of loan so that it can provide electric connections to farmers of the State who are waiting for years.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to authorise the Rajasthan State Electricity Board, to obtain loan from Rural Electrification Corporation or raise the loan by floating debentures at its own instance to the tune of rupees one hundred crores so that RSEB could provide electric connections for wells and tubewells to all the farmers who had applied till 31.3.1988.

[Translation]

- (iii) **Demand for starting work relating to extension of the Delhi-Rajhara railway line to Jagdalpur.**

SHRI MANKU RAM SODI (Bastar). Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the last twenty years, residents of Bastar have been demanding extension of Delhi-Rajhara railway line to Jagdalpur in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh. Final survey of this line has already been conducted and it is very necessary for the economic development of Bastar district from the point of view of trade, traffic and industry. For exploitation of natural resources also, this railway line requires special attention.

There are vast deposits of mineral wealth in Bastar, but in the absence of the aforementioned railway line, mineral wealth is not being utilized by any industry and the national wealth is being wasted. This railway line is very important from the point of view of trade in this district. All the markets to meet the needs of this district, are linked to this north border. Tribal people are not getting fair price for their costly teak wood, sub-forest produce and agricultural produce of this district.

So I urge the Central Government to take immediate steps to start the work relating to extension of the railway line from Delhi-Rajhara to Jagdalpur.

[English]

- (iv) **Demand for sending a team of doctors along with medicines and vaccines to the cholera and gastro-enteritis affected districts in U.P.**

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA (Shahjahanpur): A large number of deaths are being reported everyday from districts in Uttar Pradesh due to cholera and gastro-enteritis. In the district of Shahjahanpur alone, large number of human lives have been lost due to cholera and gastro-enteritis. There is shortage of doctors, medical facilities, vaccines and medicines. The drinking water is contaminated and the sanitary conditions are deplorable. To avert a large scale calamity, I urge upon the Union Government to send a team of Doctors to the affected area with medicines and vaccines.

- (v) **Demand for enquiry into the circumstances under which SAIL has appointed M/s Arthur. D. Little of USA for giving advice on safety measures in the steel industry.**

SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK (Durgapur): The appointment of foreign experts by the Public Sector undertakings has become a matter of concern in the country. The Steel Authority of India Ltd. which has established bi-partite machinery for periodically studying the problems of safety and environment had appointed a foreign expert to give suggestions for developing safety organisation in steel by paying a heavy fee. The SAIL management did not consult the bi-partite machinery in the matter. It is understood that the expert concerned was Rs/S. Arther D. Little from the United States of America.

As reported in the Press some time back, the same consultant was appointed by the Union Carbide, a multinational company from U.S., to enquire into the causes of Bhopal disaster reported in his conclusions that sabotage committed by an Indian employee and not any technical neglect was the cause of the tragedy. It is well

known in India and abroad that the violation of safety rules was the major cause of the disaster.

It is further reported that SAIL had proposed to appoint the same consultant under the World Bank loan for making recommendations on the reorganisation of marketing set-up of the Bokaro Steel Plant and SAIL Corporate office.

It is essential to enquire into the circumstances under which the SAIL has appointed the same consultant to advise the public sector management about the safety organisation in steel industry.

[Translation]

- (vi) **Demand for checking pollution of rivers.**

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN (Kairana): I want to draw the attention of the Government to the serious pollution of small rivers in the country. This pollution is caused by the flow of dirty water containing acid and poisonous substances into these rivers from the factories based in the cities situated near the rivers and by drinking this water animals become victims of many fatal diseases. Even fishes are unable to breed in this water and most of them die. For instance in my constituency Kairana (Muzaffarnagar) a large number of animals have died and are becoming victims of many diseases because the Hindon, the Krishna and the Kali rivers coming from Saharanpur bring poisonous water discharged by the mills and factories situated there. Secondly, these rivers are very deep, due to which the pollution is going on increasing there.

12.39 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

So, I urge the Government to take steps to check the flow of dirty and acidic waters of factories into these rivers and to take necessary action for checking this serious pollution and cleaning these rivers like the Ganga.

[English]

- (vii) **Demand for a railway line between Nizamabad and Warangal via Karimnagar in Andhra Pradesh.**

SHRI G. BHOOPATHY (Peddapalli): Karimnagar in Andhra Pradesh is a district headquarter with population of more than two lakhs. It is a very big business centre and a number of industries are located in this town. Karimnagar, which is very important district in Telengana area, is not connected with any rail link. Agriculturists and industrialists have to take their produce for transport by rail either to Nizamabad Railway Station, which is 150 kms. away, or Warangal, another district headquarter, which is 70 kms. away from there. It will be very convenient for the passengers and goods traffic if Karimnagar is linked with Nizamabad and Warangal by railway line.

It is, therefore, requested that immediate survey may be conducted and steps taken for construction of railway line between Nizamabad and Warangal via Karimnagar.

- (viii) **Demand for early clearance of the revised project for development of coconut plantation submitted by the Government of Karnataka.**

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur): The revised project for development of coconut in Karnataka with external assistance was sent by the Government of Karnataka to the Government of India on 13th May 1987. The main objective of the project is to bring 16,000 hectares under coconut plantation over a period of five years at a total cost of Rs. 36 crores. Government of India had made certain queries which were clarified, vide their letter, dated 14th December, 1987. This issue is pending in the Project Appraisal Division of the Planning Commission.

The delay in taking a decision by the Government of India is causing a great concern to the coconut growers in kar-

nataka and I urge upon the Government to convey their decision immediately so that the work in the coconut plantation does not suffer.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS (PREVENTION OF MISUSE) ORDINANCE, 1988 AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS (PREVENTION OF MISUSE) BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up items 7 and 8 together. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee has already informed the House that she would not be present today to move her resolution. Therefore, I am now calling Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): I beg to move the following Resolution:

"That this House disapproves of the Religious Institutions (Prevention of Misuse) Ordinance, 1988 (Ordinance No. 3 of 1988) promulgated by the President on the 26th May, 1988."

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have moved this resolution to seek disapproval of this Ordinance. This has to be done, because the matter to which this Ordinance relates was not an urgent one. It was not such a matter which had suddenly come up before the Government.

This issue regarding the misuse of religious institutions and their wealth has been before the country for a long time and all the progressive and secular powers have been raising their voice against it. It has continuously been raised in the Parliament also. If this Ordinance has been brought keeping in view the incidents taking place in Punjab, then also it is clear that this issue has been before the country for the last 4-5 years. When this issue was before us for such a long time and we were expressing concern on the terrorist activities in Punjab

[Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav]

in Parliament and outside and misuse of religious places and their wealth, then the Government did not pay any attention to it and just some days after the session was over this Ordinance was issued. The Government has not done away with this practice, although it has been criticised vigorously several times. Sometimes, such a situation does arise suddenly in which a law has to be made through an Ordinance. But to issue an Ordinance just after the end of the session of Lok Sabha on the basis of old situations and incidents warranting such an action since long, shows the unwise and undemocratic way of functioning of the Government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we know that there are many loopholes in the provisions being made through this Ordinance. It is not the only question that religious places, their funds and wealth are being misused but this is the question of mixing politics with religion which is causing tension in this country. Some people, who are religious heads, make political pronouncements. Similarly, political leaders have been using religion to promote their political interests in the country. In elections, we make use of the actor playing the role of Rama or make use of communalism for increasing it or to make alliance with the communal parties and in spite of such a long experience, we have been allowing formation of political organisations on the basis of a religion or a community. So it is clear that unless we change our ways and take effective steps, we will not be able to remove the danger posed to the unity and integrity of our country. If we really want to make our country secular, then we will have to take effective steps against terrorism and other powers which are using religion.

What loopholes are there in this Ordinance? You have mentioned about religious institutions, their funds and wealth but I want to discuss about the things which are more important. Without separating religion from politics, we cannot stop the tendencies which we want to check. Is it not a fact that before starting any Government

works a religious ceremony is held? If this thing goes on, we will not be able to achieve what we want. To-day, Ministers and Government officials visit different religious institutions, temples and churches simply to make political gains. Politicians use religion to advance their political interests. Heads of religious institutions take political decisions. So if we do not make laws to stop the formation of political organisations on religious and communal basis, we will not be able to achieve our aims. The Government has made certain laws like the Protection of Muslim women's Right Bill under the pressure of some religious fanatics. The issue of Babri-Masjid and Ram Janam Bhoomi is like a concession to the religious fanatics. No effort is being made to solve this problem and it is creating a tense situation in the country. To what point these fanatic people are taking this matter. Besides Ayodhya, they are now mentioning Mathura and Varanasi also. Now both the communities are talking of holding marches. Where they want to take the country? What are their objectives and what efforts should we make? What should be the duty of those secular powers who want to unite the masses through brotherhood. In order to solve all these questions a comprehensive Bill should have been formulated. Had this matter been directly brought in the House, then there would have been no need to issue this Ordinance. It is possible to take a comprehensive law on this matter. I moved this resolution to achieve this objective.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Resolution moved:

That this House disapproves of the Religious Institutions (Prevention of Misuse) Ordinance, 1988 (Ordinance No. 3 of 1988) promulgated by the President on the 26th May, 1988.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to prevent the misuse of religious institutions for political and other purposes be taken into consideration".

The Government has been watching with concern the flagrant misuse of religious places for purposes other than the religious. There was overwhelming evidence that religious places were being utilised for a variety of criminal and illegal activities. A number of such places were being used as sanctuaries for criminals, outlaws and terrorists. Fire arms and ammunition were being stored at religious places. The absconders, declared so by law, were being given shelter. The funds collected from worshippers for pious purposes were being misutilized for illegal activities. By such practices, the administration of the criminal justice system was coming to a grinding halt. I am sure that the House will agree with me that such a state of affairs could not be allowed to continue by the Government. It was under these circumstances that the Government was compelled to make specific provisions in law to curb these activities in religious places. The President promulgated the Religious Institutions (Prevention of Misuse) Ordinance, 1988 on 26th May, 1988 as the Parliament was not in session.

I am bringing an official amendment to the definition of religious institutions to bring it in line with the definition in similar laws. The Bill seeks to replace the above said Ordinance and I request the hon. Members of this august House to extend their full cooperation to this Bill cutting across the party considerations.

And also, Sir, there has been a certain amount of concern expressed at various national forums, especially in the National Integration Council where the most eminent people from various walks of life—literary people, scholars, scientists, politicians, administrators, etc.—have expressed their serious concern in a number of meetings about the misuse of religion for political purposes. There has been a constant demand from various political parties and I remember distinctly in a meeting with the Hon. Prime Minister the leaders of the Opposition themselves were very keen that we must take some steps to see that religion is separated from politics. Keeping in view the strong feeling among all sections of our society, including the organised

political parties, the Government has brought about this measure before this august House.

The Hon. Member, Shri Vijaya Kumar Yadav, who preceded me, was also voicing the same argument and same sentiment and he asked the question that why the ordinance was brought. The situation as was prevailing at that time, warranted certain steps which could not have been taken because the Parliament was not in Session that we could bring the Bill. Therefore, it was the urgency which necessitated the promulgation of that ordinance. It is a regular practice in a parliamentary democracy and especially in the affected part of our country, Punjab. All political parties and social organisations have already welcomed the measures taken by the Government.

Therefore, Sir, it is in the fitness and keeping with the spirit of our Constitution that this august House must give thought to this new measure that the Government has brought before and give the full thought to it. I will be waiting very eagerly to the contributions that the Hon. Members will make in making this measure more purposeful for the better integration of our country.

With these words I commend this Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved;

“That the Bill to prevent the misuse of religious institutions for political and other purposes, be taken into consideration”.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the attention of the people of this country has been engaged to this problem and the people have expressed a lot of concern over the fact that the religion and politics have been mixed in this country. For a very long time people have been agitating that the religion and politics are two separate things. Religion is separate from the politics. In order to achieve this aim the Government has come forward with this Bill which seeks to prevent the misuse of reli-

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gious institutions. This is the purpose of the Bill.

This is not a matter which has cropped up only yesterday or day before yesterday. This is a matter which has been agitating the country for the past 2 or 3 years, especially with regard to the incidents and occurrences that have been taking place in Punjab. The attention of the whole of India has been drawn towards this aspect.

Now, the Government has come forward with this Bill. I am not disputing the intentions of the Government; I do not quarrel with the spirit of the Government but I dispute about the way it has been brought in the House. The hurry, the unchaste haste with which this Bill has been brought in this House is objectionable. To my mind this haste has been indulged in to by-pass the Parliament.

Then the wording of the Bill is also objectionable. The Bill has been worded in such a way, it has been drafted in such a way that a number of anomalies have crept in. I would say it is an ill drafted Bill.

The other point that I would like to make is that it does not serve the purpose for which it has been brought here in this House.

13.00 hrs.

Now, the first point I would like to make is that the provisions of the legislation by ordinance have to be used very sparingly. When both the Houses of Parliament are not in Session and when an urgency crops up, Article 123 of the Constitution enables the Government to legislate through ordinances. Now here, they have come forward with this ordinance just within 13 days after the Parliament has adjourned. The Parliament was adjourned on 13th May and the Government proclaimed this ordinance on 26th May. What was the urgency for bringing such an ordinance immediately after the adjournment of the Parliament? The Government must have come forward and must have taken this House into confi-

dence, they must have given the reasons for the urgency and the need for which they brought this ordinance. What is the action that they wanted to take? What misuse of the religious institutions did they seek to prevent? They must have come forward with all these explanations. But they have not done so and the ordinance has been proclaimed.

Under Rule 71 of the Rules of Procedure in Lok Sabha, the Government should place a statement on the Table of the House as to why the Government has resorted to promulgate an ordinance. Even in this statement, they have not stated what they wanted to achieve by bringing forward this ordinance. What was the urgency, what were the reasons for promulgating the ordinance? They are silent on all these aspects.

Even in the statement of objects and reasons also, they have not mentioned what they wanted to achieve. Now, the ordinance has been promulgated on 26th of May. Two months have since elapsed. Have the Government taken any action under this ordinance during these two months? Have they prevented the misuse of any religious institutions? This must have come forward and stated that during these two months, such and such action has been taken under this ordinance and misuse of such and such religious institutions was prevented or smuggling of arms into such and such temples has been prevented and so on. But the Government is not in a position to do so. For two months they have simply kept quiet and now they have come forward with this Bill. I would like to know whether Shri Buta Singh or Shri Chidambaram or for that matter whether this Government believes that this Bill will be able to achieve the objects for which it has been brought forward?

The object of the Bill is the prevention of misuse of religious institutions. It has been stated in the objects of the Bill that religious institutions in the Punjab are being misused continuously and so they wanted to bring forward this Bill. What do they want to achieve by this Bill? Will the Government be able to prevent the misuse

of religious institutions? I do not think they will be able to do so. I say this because the way in which they have drafted the Bill and the unchaste haste with which they have brought this Bill is not correct. I would like to bring to the notice of this august House the definition of 'religious institutions' as drafted in the Bill, which is rather ambiguous. It reads as follows:

"religious institution means any place or premises used a place of public religious worships, by whatever name of designation known."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE, IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Will the hon. member yield for a minute? I have noticed this lacuna in the drafting. We are bringing an official amendment, and the official amendment has already been notified. Now the definition of religious institutions will be as under:

"religious institution means an institution for the promotion of any religion or persuasion and includes any place or premises used as a place of public religious worship, by whatever name or designation known."

In the opening statement of the hon. Minister, there is a reference to the official amendment which is being brought to this definition in Clause 2(f) of the Bill.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: I am happy that the Government has come forward with this amendment. I would further like to draw the attention of the Government to Clause 3 which says that no religious institution or manager thereof shall use or allow the use of any premises belonging to or under the control of the institution for purpose listed in sub-clauses (a) to (i). A number of such things are mentioned. Here I am not able to understand this phrase-- "No religious institution or manager thereof shall use or allow the use."

In Clause 4, the something is mentioned. "No religious institution or manager thereof shall allow the entry of any arms or ammunition, etc."

Clause 7 is a penal Clause. Here it is mentioned that "where any religious institution or manager thereof contravenes the provisions of section 3, section 4, section 5 or section 6" I am not able to understand this. How can the religious institution which is an inanimate body contravene the provisions objection 3, section 4, section 5 or section 6? Luckily they have not chosen to punish the religious institutions. They have only chosen to punish the manager. The Minister must come forward and explain as to why this religious institution has been added in clauses 3,4,5,6 and 7.

You take the case of Clause 4. Here it is mentioned that "No religious institution or manager thereof shall allow the entry of any arms or ammunition". Let us take the case of religious institution. If the manager is given an onerous responsibility of seeing that nobody is allowed to take arms into the temple, without giving any power or arms to him, how can he prevent the people from taking arms into the temple?

Here I would say, arms were clandestinely or sometimes openly smuggled into the Golden Temple. Those people who smuggled arms into the Golden Temple were armed with most sophisticated and modern weapons. There are number of disciples who throng the Golden Temple daily. How can this manager prevent people from carrying arms into the temple? How can he search each and every person who enters the institution? Has he got any force or power or men and material to search each and every person? Does it not affect the devotees? Will there not be a big revolt if you try to check your devotees? Government had to take recourse to two operations--Blue Star Operation and Operation Black Thunder. So, Army had to be sent there. Even the Army also was not able to take possession of the temple. It had to fight for a few days--on two occasions--and then only it was able to evict some of the terrorists. How can this poor manager, who did not have even a single

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weapon in his hands, just with a handful of employees in his hands, prevent anybody or any terrorists from bringing the arms into the temple? This point the Minister must explain. When the Government itself with so much of arms and ammunition could not prevent this, how can this manager do it?

Under Clause 8, it is mentioned that "any manager or other employee of a religious institution shall, upon conviction for an offence". I am not able to understand how this "employee" has come. Clause 3,4,5 and 6, are clauses which, define offence. Clause 7 is a penal Clause. The word "employee's" is not found under Clauses 3 to 7. I do not know how it has come suddenly in Clause 8. Under Clause 7 employee is not punishable. It is only the manager who is punishable. If that is so, how has this come--"Any manager or other employees of a religious institution shall, upon conviction for an offence under this Bill stand removed from his office"? When the employee is not punishable according to Clauses 3 to 7, how does the employee become convicted? I am unable to understand this; I think it is for the Minister to explain it.

In Clause 8(2) it is said:

"Where any manager or other employee of a religious institution is accused of an offence under this Act and a charge-sheet for the prosecution of such person is filed in any court and the court is of the opinion, after considering the charge-sheet and after hearing the prosecution and the accused, that a *prima facie* case exists, it shall pass an order or direction restraining the person from exercising the powers or discharging the duties of his office or post pending trial."

This I consider as a draconian piece of legislation. Even before the man is convicted, even before the man is found guilty, you are giving the power to the court to restrain him...(Interruptions) In the event of his being acquitted, what is going to happen?

As far as this point is concerned, there is one peculiarity. (Interruptions) When the magistrate feels that a *prima facie* case is made out, he can restrain the person from discharging his duties in the religious institution. I think Mr. Chidambaram knows this. The moment the charge-sheet is filed, the magistrate will consider the case and take it on file only if a *prima facie* case is made out. Then only will be take the case on file. So, the magistrate has to take cognizance of the case, and then take the case on file. So, the moment the case is taken on file, it means that a *prima facie* case is made out. So, it means that every manager of any religious institution, and every employee can be restrained from acting as a manager or as an employee. This is a very draconian provision. I think the Minister should consider this.

Clause 3 bans political activity in the temple, bans smuggling of arms into the temple. It bans so many things. I would like to know how can this manager prevent this political activity. What are his powers; how is he to act; will he be in a position to stop political activity being undertaken in the temple; what are his powers; how is he to do things? And the most important thing is that the men who indulge in political activity, the men who store arms in the premises are not punished. They are not mentioned in Clause 3. They go scot-free. But the man who is not able to prevent it, even if the man has his best of intentions and even if he wants to prevent it, but is not able to do it, that man is punished. But the man who stores arms is not punished; the man who indulges in political activities, who uses the temple for other than religious purposes, he is not punished under this Act. This lacuna, I think, the Minister will have to correct.

Clause 4 says:

"No religious institution or manager thereof shall allow the entry of any arms or ammunition or of any person carrying any arms or ammunition into the religious institution."

Here also, the man is expected to prevent these things from being done. If he is not

able to prevent them, he is liable to be convicted for a period of five years and with a fine extending to Rs. 10,000/-. It is all right; but what about those who do these things clandestinely or openly? Are you punishing them? Why is this Bill silent on this? So, I feel that this Bill will not be able to achieve the object for which it has been brought.

Then in Clause 9 it has been said:

"Every manager or other employee of a religious institution shall be bound to give information to the officer incharge of the police station within whose local jurisdiction the religious institution is situate..."

Under Clause 9, every employee of the temple, and the manager of the temple has to give information to the Police. If he fails to give information, he may be punished under section 176 of the Indian Penal Code. The punishment under section 176 of that Code is very meagre not as drastic as you find in Clause 7. Under such cases, the Act says that they are punishable. We have been bearing a case where a priest was murdered in broad day light. How can you expect that a man of a temple can inform the police? Are you able to safeguard his life? The employees are there. After all, they go there for doing duty; they work for their livelihood. Suppose this man goes to the police station and inform the police. Immediately, his life will be in danger. he may be murdered; he may be shot dead. When such is the case, do you really expect a man or an employee to take so much of risk and go to the police station and give them the information? If he is able to inform the police, is the government in a position to protect his life, property and his relations and his children? This government was not able even to protect the very relations of the Home Minister, Shri Buta Singh. When such is the case, do you think that anybody will be able to act under this Clause 9, go to the police and invite the wrath of the terrorists or criminals and then get shot dead or murdered?

Under these circumstances, I request the hon. Minister to withdraw this Bill and

come forward with a very comprehensive Bill, because it does not go to separate religion from politics. It can cover only few offences. Therefore, the Minister must come forward with a very comprehensive Bill and see that these religious institutions are not misused and the religion is completely separated from politics. My request is that this Bill has been brought forward in a very hasty manner; it creates so many doubts. Hence, it has to be withdrawn.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA
(Ahmedabad): The Bill is welcome. It is in conformity with the secular ideals enshrined in our Constitution. It is aimed at insulating religion and politics from each other.

Ours is a secular State. The Constitution guarantees freedom of religion. The contents and parameters of this Fundamental Right are set out in Articles 25 and 26. Article 25 reads as follows:

"Subject to public order, morality and health and to the other provisions of this Part, all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion."

Therefore, the very starting words of this very important fundamental right are: "Subject to public order, morality and health." Therefore, the freedom of conscience and the freedom of religion is to be exercised subject to public order and other aspects mentioned in the Article. It further reads as follows:

"Nothing in this article shall affect the operation of any existing law or prevent the State from making any law--

(a) regulating or restricting any economic, financial, political or other secular activity which may be associated with religious practice;

(b) providing for social welfare and reform and so on.

Article 26 guarantees freedom to manage religious affairs, which is more relevant to the present Bill. This article commences with the following words "subject to public order, morality and health, every religious denomination or any section thereof shall have the right--

(a) to establish and maintain institutions for religious and charitable purposes." Therefore, this conforms with the parameter of fundamental rights to freedom of religion guaranteed by our Constitution under Articles 25 and 26. Therefore, there is nothing objectionable in the Bill from the point of view of freedom of religion.

Religion, as preached by prophets and saints, teach humanistic values and can very well be a cementing factor for people to which ever religious fold they may be belonging. Late Indira Gandhi in course of her tributes to 'Guru Nanak said as follows: (Baroadcast over All India Radio, 23rd November, 1969)

"Guru Nanak arose to liberate the people from narrowness of their creed. He proclaimed that religion was not locked up in books, however sacred.

"He taught Hindus and Muslims to regard each other as brothers. He proclaimed the equality of men and women. He attacked the notion that God dwelt in the cooking pot, and instituted the practice of people of all castes and religions breaking bread together.

Guru Nanak's challenging statement:--

"There is no Hindu, no Muslim," startled the people of his times, into the realisation of a profound human truth. How true this statement is even today, centuries later! If only we can today, think of ourselves not merely as Hindus, as Muslims or as Sikhs, but as human beings, who

have to live and grow with other human beings, how much better we would be! If Hindu, Muslim and Sikh and Christian, Jain and Parsi, remember Guru Nanak's teaching of equality and brotherhood, all will be well without land."

Late Indira Gandhi's words are today as relevant as they were when they were uttered. Religion as professed by Jesus, Lord Christ, Geeta, the Buddha, Prophet Mohammad have always enlightened and illuminated the path of all public workers. Mahatma Gandhi understood religion in the sense of righteous conduct, of caring for and serving one's fellowmen, especially those who can do nothing for us in return. Religion understood in such universal sense would really illuminate the path of all social workers. Better knowledge of religion properly understood and pursuit of religiousness can only awaken us to the humanness that is common to all of us--it can only teach us that they are not different from us.

It is a different matter--and this is precisely what this Bill propose to be taken care of--however, when it comes to institutionalised religion especially when it is used or sought to be used as an instrument of domination--a device in the pursuit of power--nothing but power.

The history of the world shows that in the past centuries, religion was exploited by feudal lords and expansionists and even, imperial powers in order to secure domination over other peoples. Wars were fought decimating thereby large segments of mankind. In the feudal history of India also, we have seen religion exploited to subserve expansionism of feudal principalities. Our Freedom Movement also came to be corroded by the two nation theory ultimately leading to partition of India that was undivided bringing peace and prosperity neither to the people of India nor to the people of Pakistan. The two nation theory is discredited but-I want to alert the Parliament on this point--it has not been wiped out. Different people in the name of different religions, different parties and individu-

als who mix religion with politics and exploit Hindu, Muslim, Sikh and other narrow loyalties for political, personal and partisan ends, have been encouraging the two nation theory in one or the other manifestation. The safety of our nation demands that we should unitedly fight such tendencies.

Even those who clamour--here I precisely mean the majority communalists--for a Hindu theocratic State are subserving to this two-nation theory, and therefore it is equally, perhaps more, pernicious because it is likely to have greater impact in view of the strength of numbers.

The mixture of religion and politics generates or encourages divisiveness in our composite society. It degenerates both--the religion and politics. It is not religion but its intrusion into secular fields that is pernicious and has to be opposed tooth and nail.

Like narcotic peddlers, the communalist politicians use every underhand trick to gain votes and it is the divisive attitude which he finds to be paying the largest dividends. Excite the voters' religious sentiments, play on his religious feelings, succumb to and support fundamentalism in Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims as the case maybe, and then get votes. Transient political advantage he can get, but at the cost of unity and integrity of the nation.

It is the fundamentalism which induces political demands on the strength of backing of fellow citizens pursuing the same religion. However, fundamentalism of one variety does not remain as isolated phenomenon. In my respectful submission fundamentalism of one variety feeds the other and becomes a rationale for another. Each fundamentalism pretends and often believes it to be a mere response to the other.

Sir, historical studies of different religious communities clearly bear out that tolerance and intolerance are social and not religious. A community becomes tolerant and intolerant depending upon its social condition. We have seen in Ahmed-

abad and elsewhere how certain people from upper castes pursuing a particular religion claiming to be a very tolerant religion become intolerant when it comes communal issues. Intolerance is generated when religion is sought to be exploited for non-religious purposes. Sir, intolerance in religious communities is brought out by those who want to mix politics or use religion for political or other purposes.

Communalism, needless to say, is a political phenomenon. Its genesis is in politics. It draws its substance from religion.

Sir, how does it develop? A truly democratic set up guarantee religio-cultural autonomy to all such groups in the country. It is precisely this that is guaranteed by Articles 25, 26, 29, 30 and so on in our Constitution. However, when religio-cultural consciousness begins to be transformed into political assertion, more so if the political elite decides to exploit it for extra-religious ends, then it invariably takes shape of communalism.

Initially the communal ideology professes that the people who follow the same religion have not only common religious beliefs or interests, but also have common political, economic, social and cultural interests unconnected with religious teachings. From this arises the notion of religion based community. That is the first step.

Next arises the belief that the secular intercast, i.e. economic, social, political and cultural interests of the followers of one religion are different from the secular interests of the followers of another religion.

The final stage takes place when it is said that not only that the secular interests of different communities are different from each other but also that they are hostile to each other. This belief of hostility breeds communal hatred and communal violence. Sir, imperceptibly but surely use of religion for non religious purposes leads to communal violence in the ultimate analysis. It thus operates to fragment composite society. How can secular interests of different people be different merely because they follow different religions. A Hindu textile

[Shri Haroo Bhai Mehta]

worker or a Muslim textile worker or a Sikh textile worker is going to be equally affected by closure of mill. Religion does not make any difference to them in this connection. So, we should try to unite and mobilise the people on the basis of the general secular interests and religion should never be allowed to be exploited for non religious and general secular interests.

Sir, this Bill is an important major step taking lesson from the misuse of certain religious institutions in a State of India. It is not an isolated phenomena. It is rightly said that for the last forty years religious institutions have been put to misuse by different religious people for different political ends.

Only yesterday I came across a statement of Sri E.M.S. Nambudripad that Hindu temples are being misused for political purposes in Kerala. Many religious institutions are being exploited for political purposes in order to get power. Sir, the processions organised under the aegis of religious institutions also have been exploited to foist communal violence in Ahmedabad and elsewhere. Sir, communal violence in Ahmedabad, Bhiwandi, Kanchi or Meerut could not have taken place if we had utilised the last forty years to propagate secularism and to prevent any misuse of religious institutions for non religious purposes.

It is really heartening that the Government has brought this Bill. It could have been made more complete. I am sure with the experience gained in enforcing this law, the Government would be able to bring some more necessary amendments to this Bill.

I have proposed one amendment to the definition of "religious institution" which has not been taken care of by the amendment proposed by the Government.

I have proposed that the word 'public' should be omitted because in the Courts, the technical difference might be taken ad-

vantage of by some people and some courts might uphold those contentions that a given religious institution is not a public place and it is a private place.

We do not know what complications will be created by the use of the word 'public'. Therefore, in my respectful submission, the word 'public' should be omitted.

Section 3 really consists of two parts. One, political activity is barred so far as religious institutions are concerned. Political activity is otherwise innocuous and permissible form of social activity. However, for that purpose any religious institution, should not be misused or exploited. Other activities enumerated in that clause are inimical to the social interest. Therefore, it is proposed that no religious institution should be used for such purposes.

One of the points that was sought to be made out by an hon. Member who spoke before me, that section 8 provides for suspension, etc. of an employee but without anywhere providing for the conviction of the employee. My learned friend should have seen clause 7. It provides like this:

"Where any religious institution or manager thereof contravenes the provisions of section 3 section 4, section 5 or section 6 the manager and every person connected with such contravention shall be punishable with imprisonment.."

Thus employees are liable to be convicted as persons connected with such contravention. Therefore, on that point, there is no difficulty.

I welcome this Bill specially because it is in the special interest of the minorities. If all people belonging to various denominations begin to misuse their religious institutions for political purposes or for purposes not connected with religion, there would be a catastrophe in this country and the interest of the minorities would be the first casualty in such an eventuality. Therefore,

all those who have special concern for the interests of the minorities, I expect them to welcome this. It was the sense of majority superiority generated in Germany, that gave rise to fascism. If that tendency had been curbed in Germany earlier, the interest of minorities in Germany could have been saved. Therefore, it is all the more in the interest of the minorities. I am sure, all sections of the House will welcome this. There is always scope for improvement in the legislation. Therefore, in the course of its working, as and when found necessary we can make it more and more effective.

With these observations, I support the Bill.

DR. G.S. DHILLON (Ferozepur): I rise to support this Bill. It fulfills a long felt need. But I must say, it is much belated.

There has been a debate going on for quite some time, for many years that religion should be separated from politics. We have been thinking about it as to by what methodology, by what type of processes this separation can be brought about, particularly in what section of the people who have always been advocating that religion and politics are inseparable. Religion when founded many centuries back, at that time, politics may not have been at all there in the modern sense. Some religious leaders might have condemned certain atrocities of the then autocratic rulers. But that was not out of the political background as we see in the modern times, but from compassion and sympathy for human beings, poor and down-trodden people.

But now when I take the picture in general, I think we in Punjab reached a stage when there was no alternative available for us. The main background for this enactment may be the situation in Punjab, but it is as much welcome anywhere in other parts of the country, as my previous speakers have mentioned. But Punjab needed it most because the situation there demanded its immediate application.

I have passed through many years of political life and we were not facing parties based on economic or social programmes.

In Punjab particularly, we were facing a party which asserted that they represent both politics and religion of the Sikhs and, therefore, others have no right to stand. And we had been facing them. I could very well imagine if Karl Marx or Engel or Lenin were there, with what type of odd situations they would have been faced with to formulate their thesis. If they had said: well, they accept religion also as part of the social life to mix up with their principle or the system they advocated, there would have been no Marxism or there would have been no Communism by such processes. I remember, a very eminent leader of the Communist Party contested an election against an Akali candidate in 1945, a man whom we all respected--Sohan Singh Josh. He was earlier in the Congress; he was a General Secretary. But due to the split in the Party, those people with socialist ideas separated. So long as he was in the Congress nobody objected. When the Akalis were there at the time of 'Quit India' movement and all the parties were working together nobody objected. But when he contested the election, those people then came out with fantastic types of arguments against him that communism does not have any faith in any religion, that Lenin and his wife used to ask their children who gives them the sweets, and the Children would say, God, and they would say: "Who is God? It is I." All sorts of arguments were used at that time and, therefore, he was an atheist. A man, who till a couple of years back was a full Sikh and a good Sikh, suddenly became an atheist at the time of election, and he was defeated. I am still up to this time very sorry for his defeat. Similarly, I really wonder and fail to understand that how could those prophets and apostles who were born centuries back, could preach that religion and politics are all mixed and they are inseparable. In my own life, I was just a young boy when I saw the Akali movement. The great movement was against the Mahants who controlled the Gurdwaras at that time. The Sikh Gurdwaras Act came into being much later.

At that time, no voice was raised that this was a question of our religion or

[Dr. G.S. Dhillon]

preaching or teaching. They wanted to wrest the control out of those individuals, and every time the individuals were managing this religious institution, they got the control of religious institutions. The moment the Act was enacted, then elections came in, party system came in and then all types of issues arose I very well remember that at the time we were fighting for our freedom movement. There was nothing of the type said against the British who were ruling at that time. Right upto 1947, nationalists were elected to the Gurdwaras and at that time, the aim of the religion was expressed in a different way. After 1947, when the new Constitution came and the elections came on a national basis, a different interpretation was given, relationship between the religious institutions, their propagation for and against the political parties. So, Sir, these are some of the backgrounds against which we have to think. I fail to understand how they could be inseparable. This is new Bill which we are considering and which is going to be passed today is not a Bill completely intended to bring about separation between religion and politics, as to how it should be brought about, etc. That needed much thought and more comprehensive thinking. At least, after the Ordinance, about this Bill the Opposition might have been consulted. I think the Akali Dal might have also been consulted. But we who are in the Congress were not. When this proclamation was promulgated perhaps they took us for granted, though we come from Punjab.

I did not know about it.

AN HON. MEMBER: Nobody told us about it.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: I do not know when this Bill was to be brought forward before this House. If I had been consulted, I would have suggested many more points. Anyway, we are their party men and we cannot say anything against. But I have a right to send some suggestions later on because I come from that State.

There are believers in our country who

have been for the last 50 years entertaining the idea that time may come when we may get rid of that old concept of inseparableness of religion and politics. It has come after all though not in a very comprehensive manner, but we are still very happy that something has come rather than nothing. It would have been much better if that had come much earlier and we could have been saved from the blood-shed that has been happening Punjab in the last five or six years. Now, this would have avoided the murder of the D.I.G. of Police if at that particular point this idea of some kind behind the religious practice had been there, the official and the administration would have dealt with the situation in a different way. For three or four days they had been thinking about this. He was killed in the precincts of the temple just at the main gate of the temple. Culprits could not be apprehended because the administration at that time was thinking, for two or three days, whether the authorities could enter the temple where the accused in the very sight of those people just slipped into the 'parikrama' whether it would be advisable to enter or not and whether it would amount to interference with the religion. The crime was committed just in front of them and the culprits slipped into the adjoining 'parikrama' and those people were there for three or four days till everything was out of control.

I happened to visit that temple and many other temples immediately after the Operation Blue Star and now immediately after the Operation Black Thunder. I cannot say because when you compare it with other parts of the country as proceeding speaker talked about the observation made by Mr. Namboodripad about the misuse of temples in Kerala, all these years, in all the meetings Khalistan was preached. So many events took place at Manjit Sahib. One thing which they repeated was, 'Government is interfering in our religious affairs' without telling how. All these years I have been listening, many charges were brought against us just to defeat us by saying, 'They are interfering in our religion'. And the masses, those masses who never knew what the actual happenings were

going on in the country beloved it and defeated most of its without knowing as to what are the issues or programmes of the other parties. Similarly here, for years and years from the platform of Manjit Sahib they went on preaching sometimes against the Congress and sometimes propagating Punjabi Suba and later on Khalistan. Jathedar Mohan Singh Nagoke who was a nationalist, was at that time the Jathedar of the Akal Takht in 1948. He was once passing just in front of the Manjit Sahib and when he was entering into the temple, he was attacked by these fanatics and he had to use his pistol to save himself. They say, 'Now you are putting a ban on the arms inside the temple and outside the temple.' At that time the poor Head of the whole Sikh community, Jathedar Mohan Singh, had to save himself from the attacks of the fanatics with an arm.

I was Editor of a paper at that time. I saw the whole show from inside from the adjoining building. Now from that very religious place, the public man or the administrator if he takes any action against crime inside the temple or in the periphery, the *panikramas* he has to take into consideration whether it amounts to interfering in the religion or not. If he takes any action he is dubbed as *tankhaiya* (excommunicated). Barnala was declared *tankhaiya* because there was trouble going on inside the temple. The administration had advised him that if he did not take any action there might be many killings inside. Due to this Sardar Barnala was declared *tankhaiya*. The same people who condemned Barnala had to later on request the Administration for their own protection by the police. What for he was made *tankhaiya*? And what is the fault of Buta Singh? He is still a *tankhaiya*. I know how Giani Zail Singh had managed to be absorbed of that. Now he is a retired President of India, I need not go into it. It is a very sad story to tell.

I saw the temple after the Black Thunder and I find that those old rooms of the *Pankrams* has been re-converted and renovated, Windows and doors were fixed. Furniture fixed in them. Threafter I saw a completely different picture--all rooms had

been occupied for various purposes by the terrorists, some of them were air-conditioned and toilets fixed

When you turn left, there comes a room for inquiry, a room for interrogation, then a room for torture, a room for extortion of money and similarly other things. As you go further, there are so many small openings made into the walls from outside to inside for the use of arms. I assure you, Sir, it is very difficult to pass from that little tract or path.

From that place, such a bad smell was coming and a bad, foul stinking atmosphere was there. It happened to pass through near the big earth heap--the debris of the demolished Akal Takht--and that was being used for burying the dead bodies. Some bodies were still lying outside. Then come other rooms occupied by top terrorist leaders like Penta, Jagir Singh, Avtar Singh, Nirvair Singh, etc. There was a big board fixed outside a room reading 'Raja of Mund'. I never saw from my childhood such an ugly scene, as I saw there. Have these religious places to be respected. Are these religious places just to be preserved, just on the basis that they are sacred and nobody allowed to enter into them. Is there no alternative? I had been visiting the next important sacred temple of the Sikhs at Taran Taran. I fixed Paath in memory of my mother on the 6th of August every year. I think for 45 years continuously, I had been fixing Paath there. But this year, I stopped. I stopped it because I lost my faith. The house of a very dear friend and my great worker who was a very able teacher was there. The terrorists fixed the stairs from the Pankrama to enter his house which was situated on the top of it and they killed him and his son. Are the religious places meant for such crimes and practices? Since then, my faith has been shaken. I can pray better at my home. But how can I gather that atmosphere of peace, tranquillity and social orderliness to my mind where such heinous crimes are going on now? Why should I be a hypocrite, if I do not condemn such things? So, this is the background under which this important Bill is coming. I think, we need not bother about

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what others say because the religious interpretation has been coming from time to time that politics and religion are inseparable. What did they say? Maharaja Ranjit Singh's State was known as Sikh Raj. But he had Muslim Minister; he had Hindu Minister and he had some Christian advisers and generals. They say, we want Khalsa Raj of that type, but only for Panth.

When I was High Commissioner in Canada, the Pakistan Ambassador came to my house, who hailed from my neighbouring district. Mine is Amritsar and he was from Lahore. He asked me: "Sardar Sahib, just tell me what is this Khalistan? I gave him a copy of India Canada Times and asked him to read the article written by Dr. Chauhan,* what is called, *Khalistan*. They wanted Lahore to be the capital of Khalistan and a Vatican type of institution at the birth place of Guru Nanak at Nankana Sahib in Shekhupura district. They had demanded a corridor right up to the sea shore. This is what they are demanding. He said:

[Translation]

It is quite absurd. How it is possible?

Then I said, you should think over it. You are the people who are financing them, you are the people who are helping them. And this is what is going on.

I think, this Bill protects our religious places. It is the conservator and the preserver of the religious ceremonies and sanctities of the religious institutions. It is not taking away anything. It is protecting the sanctity of religious institutions and I support this Bill.

If you look to the Mediaeval Centuries and study the great struggle between the Church and the State in the European countries, you will find, it ultimately ended in the separation of Church and State. Church has its own place and the State has its own place. Now we are passing through that stage in our country. But why do we have the same torture of

passing through the phase of history when we have already the lesson of the middle centuries before us. That is the question for those people who are advocating for this theory of inseparableness of politics and religion. About the implementation, the Home Minister is sitting here. He has been to Punjab and visited many areas on the border of my earlier constituency and the present constituency. Perhaps he may not have thought of other Sikh customs which are a sort of mixture of this religion and politics. Now you are making harbouring punishable. When you harbour a person you have to feed him and give him a cup of milk or tea and in Punjab the terrorists who demand harbouring from the people now in villages sometimes want a glass of liquor also. They simply, say: we have come to you and we want food to be served.

Now in the Sikh religion *langar* is a part and parcel of the gurudwara and it is a tenet that anybody at any hour who comes, it is the duty of the priest or the management or Sangat to feed them. Whether they are friends or foes they must be treated as respected pilgrims. Here when such people come what the poor priest can say to them. If he does not feed then he is ignoring the tenet. Now it is not a question of denying or acceptance. If he does not serve they kill him. This is something about which we should be very cautious in implementing.

Similarly while reciting the *gurbani* from the holy Granth Sahib these granthis are very clever in their interpretation. If something comes upon the fourth or the fifth or the sixth guru, then while giving the introduction of the guru they tell the whole thing. It is the same guru who was killed or imprisoned by the then Mughal kings in Gwalior or this is the same father of ninth guru who was murdered like this. Khalsaji have you forgotten these traditions? While translating the *gurbani* he introduces so many things. What to do in such a situation? We have to be very careful in implementation in such situations but we must know and keep a watch on the man who has mis-used and misinterpreted to incite communal hatred. That is another misuse

not only of religious places but of teaching also.

There are so many things to tell but I only participated in this that for centuries and years together they have been propagating and it is welcome sign that we are standing against it and have come out with some sort of a legislation to prevent it. I sincerely hope that it will have a wholesome effect.

14.00 hrs.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the spirit of this Bill. Though this Bill has come as an Ordinance yet many of the political parties could have been consulted on this while framing the Bill. I believe that has left certain loopholes in the Bill itself. To my mind this Bill is not a complete Bill to face the situation that has been created by the mixing of religion with politics. In this Bill itself there are certain laudable provisions. It tries to prevent misuse of religious places. It tries to prevent that situation where religious places are used to promote disunity among the people and so many other things. All these are to be supported by everybody. It is not the duty of religion to come out and teach things that create discord among the people and which encourages those enemies who try to dismember our country with the aid and abetment of forces alien to us.

14.01 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the chair*]

Even in this Bill it has been said that it will try to prevent the misuse of religious institutions. Now today it is not only that particular building where these kinds of activities are going on or some where these kinds of announcements are made which harm the unity of the country but also there are certain persons who have become an institution themselves. What to do with them? They may not be sitting in the temple or religious institution but they are an institution themselves. The whole religion itself has become an institution in the society. So this Bill is a small part of a

bigger problem that we have to tackle, that is, the separation of politics from religion. I do not think that without the intervention or interference of politics in religion the good people in religious places would even bother about earthly things. So the root is here with politicians who are the culprits for distracting these people—the managers or the priests. They influence them to misuse religion for purposes other than religion. In that respect also this Bill is very deficient. There are many political parties who are trying to misuse religion. What we have to do about them. They are most dangerous to my mind. If they are not there then these places cannot be vitiated also. I think if we are sincere then we should start a dialogue and try to ensure that we can bring a comprehensive Bill. There should be dialogue with everyone. It is not that I suggest Government should interfere in the religious matters of different communities. No. Separation does not mean that. I support every step of the Government which as Mr. Dhillon has said tries to protect religion from being misused. In that I do not find any sincere attempt on the part of the Government to do what we should do in our country now.

We have been talking about this since long. But can you tell me how this situation has come to such a pass? The question of integration of the country and unity of our people has been ignored. Can the Government explain why the Ministers of the Government and the Prime Minister, in their official capacity, visit the temples and durgahs? (*Interruptions*) No person should be allowed to visit any religious place in his official capacity. It has to be banned. He visits them and that is shown on the TV. What do you mean? If he goes there and offers prayers, do you know how that can be misused by other people? This is not called separation of politics from religion. It is punishable during elections. If you try to use the religious sentiments for election purposes, that is prohibited by the election law. But this is being done in every election. I can tell you my experience. When I visited Assam during the last election, I was asked by some Muslims: "You are destroying mosques in West Bengal. You, commu-

[Shri Saifuddin Chowdhary]

nists, are doing it." Who had raised that? Your people had raised it.

Obviously, during an election, the leaders of the political parties will go to the temples or other religious places. Then, they will try to seek an oath from the people gathered there—may be for prayer—that you touch your holy book and say that you will vote for this party or that party. Should not that be banned? I think, there is a law that you should not do it. But what action has so far been taken during these forty years? (*Interruptions*)

That is another point. You file the election case and it is settled when your term is over. What kind of law and what kind of implementation is there? (*Interruptions*)

I can cite an instance. During 1972, before the State Assembly elections, Mrs. Gandhi went to some temple and offered prayers for ten hours. Everybody came to know of that. I found this kind of situation in Tamil Nadu some days ago when Prime Minister went and visited a temple and a *durgah*. We have to see that. Newspapers published it. It came on the television. I have a request to make to the newspapers also not to write about all this. But why is it given in the official media? Just before an election, you feel the necessity to go there! We should have a law that if anybody is obviously caught indulging in this activity—trying to misuse religion for political purposes—then there will be a deduction of 10 per cent of votes in all the constituencies of that party. Are they ready to do that? If we fail to do this, then we will not be able to prevent the misuse of religious places for political purposes.

Dr. Dhillon has raised a pertinent point: What to do in Sikh religion where anybody comes, gets *langar* and gets a place to sleep? Well, I can cite instances. In Bengal also, during a prayer time, such type of political manipulations used to go on. Then, the people of that village used to tell the priest or the head of that religious place that during or after the prayer, if you do not

stop indulging in political manoeuvres, we won't come there and attend the prayer.

This consciousness has to be raised and it is the duty of the political parties to raise it. If we do not do that, then just by making a law, we won't be able to succeed. I believe, that in our country there are enough grounds for growth of secularism on a very strong footing. Now somebody has referred to Allahabad elections. See the maturity of the people! The television Rama was kept there in order to canvass the people. I for myself was very afraid that it will have a very bad impact on the voters. They will be swept by this. But there were not. This is the maturity of our people. If we, in a determined way, are able to reach the people and tell them that this is what secularism is, this is what religion is, you keep it to yourself in your places, pray to God and don't come out to viciate unity and integrity of the country, then, I believe, that people will react to that positively. This has been proved time and again. Mr. Dhillon has referred to the kind of campaign which used to be there against the communists when they used to stand for the elections. In West Bengal, even the last Panchayat elections, the last Assembly elections in different constituencies, your people went there and told them that CPI(M) has opposed the Muslim Women Bill and why should you vote for them? Some people had thrown a challenge to us that:-- 'you oppose and you will be defeated'. Well, we told them 'You go to them'. We never go to them as muslims. We go to them as Indian citizens and we stand here and say that what we did was right and we are in a position to get the support of the people on the basis of our principled stand. That is the position, which we have to take. If we fail from doing this, then this kind of laws cannot be effective. Nothing can be done with this law. So, Sir, we have to be more sincere. Despite the grave situation that is prevailing, despite the threat that is there on secularism in our country, I believe, that if we politicians are sincere, then we will be able to prevent the misuse of religious places. We have to use a ban on this practice. Now, the Government has not started discussing the Babri Masjid, Ram Janam Bhoomi controversy with political parties

and other secular people. In one meeting, the Home Minister suggested that he is trying to talk to the Hindu leaders and the Muslim leaders. Can you tell me as to who are the Hindu and Muslim leaders? You say that this is our Muslim MP and that this is our Scheduled Caste leader inducted as the Minister. These kinds of hypocrisies are really doing lot of harm than those kinds of people who are there in the prayer houses. If we are sincere, then people, by realisation will be able to throw out those who are among the managers the ones misusing religion for purposes other than religion. So, this is important. I believe that there should be a comprehensive Bill. There should be a dialogue with all the political parties and a vigorous campaign, at least among the people so that we are in a position to give religion its proper place and secularism its proper direction.

With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to present my views.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): Sir, I rise to support this Bill. There was a demand from the House more than once that Government should take steps to see that religion is separated from politics. The Prime Minister and the Home Minister have assured that they will take steps and bring a Bill. So, I congratulate both the Prime Minister and the Home Minister. A point has been raised on the other side as to why there should be an Ordinance.

The Ordinance was needed because of the urgency when there was a flagrant misuse of religious places specially in Punjab. Pakistan's complicity in terrorist movement in Punjab is proved beyond any reasonable doubt. Confession statements of the terrorists and documents seized reveal that Pakistan is not only training the terrorists and supplying arms and ammunition to them, but it is also bent upon destabilising our country and create disturbances in our country. In fact, Pakistan helped the Panthic Committee to declare Khalistan from the Golden Temple on April 29, 1986. They have also threatened the terrorists that unless they do so, they will not be financed and supplied with arms and ammunition.

Our Prime Minister during his visit to other countries has spoken about the Pakistan's treschery and has told the world that Pakistan is now at the top for assisting and arming the terrorists to destabilise other countries. Missiles, AK-47 Chinese rifles, magazines, grenades and plastic explosives have been recovered from the hideouts and from the Golden Temple. Thrice Pakistan has invaded our country earlier and recently also Pakistan attacked our country in Siachin area. However, it was repulsed. In fact, Pakistan has declared a cold war against India. They are training the terrorists inside Pakistan. We know the places, where the training is being given. The terrorists are going there for training. What action are we going there for training. What action are we going to take? Is this not a declaration of cold war by Pakistan? In fact, the invasions have not stopped and the terrorists are being sent inside the country with an intention to destabilize our country and put an end to the unity of our country. Government has to be very careful about it.

The intention of the terrorist activities inside the country is not so simple. It is not only religious, but it is to form a separate State. And in this activity, they are being financed and assisted by foreign countries.

Factors like religion and caste are being used to divide the people. We are passing through a phase when the unity and integrity of the nation is threatened by separatist movement, insurgency and secessionist designs. There is an increased religious chauvinism and tension.

It is at this juncture that this Bill has been brought to keep religion out of politics. Some hon. Members from the other side asked about the necessity of issuing this Ordinance and what have been the achievements after the issue of this Ordinance.

After the ordinance, there was the 'Operation Black Thunder'. All the ammunition were recovered and the terrorists also surrendered.

[Shri Somnath Rai]

I would like to invite the attention of the Hon. Minister, through you, Sir, to a news published in the Hindustan Times on August 7, 1988 with a picture which says:

"A skull found in the mound of debris in the Golden Temple Complex where 41 bodies have been recovered since the Operation Black Thunder."

So, the magnitude of the situation can be well imagined from these facts.

There is a very big gap between what we say in this House and what we do outside the House. There must be a political will. It is not that we speak in the House that religion should be separated from the politics but outside we work otherwise. I thank the Hon. Minister that he has taken steps to solve the Babri Masjid and Ram Janam Bhumi issues. If they are not solved by negotiation or by discussion then it can be done through the adjudication by court. There can be no third remedy for it.

Sir, the Buddhism was born in India and from here it has spread to different parts of the world. Buddhism speaks of non-violence and brotherhood and that too has spread throughout the world. Similarly, religion in our country must be for unity, integrity and peace.

Coming to the Bill, Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the Minister, through you Sir, to Clause 3(b) which says:

"No religious institution or manager thereof shall use or allow the use of any premises belonging to, or under the control of the institution--

(b) for the harbouring of any person accused or convicted of an offence under any law for the time being in force."

But it is silent about the person who intend to go there for committing offence. This lacuna is to be plugged. Unless in the clause,

'intending to commit offence is added it may not be of full utility. Similarly there are clauses 3, 4 and 5. Clause 7 deals with the penalties.

Yesterday, in this House, we passed Arms Act, and the possession of the arms inside the religious places. In the Arms Act there is some mandatory provision of some minimum imprisonment which is lacking in this Bill. What does this Bill says about the penalty? It says:

"Where any religious institution.....shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees."

So, this ought to be amended. The Penalty Section should be provided with more teeth to bite; otherwise, it will have no severe effect. Therefore, some minimum punishment should be made mandatory. It has been stated by an hon. member that there is no provision to punish an employee or any other person as envisaged in Clause 7. But there is a provision. Let me quote Clause 7:

"Where any religious institution or manager thereof contravenes the provisions of Section 3, Section 4, Section 5 or Section 6, the manager and every person connected with such contravention shall be punishable..."

You may note that the phrase 'every person connected with such contravention' includes an employee of that religious institution. Therefore, it is not necessary that there should be a separate definition for the employee of an institution. This aspect is very well taken care of in Clause 7.

It has also been argued by some that a person is liable for punishment just on the basis of a mere filing the charge-sheet. You are an advocate Sir and you know the legal position. After the charge-sheet is filed, the presiding officer takes a decision only after

hearing the prosecution and the accused. It has also been stated in Clause 8 that after hearing the prosecution and the accused, if the court is of the opinion that a MW *prima facie* case exists, then only it will pass an order of direction. So, it is not correct to say that by a mere filing of a charge-sheet, the manager of an institution will be disqualified to hold the office once again. Opportunity has been given that there will be a hearing before the presiding officer—judge or magistrate—and if he finds that there is a *prima facie* case, then and then alone he will be disqualified. This is what Clause 8 says.

Sir, Clause 9 reads as follows:—

“Every manager or other employee of a religious institution shall be bound to give information to the officer in charge of the police station within whose jurisdiction the religious institution is situate of any contravention or any impending contravention of the provisions of this Act and any failure to do so shall be punishable under section 176 of the Indian Penal Code.”

Sir, you know very well that punishment under this section of the IPC is very meagre. I agree with some hon. Members who observed that there should be a separate clause in this Bill itself to punish those persons who commit such offences. Why should you go to the Indian Penal Code? The Bill must be complete by itself. Of course, I will not call this a lacuna. It is rather a deficiency which should be rectified. Let the hon. Minister think about it and let him make it more effective so that the persons who commit such offences are punished squarely. If we do this, we will be taking a right step to separate religion from politics. Pardon me for repeating it. But what is needed is our cooperation, our will to work and in this the State Governments also will have to play a big role. The Bill will be passed and it becomes an Act after some time. But who will implement it? The State Governments will have to implement it. It is in the States that prosecution will be launched. Unless the State Governments participate in a big way in its proper

implementation, nothing much can be achieved. Unless there is a people's movement and a political will, these Bills will not be able to help us in reaching the goal. These are very important steps to achieve our objective. At the same time, we should see that the people of our country are educated. My suggestion is to amend the People's Representation Act. People who resort to this sort of practices should be disqualified for contesting in any election right from the Panchayat upto Parliament. I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this Bill.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN, (Kishanganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your permission I rise to support the Statutory Resolution and to oppose the Bill. I oppose the Bill because I find it excessive, wide and ambiguous and therefore liable to be misused. I also find it restrictive of fundamental rights, particularly of Article 25 of the Constitution. The Bill has been presented to us in the background of the sordid happenings in Punjab. The focus has been on Punjab, but the Bill applies to the whole country. The Bill therefore strikes me like a sleight-of-hand and an exercise in illusion making almost a magical performance where attention is directed to one part of the scene while a trick is performed.

The Bill is a gross misuse of Ordinance making power. That has been pointed out by several preceeding speakers. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister that if there was such urgency behind the promulgation of the Ordinance, how many cases have been booked under the Ordinance, since it was promulgated until today?

Coming to larger issues, in human history, there has been a constant interaction between religion and power, between religion and politics. Every State, every society reaches a state of dynamic equilibrium but the line of demarcation is neither universal nor permanent. Every society, according to the principles that it upholds, finds its own balance. I would like to point out that our State is a secular State, but it recognises the existence of

[Shri Syed Shahabuddin]

religion as an institution. It also recognises the multiplicity of religions in our society. It also protects the right to religious freedom and therefore the right of anyone to be true to his faith.

Communalism has been denounced and should be denounced. But orthodoxy is not at the root of communalism, fanaticism is. What is fanaticism? Fanaticism demands that in every situation, while considering any problem or any issue, one takes into consideration the religious identity of the parties concerned and comes to one's judgement, not on the basis of the merits of the case or the facts of the situation but on the simple principle of my community, right or wrong. It is this sort of approach which makes communalism a pernicious influence in our social life and in our political life. Exactly in the same way as nationalism is sometimes reduced in the international sphere to the dictum my country right or wrong similarly, this dictum my community right or wrong can never be conducive to the healthy solution of problems that may arise in any society and much more frequently in a society of a multiple character.

Religion and politics can be separated but we must bear in mind not only that the line of separation is not permanent or universal or static but also the essential distinction between strictly religious act and strictly political action. There will remain a hazy ground where we have to exercise our discretion with great caution. Religion essentially I agree, is a matter of personal conviction. But when one comes into politics, when a man of religion comes into politics and he understands the true spirit of religion, he is actuated by higher spiritual and moral values. And in that sense, this social activity called politics is elevated to a higher plane. It is possible, therefore, to separate the internal application of religion, the internal acceptance of religion, and the external implication of a religious view or a religious approach towards secular problems that confront the society. The internal and the external you cannot

separate in a human being, and the human being can be actuated by higher considerations in his own life and when he is dealing with the problems of the society. The greatest example of our time is Mahatma Gandhi, whose conduct was righteous, and was actuated by higher, spiritual considerations. But we find a new phenomenon in our society. There is a trend in our politics of a deliberate exploitation of religion for purposes of power, for purposes of politics. It tends to excite religious passions, and to use them to create hatred, disaffection, distrust between sections of people, to create a situation of confrontation between communities, to use it to create roadblocks. I find that no one in this regard is really worth of praise. *Is hammam mein sab nange*. The head of the Government appears on the television with a religious mark on his forehead, and exhibits *janeu* which is normally worn inside. What is his message? What is the signal he is giving out? He goes on publicized pilgrimages to religious places. There is ostentatious participation in public worship. There are religious ceremonies performed practically at every official function, sometimes in the name of culture. There are adoptions of symbols of a particular denomination in so many aspects of our national life, which should bear no religious mark at all.

Religious shrines are being constructed, Mr. Chairman, not only in our *thanas* or block offices; but the craze has now reached the Raj Bhavans. I am sorry to say that there was an instance, when I had to write to the President of India suggesting that on a religious occasion there should be no performance of religious worship in the Rashtrapati Bhavan. There was this famous use of Govil in the Allahabad elections, to which a reference has already been made. There have been publicized holy dips in Hardwar and in Kumbh Mela in Allahabad which, I know, apart from everything else causes loss of a lot of lives.

I also recall a very well-intentioned visit of a former Home Minister to the Idgah of Delhi to offer his sincere felicitations to the Muslim community on the occasion of the Id-ul-Fitr. What was the signal? That is what I want to know. What is the purpose

of the participation of the Ministers in the Urs and the *poojas*? What is the purpose of the *Itaār* party thrown by the Prime Minister?

I, therefore, place before you--and I agree with my friend Saifuddin Chowdhary to that extent--that there is an element of hypocrisy in our political life; and I must add that when Mr. Saifuddin Chowdhary himself is selected by his party to speak on the Muslim Divorce Bill, there is a meaning thereto. And when the Communist Parties also select Muslim candidates from predominantly Muslim constituencies, there is a meaning therein. I cannot forget that recently, the Prime Minister went to the deep South to an ancient temple--the first time a Prime Minister visited it--and performed a *pooja* in the classical manner inside. And when he came out, he addressed a public meeting and said: 'In my view, the State and religion should be separated.'

Lovely indeed! Let us first stop the misuse of religion for political purposes before we come to the misuse of religious places.

In our country, there is no law of political party. The political parties are defined in an indirect manner through the Symbol Order of the Election Commission of India. For the first time, I think, this Ordinance dares to tread on this very sensitive ground. It almost defines a political party in terms of what is called 'political activity' and then political activity as defined in Section 2(d) has a very very wide definition. It is a very unambiguous definition. There is a jurisprudential dictum which says no man shall be put in peril on an ambiguity. I feel that this definition carries this peril within; it is ambiguous and therefore liable to put a lot of people and a lot of institutions to undue and unnecessary peril. What is political will be defined on the basis of whim and fancy, pride and prejudice of the local policemen in charge of the *thana* and the local Magistrate in charge of a *tehsil*; and finally, on the basis of personal notion of a judge, if a case ever reaches him. I think it is the duty of this Parliament to lay down clearly and in unambiguous term the definition of a political party or a political activity so that it is not misused.

There is also another dictum that comes to my mind. Somebody said: 'the equity varies with the foot of the Lord Chancellor'; the foot of the Lord Chancellor can be very flexible. This definition also can be extremely flexible. If the object is to regulate a political activity, let it be done clearly and unambiguously, not so as to make it unenforceable. I would like to draw your attention to a very famous case decided in 1962 by the Supreme Court of India, a case which is related to the will of the great national leader, Lokmanya Tilak. He had instituted a Will in 1918 in which a Trust had been set up for the papers he edited; and the object of the Bill was to help the papers. Now the majority of the Supreme Court held that the object was "clearly political in the sense of seeking to achieve by means of arousing the consciousness of the people to their condition, a political awareness by which adjustments of a political character would be demanded and enforced by the persons who imbibed those truths." That is to say any expression of views which arouses the consciousness of the people to their condition is considered to be a political activity. If that be so, then where shall we draw the line? In that case, even the Fabian Society of England or India International Centre or the Centre for the Study of Developing Society right here or the Indian Society for Social Democracy of which I am a member, can all be charged with political activities. This definition of a political activity in this Bill will not apply to religious places only but to all institutions of our national life.

There is other aspect of the matter. You will agree with me that non-enforcement of the law makes a mockery thereof. If a law is not enforceable, then it becomes a subject to ridicule and detracts from its majesty (*Interruptions*). We have a plethora of criminal laws. We passed in 1961 the Criminal and Election Law (Amendment) Act. In 1972, we also passed a Criminal Law Amendment Act. I would like to know how far they have been enforced. Most of the provisions of the Section 3, which is the heart of this Bill are already covered by existing laws. Why are you having yet another law covering the same legal space? If more than one law covers the same legal

[Shri Syed Shahabuddin]

space, it only causes legal confusion; it creates a conflict of jurisdiction. But I know that this Government has an insatiable appetite for laws, laws and more laws, power and more power. What is needed is not power, I have said it before on the floor of the House, it is will and wisdom which this Government lacks. Our social landscape is littered with debris of laws, laws about untouchability, about dowry, child marriage and about *Sati* and about communal propaganda. I have asked time and again on the floor of this House how far the Government has implemented the existing laws banning communal propaganda and I have never received a satisfactory reply.

Finally, I come to my point about Fundamental Rights. Article 25 guarantees the Fundamental Right to freedom of religion, freedom of conscience. It also seeks to regulate the secular activities that may be associated with religion. But there are many secular activities which are indistinguishable from religious activities. I, as a Muslim, would like to place before you and before the House that a Masjid and a Madarsa are inseparable; and some times a Masjid and a Madarsa and a Musafirkhana are inseparable. Teaching of religion cannot be separated from religion, I know, there are forces in this country which have demanded that the Quran should be banned. Some gentleman, some mad cap went to the Calcutta High Court with such a plea. There is a fellow in Bombay to whom many political parties pander, who is as cartoonist by profession, who gives a slogan and it is splashed on bill boards all over Bombay "*Quran chodoya*", who thinks that Quran is the source, --God forbid--of all violence in this country.

There are persons right here in Delhi, of whom the Home Minister is aware, Ram Swarup and Sitaram Goel who have said that the Traditions of the Holy Prophet which are inseparable part and parcel of Islamic law, should be scrapped and thrown out.

There are also religious ceremonies. A religious ceremony, a most important cer-

emony in which I know many Ministers participated in the Milan ul-Nabi the ceremony of the birthday of the Prophet. I know that Mr. Sontosh Mohan Dev has participated in many Milads. Now, if we speak about the Madina model of polity based on co-existence of various religions, the State established by the Prophet, somebody will say that it is a political activity. If we say, therein the Milad, that one of the preachings of the Prophet was, that when you see a tyranny stop it. If you cannot stop it, condemn it, If you cannot condemn it, at least think that it is bad. Then, we will be told that it is political activity. If I say, if I repeat the saying of the Prophet that the highest form of Jihad is to speak the truth before a tyrant, I will be told, "You are indulging in parties.

If you go to religious history--I do not have the time to go into it, I would say that even an expression of opinion by a group of citizens or a matter concerning their personal law, their education, their normal conduct, their institutions, will all be called matters of political activity.

That is why I submit to you, there is a national consensus that religious places should be used only for strictly religious purposes. There should be no storage of arms, they should not provide haven or asylum for bad characters for proclaimed offenders. To that extent we are all with the Government. Religious places should not be used by any political party. No political party should be permitted to organise meetings in any such place. Here we are all with the Government.

I repeat that this Bill as it is, is a threat to the religious freedom of the people of India, particularly of the minorities as the test of the pudding lies in eating. Therefore, I stand here to state that either the Government should amend the Bill by bringing in guidelines and controls and clear definition of political activity, or otherwise it will only lead to strangulation of bona fide religious activities. In the form that the Bill stands, I oppose it.

SHRI SALAHUDDIN (Godda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. I also thank the Home Minister and the Prime Minister, who have come forward to bring a comprehensive Bill.

[Translation]

I welcome the Bill that has been introduced in the House, there are some major reasons which prompted the Government to bring forward this Bill.

Some people are playing politics in the name of religion and are misusing religious places not only in Punjab but in the whole country. One of our hon. Members has tried to define religion. But my perception of religion is as follows:

[English]

"Religion is a process of defecation of heart, control of activities and modification of conduct."

[Translation]

I believe that people tread on the path of religion for the purification and peace of conscience. But I can say from my experience that the politicians have perverted it and they are using it as a means to defame others, specially, our party.

We have adopted secularism as a basic concept and have also fully preserved the identity of religion. At the same time, identity of individual has also been maintained within our party. Besides secularism is also maintained. Secularism should not be mis-conceived. The opposition is trying to malign our party through the propaganda of Babri Masjid and Ram Janambhoomi. The members of the opposition parties never try to extend constructive suggestions. In several magazines, I have seen that they only condemn the Government and raise objections. Nobody wants to make this problem complex. I myself, would like the Government to declare it a national monument. It would be the best suggestion. Neither of the parties will feel led down.

I feel that the provisions of this Bill would help in checking those who play

politics in the name of religion. The people are taking undue advantage by raising the bogey of religion even in petty matters. The stock-piling of arms and inflammatory literature inside religious places will pose a threat to the nation. It is not a matter of mere principle. This has been experienced, observed and tested. This Bill has been brought forward for several reasons. A number of happenings and factors lie at the root of a major decision like this. Similarly, in the light of the occurrences taking place in our country, the Government considered it essential to bring forward this Bill.

Today the situation has become so serious that on the one hand, a top religious leader has challenged the entry of Harijans into the holy shrines, while on the other hand, another Maulvi has given a call for a March. What is this madness; will it help in solving the problem in any way? I am ready to accompany them in the March, but they must give me an assurance that it will lead to a solution to the problem. Certainly, it is not a solution. The attitude of confrontation will not solve the problem.

I would like to call all the religious leaders to gather courage come forward, sit together and discuss the whole issue with logic. Whatever conclusion emerges from the mutual discussion would undoubtedly be just. If both the parties accept the decision so reached and stick to it sincerely, the tangle will be solved very soon.

I think that since the religious leaders get themselves involved in such issues, they seldom go to the villages. For, if they do, they would realise that the people in rural areas belong to both the communities-Hindus and Muslims and both of them face the same problems. People do not have adequate facilities of schools, drinking water and unemployment. Even their children are unemployed. I think no religious leader takes pains to solve such problems.

80 percent of our total population lives in rural areas and all of them live below poverty line. Therefore, it is the duty of religious leaders to come forward to help them. They fell jealous of the missionaries

[Shri Salahuddin]

which undertake works of public welfare. The workers of missionaries are totally devoted to the service of widows and the poor suffering from various ailments. They serve them as brothers and sisters. So we shall have to divert our attentions towards the problems in rural areas. The problem cannot be solved merely by raising slogans. We should endeavour to implement all the provisions of this Bill earnestly. It will not be in the interest of the nation if some fundamentalists block this Bill in the name of religion

I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that today the religious places are being grossly misused. Processions are organised in the name of religion. Quarrels pick up in the name of idol-immersion. Three persons were killed in a similar clash which took place in my constituency. Even the route to be followed for Muharram procession becomes an issue of dispute. Riot of one kind or the other is taking place in almost every city and several cases are pending before the courts. Poor people are being victimised. In the light of these facts, the introduction of this Bill in the House at this juncture is quite timely. Therefore, it needs to be implemented properly.

The Central Government should take stringent measures to crush with a heavy hand the forces which are raising their ugly heads in the name of religion. If we do not check these forces, they will ruin the democratic framework and socialistic pattern of society of our country. The conditions in the country, at present, are quite alarming. The acts in which the religious leaders are indulging in the name of religion are unthinkable. Therefore, we should awaken before it is too late.

15.00 hrs.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not know how those clauses of the Bill which deal with the ban on processions and entrance in a particular place are going to be implemented. It is an important question. What measures will be taken to check the smuggling of weapons into the holy shrines?

What measures will be taken to control the processions? All these details should have been given. It is an important issue. But I find no such details in the Bill. How will they be controlled and how will the entry of arms be checked? These practical issues will surface later on. I think these matters should have been considered seriously.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDRA JAIN (Barmer): Rules for this purpose will be framed later on.

SHRI SALAHUDDIN: In the end, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Religious Institutions (Prevent of Misuse) Bill which has been introduced in the House.

From the speeches of the members of the ruling party as well as those of the opposition, it is clear that they have accepted the fact that the objectives of the Bill are commendable. Nobody has any difference of opinion in this regard. I listened to the speech of the hon. Minister of Agriculture. He also clarified that bringing this Bill in the House had become essential because demand to this effect had come from various politicians, opposition parties, academicians and prominent leaders. Had this Bill been brought forward a few years earlier, the history would have been different, for the Government would not have been forced to resort to undertake the operations like operation Bluestar. Had timely steps been taken to check the entry of arms into the Golden Temple, the Government would not have to undertake operation Bluestar. In the absence of such steps, many mishappenings took place and the assassination of Shrimati Indira Gandhi was one of them. The motive behind the assassination of Shrimati Gandhi and a score of other prominent leaders by terrorists was the same. Now the question is that the Bill has been brought forward, but what is more important is its proper implementation. Though the legislation that has been introduced is quite substantial, yet it would have been far better had the rules for its implementation been also

framed simultaneously. It is usually observed that rules in respect of a particular laws are framed much later. Sometimes, this period extends to as long as one year. Had the rules also been framed simultaneously, it would have helped in understanding the legislation as well as its implementation aspect in their proper perspective. What I want to say is that the rules to be framed in this regard, should be framed immediately. This is of utmost importance. If the rules are not framed in time, their implementation will be delayed and get obstructed.

I am of the view that the Ordinance promulgated on 26th May about such important issue is highly commendable but now the question is that the Ordinance was promulgated on 26th May and today it is 10 August. How have the Government implemented the law during this period? Have the government dealt with any such case in India wherein by making use of the provisions of the Ordinance, the Government have banned the political activities going on in the religions places?

As needed, this law has been enacted for the entire country. The speeches are made in religious places for election propaganda. So off the political speeches are also made and the election propaganda is done in the temples, mosques and Gurudwaras. These speeches have also been strictly prohibited under the law. So the implementation of this provision is also very important.

A doubt has been expressed by all about the provision that the manager and employees of religious places will have the responsibility of giving information about the offences that are committed in the temples, mosques or Gurudwaras and about the arms except kirpan, brought to these religious places. Now a situation may arise when a terrorists enters a religious places with arms and the manager or the employees of the religious place cannot dare face him or his arms. The people are afraid that in case they inform the Government about the activities of terrorists, they will be shot down by them. Therefore, the act of informing the Government involves

risk. Hence there should have been a proviso to this effect in this Bill to meet such a situation.

The other point is that if an offence is committed in a temple, mosque or a gurudwara or arms are stored there, the police should be empowered to enter that religious place so that they can investigate the case and round up the culprits from that place. Going by the sikh-psyche, the present situation is that they will not tolerate the police entry in any Gurudwara or the Golden Temple. In such a situation, no police officer can dare go there for investigation and recover arms from there. In this connection we as a society shall have to ensure that no offender or the killer will have the right to enter any temple or Gurudwara and if any body enters, the police will have the right to search that religious place. No one should take it ill. In this way, it will have to be inculcated in the minds of the people. That will need a lot of effort and determination on our part. I just want to say that we should not use these religious places for political purposes. We should perform our social and religious duties no doubt, but we should try to build up our nation by treading the path of truth and honesty. We should derive inspiration from those great religious saints who have expounded very noble principles and while assimilating those principles, we should build up our nation. We should bring religion into politics only with a view to purify it and to build up the nation thereby.

With these words, I support the Bill.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): Mr. Chairman, I don't think that this Bill goes far enough, but to the extent to which it goes I welcome it, I support it.

I do not agree with the Home Minister, Mr. Buta Singh, when he said that this had to be brought by means of an Ordinance because the House was not in Session and it was an urgent matter. This question of misuse of religious institutions or places of religious worship for criminal activities is

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

not a thing which has suddenly appeared on the scene now. This has been mentioned and debated in this House umpteen times and Members from all sides of the House have been clamouring for a long time that firm steps should be taken in this matter. At least let me say that up to the period, just before the Operation Blue Star -- I am just putting it in a very conservative way, and that is now more than four years ago -- Operation Blue Star would not have been necessary if it was not for the fact that arms and ammunition and all sorts of things were being accumulated inside the Golden Temple and many other activities were going on which made Blue Star Operation necessary, whether it was right or wrong is a different matter, history will judge, but at that time that was what brought it about and ever since then this question has been before us. So, for the Minister to say now that some new situation had suddenly developed which made it imperative to bring an Ordinance and 'because Parliament was not in Session, we had to bring an Ordinance' I think this is just trying to avoid reality. This thing should have come much long ago, much earlier.

Sir, I will make only a few remarks in which I confine myself only to the somewhat restricted scope of the Bill that is, its dealing with the question of misuse of religion in general, that is a wide subject, I think we can profitably discuss on some other occasion. I agree with many of the things which my friend, Mr. Shahabuddin said in that connection, that is, misuse of religious functions or misuse of religious symbols. The friend over there has been talking about how religious processions are misused or sometimes utilised for the purpose of creating disturbances and all that. This Bill does not have such a wide scope, it restricts itself only to the question of places of religious worship.

Here the activities or purposes which are going to be prohibited under this Act are enumerated in clause 3. In that, you will find that they are not all either criminal activities, criminal offences or offences

which are subversive or may be calculated to create some sort of enmity and hostility between communities, those are there.

But apart from that, in fact, the very first sub-clause (a) of clause 3 says:

"No religious institution or manager thereof shall use or allow the use of any premises belonging to, or under the control of, the institution--"

(a) for the promotion or propagation of any political activity;"

Now, Sir, a controversy has arisen and it is bound to arise as to what exactly is meant by political activity. What are the things which will be brought within the scope of "political activity" and what are the things which should be excluded. Well, I am not going into that just now. But it is for the Minister to explain, because the danger in this sub-clause is that it is quite possible that it will give a handle to the administration, to the police and to other people to misuse the power under this Bill. It is because, "political activity" is a wide term and it may mean so many things. Other Members here have spoken about it and some of them will speak more about it, after me. Can it be defined in a more precise manner, I do not know. It is a difficult matter. I would suggest, though I do not think, it can be brought in this Bill but we should consider the possibility of some legislation in future at least. If you cannot define "political activity" very precisely, I do feel very strongly from experience also that these places should not be used for political activity which is connected with elections, for creating some kind of a psychological effect, pressure or influence on the voters. At least, that much should be ruled out. I do not know whether that can be done under this Bill.

SHRI VIR SEN (Khurja): It should not be used for inciting communal frenzy.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: That is already there in sub-clause (g). We support that. Communal frenzy, of course, is aroused outside religious institutions also. Any-way, that is already there.

I would say that if you want to limit it, you can restrict the period, say from the time when the notification of the elections is issued by the Chief Election Commissioner from that date up to the polling date. I think, people who are participating in these elections, whether they be candidates of different political parties or more so, people who are occupying Government offices, Ministers, Chief Ministers, Heads of State and such type of people should not utilise at least during this period, directly or indirectly these religious institutions for purposes of influencing the voters. You can say that I have the right to go a temple or a masjid or a church or something. Of course, you have the right to do it. But the point is, it is a misuse, it can be a misuse of the religious institution because normally the election law says that any kind of appeal to religion for securing votes and all that is considered to be an illegal practice as far as the elections are concerned. But I can quote many examples where during the election period, people who do not belong to a particular religion, do go in a way which is given a great deal of publicity. They do go to a place of worship that may be belonging to a community to which that person does not belong and that is given a great deal of publicity and photograph appear. It is shown on the TV. I was going to quote a particular example of something happened many many years ago but I hesitate to do it because I do not want to name anybody. (*Interruptions*).

During the general elections, I am talking about West Bengal, in Calcutta, in one of the Assembly constituencies, the then Chief Minister was a candidate. I do not remember the exact year also. Any-way, there was quite tough fight going on. And located in the middle of that constituency happens to be the biggest mosque in Calcutta, the Nakoda Mosque

That Chief Minister allowed himself to be photographed inside that Masjid, sit there with a handkerchief, some cloth on his head and surrounded by all these Imams and Maulvis and so on. He did not say anything. He did not issue a statement

or make an appeal to the Muslim area. He did not appeal to them in the name of religion. I do not say that. But I would say that this is being given publicity with photographs and all that, is meant to create a certain psychological impact and influence on the Musiim voters and I do not think this is a desirable practice. But such things have happened many times after that also in many places not only in mosques but in temples also. So I would request the Government to think about this. It should apply to everybody, at least to the candidates, definitely to the candidates and also to people who are occupying Government posts, Ministers and so on because this, in my humble opinion, is definitely a misuse of places of religious worship for political purposes. A wider definition and wider effect of law is very difficult at this moment, to define precisely.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Manjeri): I hope you do not mind, you do not mean that Muslims should not go to prayers in mosques during elections.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: They cannot be banned from going. But I would like you during that very short period when you are a candidate, you somehow resist the temptation.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: When it is time for prayer, I must go and pray.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: It is not compulsory for you go to a mosque to pray.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: Yes, yes. It is compulsory. (*Interruptions*).

INDRAJIT GUPTA: I do not want to hurt anybody's feelings.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: A man of some other religion who is going in the street outside a mosque may not offer his prayers, I agree. But a Muslim who is passing through that street and if he happens to go to a mosque at the time of prayers, and if he offers prayers, you cannot say that it is election time.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMMOOWALIA (sangrur): You can go but do not get photographed.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: What happens in the case of Muslim women who happen to be Muslim candidates? A Muslim woman cannot go to the Masjid.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: In many places like Kerala, they go. Almost all Muslim women go.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur): Why should she pass through a place where election is taking place?! (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: As it happens, because of what the country has gone through in recent times, we have come to identify this question with the question of criminal activities or harbouring of criminals inside these places or storage of arms and entry of arms and all that. It has a much wider connotation and I think that wider connotation would also be considered and sought to be tackled in future to the extent possible by a suitable legislation.

As far as this Bill goes, I do not have much to say but I think that it should be made more stringent. For example, it says here in Clause 8 "any manager or employee of a religious institution shall, upon conviction for an offence under this Act, he will be disqualified, he will be removed from his office, post and so on." That means first he will have to be convicted. First he will be prosecuted under this Act.

Then a case will go on. He has a right of appeal. Right of appeal is not ruled out so that we can foresee the legal proceedings for an offence under this Act. It can go on for a pretty long time. If it is a question connected with allowing arms to be brought in or to be stored and all that or giving shelter to some people who are known to be criminals or killers and all that, it would create a rather anomalous position. What happens in the intervening period?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: You have not seen Clause 8(2). Please read Clause 8(2).

Clause 8(1) is after conviction. Clause 8(2) is regarding restraining the person. If a charge-sheet is filed, then the Court can restrain.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I have moved an amendment also to this effect that if a manager - that means the Committee, or whatever it is, whoever is entrusted with the responsibility, if he has failed to prevent the entry of arms and ammunition or storage of arms and ammunition within the place of worship, and obviously those things have come in because he has failed to prevent them from coming. I say that pending his prosecution under this Act, he should at least be suspended from discharging all those responsibilities.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The point is this. If the Executive suspends him, you will call it arbitrary. When the Executive files a charge sheet before a Court, the Court records *prima facie* finding. It shall pass an order restraining the person from exercising the powers or discharging duties of his office pending trial. The Court will do it. If we do it, you will call it arbitrary and we have filed a false case. Therefore, the Court will do it.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: Authority should be given to the manager and not to anybody. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Shri Indrajit Gupta is asking: Pending a trial, will there be an interim restraint upon the manager? I say, yes, there should be. But who should pass the order of restraint. If the executive that is, the prosecuting agency, or the police or the district magistrate, passes that order, you will call it arbitrary because it is only a charge and he is not found guilty. Therefore, the power has been given to the Court.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): It will take a long time.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: That is an interim order. You please read the Section. It states: interim order. pending a trial, the Court will record, *prima facie*, finding and if it is satisfied it will pass an order.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Governing body or temple or mosque, which who will do that? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I am telling them to try to see whether it is possible to avoid a long period of time being taken up by legal proceedings during which that person will continue to be in charge. I would request them to see whether something can be done about that.

There is Clause 4. This is all right. There is a provision which says that arms to be taken into a place of religious worship do not include the wearing and carrying of a *Kirpan* by any persons professing the Sikh religion and Sub-Clause (b) says: "any arms which are used as part of any religious ceremony or ritual of the institution as established by custom or usage.... Of course, it is a question of interpretation and may be even of historical interpretation. But who is going to interpret it, I don't know. At present, during the last few years when we have been discussing this question, the position taken by the Government, as far as I know, has been that it should be restricted to *Kirpan*. Even, there was controversy regarding *Kirpan* or blade as to the size - whether it is three inches, six inches or 12 inches. That is all right. When we were told, specially when I was told and I believe I have said it here in the House that in the days gone-by when people - warriors - used to come from the battlefield or were going out to do battle, since the days of even Maharaja Ranjit Singh and so on, the convention or custom for them was is to leave their weapons outside the gate or at the entrance of the Gurudwara and then to go in. You have referred to custom, usage and all that. I am told about that. But I am ignorant about that.

15.30 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH in the chair]

I have read in some article, in some paper; somebody has written a letter to some Editor saying that this is a wrong interpretation being put on this; actually in the

olden days before going to a battle the warriors used to take their weapons in order to have them blessed because they were going to a battle, and when they came back from the battle, say, after a victory, then also they used to carry their weapons into the Gurudwara so that there was some sort of gesture because of the victory having taken place. I do not know. Your people are here. You can please explain. Do not leave this open to vague interpretations which can be differing interpretations leading to controversies later on. Because if that custom or tradition was there, I do not know, then somebody may say, tomorrow, "Why should I not carry my sword or spear or something into the Gurudwara? I do not want to be stopped by the security people when I go in". Please explain this.

Finally one more point I have got. (*Interruptions*). This is about Clause 6. I would like that in Clause 6 a provision be added - you may say that it is already implied here - ,namely, that no political organisation, apart from the persons entrusted with management of the institution, shall be allowed to run an office within the premises of the institution. Why am I saying this? It is because my report was that, even after the security operations inside the Temple took place, in the *panikrama* of the Golden Temple, an organisation like the *Dam Dami Taksal* was permitted to keep one room and run it as its office. Why should this be done? *Dam Dami Taksal*, we all know what it is; it was *Bindarwale's* own organisation. On some religious excuse or the other, I think, an organisation like that should not be permitted to have its office inside the premises of the Golden Temple. What is the position now, I do not know. Mr. Buta Singh will explain it. But I do know that, after it was decided that all the rooms of that *Panikrama* would be closed and sealed up and not be allowed to be occupied by anybody, there was one room - I knew the number also; it was 46 or 48 or something; I have forgotten now - which was given to *Dam Dami Taksal* to be used as its office. In any case, my contention is that there should be a prohibitory clause in this that inside the

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

premised of the religious institution, nobody except that Committee or Board which runs the institution should have the right to run and operate an office.

With these words, I generally support this Bill, I would like it to be strengthened in the directions I have mentioned.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Sir, I was listening to Mr. Shahabuddin's speech. In fact, I got an impression of the Devil quoting the Bible throughout his speech. If even one-tenth of what Mr. Shahabuddin said during his speech were practised by him, he would have...

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, the personal conduct of a Member cannot be discussed in the House...

AN HON. MEMBER: He is talking about Bible.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I do not mind that because I know he does not read or understand the Bible....

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: What I was saying was this. If Mr. Shahabuddin were to practise even one-tenth of what he said, he would have served this country and his community in a better way. (Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I am sorry. I must protest again. I am on a Point of Order. I want a ruling. Can the conduct of a Member be discussed in the House. It cannot be allowed. I certainly object to his aspersion. (Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: I have only said that if he were to practice one-tenth of what he said... (Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Can the personal conduct of a Member... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Don't go by what he says. Let him listen to me, I will give my personal explanation. I am not doing any personal thing. I abide by your decision.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already said that there should be no personal aspersion.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: That is what I am saying. (Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: What are you saying? You are casting an aspersion. (Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: I want you to practise what you preach.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sorry. I don't need any lesson from you. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

We all are sailing in the same boat (Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: This Bill is a welcome Bill because it takes a major step towards separation of politics from religion, the principle of which even Hon. Member like Mr. Shahabuddin accepts. He has said it before. It is a private affair. He also says it. Now how to practice the same in privacy is a question. There, sometimes, the views differ.

This Bill has its source under Article 26 of the Constitution which says:

"Subject to public order, morality and health, every religious denomination or any section thereof shall have the right—"

It has four parts. I am referring to Part (d) which says:

"to administer such property in accordance with law." Every religious institution has got right to administer property in accordance with law. Now because there was some misuse in some States, the Government has to enact this legislation to have a reasonable restraint on the right of religion. I don't think, to that extent, anybody has objection. Therefore, constitutionally also it is very clear that this Article 26 permits the Government to enact such a legislation. Even Mr. Indrajit Gupta agrees to it in prin-

ci ple. He says only one thing that it does not go that far. As far as it goes he agrees to it. It is very nice of him to say that. May be in future, we may have to enact further exhaustive legislation to control the misuse which takes place. But today, to start with, the restraint which is sought to be provided in this Bill is a welcome one and each one should accept this provision.

Now analysing a bit the Bill, Clause 3 says:

"No religious institution or manager thereof shall use or allow the use of any premises belonging to, or under the control of the institution."

Now it prohibits religious institutions or managers from using it or allowing it to be used. The question is - Hon. Minister may kindly note. I may be wrong - supposing any person on his own goes to a religious premises and uses the premises for the purpose which is prohibited. He is not an institution, he is not a manager.

If an average man goes and uses the premises, how is he attracted by any of the clauses in this Bill? Is a man who is not related to any institution, a man who is not a manager, on his own goes and propagates his ideas which are prohibited otherwise, covered under any of these clauses? Because the wordings here say:

"No religious institution or manager thereof shall use or allow the use of any funds or other properties belonging to or under the control of the institution....."

Now, the religious institution may say that it has not used it, the manager has not used nor has it allowed the use of the premises, but an X or Y or Z has come and he has used it, he has no permission. Can he do it? If it cannot be done, I would say that some sort of a slight amendment on the Government side would be a welcome one.

S. BUTA SINGH: The management should prevent anybody using it.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: If they are not able to, then?

S. BUTA SINGH: Then the management will face the music.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Under Section 9, the management should inform the Police.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may please see Section 7 which says:

"...every person connected with such contravention shall be punishable..."

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Section 7 says:

"Where any religious institution or manager thereof contravenes the provisions of section 3, section 4, section 5 or section 6, the manager and every person connected with such contravention shall be punishable with imprisonment...."

Again, it is not that clear. Because if a person without the permission or authority goes, I don't know which clause will be attracted. There is a scapegoat here very clearly.

Further, I would like to state that apart from separating of religion from politics, we have also to separate religion from superstitious beliefs because what goes as religion from superstitious beliefs because what goes as religion today is substantially and in major part superstitious belief. In fact, if pure religion was to be practised by all communities of all religions, then perhaps I think such a type of Bill was not essential at all. Because pure religious principles are very sober. Everything that they teach is good, tolerance towards others, friendship, good relations with neighbours and co-existence, as my learned friend says. So, if pure religion is propagated and practised, today we would not have had to enact such a legislation to separate politics from religion. But what goes today in the name of religion is superstitious belief.

In fact, under the 20 point programme enunciated by our Government, and I re-

[Shri Shantaram Naik]

member the late Indiraji who had stressed it time and again, inculcation of scientific temper is there. That is what we have to do in this country. We have to inculcate scientific temper not only in urban areas or in a higher intellectual society, but it should go deep into the villages because villages today take superstition as religion by innocence. It is not that they do it deliberately. There is a section of people which mixes superstition with religion deliberately, and for which the remedy cannot be easily found. I think we have to just go on explaining to those people who take superstition as part of religion innocently. We have to do it in some form or the other at a future date.

As far as superstitions are concerned, as I said, practice of Sati Devdasi or untouchability are the three aspects which the Government has to tackle. I am saying this specially because unless you tackle these three major aspects related to superstition, we will not be able to deal with the remaining aspects of superstitions beliefs which are practised.

Further, Sir, the role of religious heads is very important. It is not that all religious heads are in favour of mixing up these two things. There are religious heads who can do a lot as far as removing wrong notions in the minds of the people. It is they who have to tell the people what is religion, religious beliefs and superstition because in villages people on the advice of a teacher that if he does a particular ceremony involving an expenditure of Rs. 1500 then illness of his child will not be there. If such things are deep-rooted then it is the duty of the religious heads to educate people on these aspects and serve the society and the country as a whole.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Sir, I support the spirit of the Bill but there is difficulty in supporting the Bill as has been presented to the Parliament. We can see the intention of the Government that is writ large on this Bill that the Government wants that religious institutions should not be misused. There should be no political

activity there. All of us had a bitter experience in the recent past and we go whole hog with this measure that religious institutions should not be misused for any kind of political activity. But I feel that the Bill as has been presented to us is not well-knit. It has some loose provisions. I do not suppose it will achieve much. There will be lot of difficulty in implementing the provisions of the Bill.

The major question is that whether Government of India is prepared to consider any political party in India which will indulge in propagating a kind of religion and provide to this society a religious interpretation of history. I mean to say that religion this point of time cannot interpret history. To give you an example in the history of Islam there is a period of 80 years' when religion interpreted history. That 80 years' period in Islam is the period of prophet's times and his four caliphs. It is a 80 years' period when the total life was interpreted by religion.

H.G. Wells, in my opinion, was very much biased. But in broader terms, Toynbee and others have found that in the whole history of human race, that 80-year period is the period when religion interpreted history, when the whole myriad of production was controlled by religion, so much so that how you live, how you behave with your wife, how you trade, how you organise commerce, how you pray, everything was interpreted by religion. But after these 80 years, you can see in the history, there were Muslim states, but not an Islamic state.

As of now, in our country, you had an experience. I want to be a little bold today on this although I have not to delve deeper and repeat what I have heard from others. You have had a bitter experience only in one area. I don't suppose any Hindu in India wants a religious interpretation of history based on *Gita*. I don't think any section of Hindu community wants us to believe that this country can be ruled or a mode of production can be organised on the basis of what is written in *Gita*. There are people who believe in *Gita* and its teachings. There are people who believe in

Upanishads but as books of philosophy, not as books that can interpret history. And they will say, come forward, whatever is written in *Gita*, we shall organise entire politics on that. Leave aside a very small organisations among Muslims, that is, *Jamait-e-Islami* of Jammu and Kashmir State, not the *Jamait-e-Islami* which is operating all-India level. At all-India level, there is *Jamait-e-Islami* but it does not say that they can organise an Islamic state. But in Jammu and Kashmir State, there is *Jamait-e-Islami* which is distinct from the *Jamait-e-Islami* at all-India level. They can say, organise an Islamic state. But we tell them in Jammu and Kashmir State, look here, if we have to have a religious interpretation of history, if we have to organise state on the basis of the teachings of religion, then, it will be *Gita* because majority of the population in India are Hindus. We tell them that we have a Constitution which does not allow religion to be an interpreter of history.

We have a Constitution that is based on secular principles. All the citizens in India are equal before the Constitution of India. so, not the Islamic state, not a *Ram Rajya*, but there was some difficulty. (*Interruptions.*) This is a question to the Government of India. There was some difficulty in so far as Punjab is concerned. I had raised a question here. When Mr. Barnala was asked to clean the shoes, I had raised a major question that this is not correct. What if there is a *hukamnama*? He must face it boldly and say: Sir, I am a man. I want to organise politics in Punjab according to the parameters set by the Constitution of India. But he was afraid of that *hukamnama*. Therefore, he surrendered. Therefore, it was a great lip service to the principles of secularism.

Sir, it is a major question: which of the communities in India want us to interpret history through religion? Perhaps I can't say all Sikhs want that because for many Sikhs in Punjab, there is terrorism like us. And so many people have died there along with Hindus and Muslims. So, I can't say all the Sikh community wants a religious interpretation of history. But if a section of Akali leadership wants an interpretation of history by religion, they will organise all

their politics within the precincts of a temple. Then, there is a major question. And that major question cannot be tackled by this Bill. If you don't misuse religious institutions for any political activity, if you don't have arms there, we support it. But this Bill is not going to answer that major question which I am raising before you because a section of the Akali leadership wants us to believe that history can be interpreted by religion. They want to base all politics on the teachings of religion as interpreted by them. So, this Bill does not answer that question in right earnest.

Then, from this concept emanates another thing that you want to equate all religious institutions in the country with what happened unfortunately in the *Swaran Mandir*, for which we have the greatest respect because it has been a place of pilgrimage not only for Sikhs but for Hindus and Muslims alike. I had the privilege of being there a number of times. But it became a harbour, it became a place of protection for some people who carry arms, who wanted to organise activities which were detrimental to the very concept of the Constitution. But what happens in *Swaran Mandir* does not happen in any mosque. We have a very intelligent Minister who is assisting our Home Minister, Mr. Chidambaram. He must kindly consider what he wants to do through this Bill. Comrade, Indrajit Gupta raised a very big question that we must come forward with a Bill which will say 'do not mix religion with politics'. But this is not the Bill. You say, 'don't misuse places of worship and religious institutions'. It is a half-measure. But when we talk of religion, we shall request you to kindly answer this question as to which of the communities raise the major question that political activities can be organised on the basis of religion. So, you come forward with such a Bill which will support that. But as of now, I want to invite the attention of Mr. Chidambaram, to Clause 3. We feel that we are in agreement but this is very difficult to implement. For instance, you say that manager cannot do this, manager will not allow this and so on. Where is the manager in a mosque? It is a place of worship. Go to the length and breadth of the country. Sometimes the

door is open. You put a lock because a dog should not enter and there is nobody for the night there. But surely, if somebody wants to take shelter in the mosque or a temple with arms and to do any activity detrimental to the Constitution of India, detrimental to the integrity of India, I wholeheartedly support the provisions of this Bill. But my point is that we cannot equate religious institutions like temple, mosques with preaching harmony. What happened in a particular place because of some people, hardly a small section? Otherwise, there is a teaching of harmony and peace and brotherhood in Gurudwara Granth Sahib. Therefore, you are wanting to bestow, under Clause 3, upon the manager, the authority which he can never discharge and you may take him to the jail and may be he sometimes suffers for his innocence because the Thanadar or the people who will implement will have a lot of power to send anybody to jail. But how can a manager take the responsibility that nobody will take arms or nobody will organise congregations there? Manager is a simple person. It is not an organised activity. If you want to take action against an erring manager, you have not provided anything there. Hon. Minister, Mr. Chidambaram was saying that under Clause 8, Sub-section 2, he can be suspended but even then, the Court will take a long time. You can say that the management of the temple or mosque or gurudwara will suspend him from that position.

One word of caution for future. Certain institutions are doing a very commendable work. This Bill does not apply to J & K because of Constitutional restrictions. So, I am not that much worried. When I speak, I do not speak only for J & K but I speak for the entire country. I want to remind that we have a shrine called Hazrat Bal. What is the political activity here? It is a very vague term. It is from the precincts, from the portals of Hazarat Bal that we challenged the misrule of Dogra Maharaja. We fought for the liberation of the people, we supported the Quit India Movement from the same portals. We fought so many social evils like

dowry and corruption. When we come to that, comparing the institutions, we cannot all of a sudden say that all are like that. There may be temples, but I do not have the information. There may be temples where they talk of unity and integrity and of peace. We cannot silence that voice. Then, we do not do justice to the philosophy of religion. After all, philosophy of religion is not directly in contravention with the provisions of the Constitution.

16.00 hrs.

I have said that the Government's intention is very clear. It wants that the religion should not be mixed with politics. It wants that the religious institutions should not be misused and it does not allow any terrorism within the precincts of religious institutions. We welcome that. But I have raised a question that electronic media should not be used for any religious functions, for instance Idde-Milad, or Muslims taking a procession or Tazia, or Rath Yatra or any function by Hindus relating to religion should not be shown on television. If we want to be secular and to separate religion from politics, then we have to establish our credentials of a secular State, of a national State and in a manner that everybody will believe that we are very honest about it. As I said, electronic media should not be used for any religious activities.

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopargaon): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill. Even after 40 years of Independence our secular forces instead of being strengthened are getting weakened and such a situation is being created in the entire country that everybody has started thinking in terms of his own caste, group or community to foster their own interests. Poor persons are in every religion. In fact, poverty is a separate class. But the religious leaders belonging to different religions are instigating the masses by saying different things. Whatever has been said in this Bill about Punjab is correct but at but at other places, many senas such as Patit Pawan Sangathan, Vishwa Ekta Sangathan and

various other senas are being formed in the name of religion. The origin of these senas lies in the religion and the religious places. I, therefore, would like to say that all such senas-be it Jamate-Islami or any other such organisation which takes part in political activities and contests elections, should be banned. It will be more dangerous if we think of such a ban only in the context of Punjab but it should be made applicable to all such organisation in the entire country. Our colleague has just referred to "Rath Yatra". The followers of all religious organise separate 'Rath Yatra' processions and associate themselves with it. But, what actually happens is that whenever such religious processions are organised outside the temple, mosque or any other religious place, stones are hurled at them and the riots flare up. What are the reasons? Thereby secularism is going weaker. One of the reasons may be politics because at the time of elections the tickets are allotted on the basis of caste and community to which the people of that particular area belong. It is being taken care of by the political parties that their candidate belongs to the majority community be it either the Muslims, Jats or the Harijans. Unless and until we change this line of thinking and do something concrete in this regard, it will go that way. We talk of the electoral merit and select our candidates on this basis. But the position will not change by the efforts of only one party. All parties should have to think about it. The leaders of all parties should think about this above their party interests. Shankaracharya of Puri is challenged to have a debate on the religious scriptures and said that it is wrong. Though the laws have been framed for the protection of untouchables but the action cannot be taken on them because of the fear of violence, it is wrong. One human being is fighting with the other in the name of religion. The Shankaracharya of Puri is a man who has no regard for human beings and creates disputes among them. Therefore, there is no need to give him any regard. If he is given regard, he will get encouraged and find place in newspaper, in the name of caste and creed. Hence such newspapers which are solely dependant on such communal newstems should be banned. In our democracy, every one has got full

freedom, to say anything, because there is no restriction on any body. Democracy does not mean that you can do anything you like. There must be at least some element of discipline in democracy. I do not see such sort of discipline anywhere. Conflict increases despite action taken by the police and the army or by us. The poor people who are oppressed have no place in any religion and nobody bothers to think about their upliftment. Is there any religion in which there are no poor people? But nobody tries for their upliftment. It is stated no where in any religion that the poor and the oppressed people should not be uplifted. At present, some theocratic states are coming into existence for example Bangla Desh has become an Islamic Republic recently. It is all right that we have brought this Bill in the context of situation prevailing in Punjab and it is meant for Punjab only but we will have to think on wider spectrums. If the present state of affairs in the name of religions are allowed to continue, our efforts to preserve the unity and integrity of the country will not yield result. We will have to bring forward an elaborate Bill to deal with the people who want to create a different atmosphere in the country in the name of religion. At present, electronic transmitters have been installed at many places, temples, mosques and Gurudwaras, etc. There should be a ban on it. the Government will have to take stern action for it. Unless you enter into it, how will you be able to know what is happening in a particular temple, mosque or Gurudwara. Therefore, the Government should have right to enter into it. Otherwise a situation similar to that developed in the Golden temple at Amritsar and which come to the notice of the Government afterwards, may develop at other places also. Then it may creat problem for the Government and the Government will have to take action. Therefore, you will have to think about it before hand and take stern steps to tackle the situation. God is one, although He may manifests Himself in many forms and all human beings are equal before Him, then why such things keep happening. Why do the people of different religious faiths not live harmoniously? The preamble of our constitution provides for a socialist and secular society for the country.

There was a saint named Gadge Maharaj in Maharashtra. There had been many saints in the Hindu religion who preached for the gospel of one God and oneness of humanity. Then what is the need to take them on different footing. All the Sikh are brothers and there is no need to provide them protection separately. Action should be taken to check the misuse of religious places by the persons whosoever they may be. All human beings are equal, no matter which religion one practises. The Government should ponder over it as to why we are moving towards violence. What is the reason behind it. Unemployment may be one of the reasons for it. If you think that it will creat yet another problem if action is taken against those who incite the people to take to violence, then this will go on increasing. Therefore, you should bring yet another Bill which empowers the Government and the police to take effective steps against them and the respect is shown to all religions. We should respect all religions but this does not mean that a particular religion take undue benefit which pinch the followers of other religions. This should not happen, some punishment must be provided for this, otherwise the same state of affair will prevail. In that situation, our secularism is getting weakend even after 40 years of our independence. We are not to weaken our secularism rather we have to strengthen it. We will have to find some appropriate way. With these words I support the Bill.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this ordinance was welcomed by all and are when it was promulgated in the month of May. This Bill is now taking place of the ordinance. In so far as provisions made in the Bill are concerned, the hon. Home Minister has tried to the extent possible to make the provisions reasonable taking into account the situation prevailing at present. In the National Integration Council and out side also, people belonging to all the parties always laid stress on keeping religion separate from the politics. I think that there may be one or two exceptions to it, but on the whole the entire country has already been in

favour of it and there is no necessity of talking more in this respect.

In view of the gravity of the prevailing situation in Punjab, I do not think that this Bill will be able to solve the problem completely. Even then it can be stated to be a good beginning in right direction. The root of this malady is inter-linked with the religion and with the persons who misuse the religion and with those politicians who deliberately give wrong interpretation of the religion or want to fulfil their selfish political ends by exploiting the people in the name of religion. Shri Soz Saheb was just stating a little while ago that Akali Dal was trying to interpret history on the basis of religion. In this connection, I submit that not only followers of Akali Dal alone but people belonging to different religions and communities of our country are trying to interpret history in the basis of religion to which they belong for their narrow self interest. Only such people try to interpret history. Not only this, they are mistreading their best to restruct a new history on the basis of it. There is need to be cautious of such people. That is why, I have submitted that the malady is very serious and you will have to go very deep into it. The political activities mentioned in this Bill are not clear. Some people will continue to take undue advantage of it on its garb. It has been provided in the Bill that any political party and person contesting election will not take any help from any organisation which is used for religious purposes or is connected with any religion. How will you prevent the people belonging to B.J.P. who are directly or indirectly connected with R.S.S. If R.S.S. helps a B.J.P. candidate, how will you prevent it. How will you keep a check on making appeal to vote for a particular person by the persons connected with religious activities or who indulge in inciting religious feelings of the people. Organisations like Shiva Sena, Bajrang Sena or in any other names or other committees are coming into prominence at different places. I do not understand as to how you meet their challenge. Had you provided in this Bill that no political party will be allowed to be formed on the basis of religion, cast or regionalism and had a ban

was imposed on such political party, it is constructed that the an effort has been made to strike at the root of the evil but the way beginning has been made is not an indicative that it will root out the evil. I do not see any linking of such intention in this Bill. Therefore, I have said that it is a good beginning but it will not completely cure the disease. The way people in Punjab are trying to take undue advantage of the religious institutions has endangered the very unity and integrity of the country, the entire country knows it. Today, a time has come to take a bold decision to bring forward such a Bill which strike at the root of this evil by separating politics from religion. Definitely, you will get support from the entire country.

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah): Mr. Chairman, Sir, many thanks that you have given me a chance to speak. I support the Bill which has been brought forward in this House and I would like to cite a couplet in verse.

Majahab ki Faruhat me Padana Nahin Achha aur, Hindu aur Mooslamana ka Jhagarna nahin Achha"

I want to submit that this Bill has been brought forward in the House to take place of the ordinance promulgated earlier. It was very essential to bring forward this Bill. Keeping the situation in Punjab in view, a Bill for the enactment of the Arms Act was very essential. There is no doubt that religious institutions should not be allowed to be a play ground for politics. Religion is a separate thing and politics is a separate thing but I regret to say that some people bring politics and religion at the one platform which is not a good thing. They should not do like this. It is true that political parties are formed and elections are contested and campaigns are carried on the basis of religions. But tell me who are free from such things? Do we all of us not do it? The reason is that we are not true to our conscience.

SHRI SANTI DHARIWAL (Kota): Our mind is not clear.

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: You do not allow me to speak. The entire link is broken. I would like to remind you that I will also not let you speak. I will not let you speak. You disturb my entire continuity of topic. After all, you are my friend, you are my colleague I do not mind it but even then you go on interrupting me.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: If you are not recollecting, should I help you?

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Therefore, our heart and mind are not clear, there cannot be two opinions about it. We should not play politics in the name of religion. Politics is separate. Temple and mosques are the places for offering prayers. Now-a-days our Maulavi and representatives and leaders of other religions make such speeches there and they mix politics with religion. Religion is a separate thing and politics is a separate thing. Therefore, I have to say in this connection that the Bill which has been brought forward is good, but this Bill will not benefit till it is implemented. We keep passing Bills every day but how far they are being implemented? Restrictions are imposed, ordinances are promulgated. After promulgation of this ordinance, a Bill has been brought forward but tell me as to how many persons have been punished or prosecuted for taking religious shelter for their political activities during this period.

What was the problem in golden temple? People have taken protection there, criminals took shelter there, arms and munitions were dumped there. I will praise the hon. Minister that he got the golden temple vacated and got those people removed from there. It was an ideal place for their hideout. Had he not done so, terrorists would have been encouraged. The Bill has been brought forward due to this and no one can deny that the Bill is not good.

[English]

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: (Erandol): Sir, I rise to welcome this Bill.

In this modern era, many people are there who do not believe in God any more;

[Shri Vijoy N. Patil]

but there are some other people who act as fanatics in the name of religion. They are ready to die for the sake of religion; and this very attitude, this very fanaticism is being utilised by some very intelligent persons for their own ends, and for creating trouble whenever and wherever they want to do it.

Earlier, emotions and ignorance were used. Now, in religious places, the money power has also started playing a great role. We see in India that in all the religions there are very rich gods, rich gods and poor gods. A lot of collection comes through gifts and money paid by people who come to the religious places for praying. This money is being utilized by the managers of those religious places many times even for their personal ends. What happens? When there is a quarrel for management, such cases go even before the courts of law. We have seen many examples. It is not restricted to one religion—Hindus or Muslims. Even in the case of Jains we see it. We have seen the example of Vrishabaksha temple which is on the Udaipur-Ahmedabad road. There is a quarrel for management. Over the entry into temples also we have trouble—nowadays we read in newspapers about the trouble that is arising in Nathdwara. Babri Masjid is also a burning issue. In my constituency of Erandol in Maharashtra, there was an old Pandawada, which is now a masjid. This has also become a very sensitive place. In such cases also, we have to find out ways and means of maintaining peace.

This Ordinance which is converted into an Bill, deals with the entry into religious places, whenever it is required, and for stopping the misuse of these places for political ends.

This is a good gesture. We believe that in future this misuse of religious places will be reduced, if not altogether stopped. We also see that over the years, in the name of religious places, new constructions have come up, new encroachments have come up even in Delhi, on the footpaths of Delhi. We have to think about this also. I was

studying in Delhi during 1964-66. I had seen myself that footpaths were free for walking. Now on some of the footpaths we have temples or mosques or some other religious places. What are we going to do about them? In future, we want wider roads for heavy and speedy traffic on the one hand; on the other hand, in the name of religion, encroachments are taking place if these encroachments are there, then the Corporation cannot do anything; the Home Ministry also cannot do anything. Then it will become a sensitive issue. For this purpose also we should bring forward an enactment or we should be start in seeing that such encroachments do not take place, because it is very difficult to remove them afterwards. We can remove other pucca buildings, other encroachments, cemented buildings for widening our roads for other use, but, once there is a religious place on a footpath, then it becomes an eye-sore.

We are also monopolising the God. I have seen in Tamil Nadu that they have written in Tamil before the photograph of the God His name; I mean in the name plate of that God. Then I requested the highest officer over there to see that the name plate should also be written in English so that people like us who come to see these places at least should be able to read those name plates in English. We have been seeing all these things. So, we have to look into them because for this purpose this Ordinance has been brought forward.

If this Ordinance had been brought eight years ago, then the Operation Bl Star would have been avoided. The history that has passed by would not have been so. But, as it is said, these are "Ifs" of history; in the "Ifs" of history only Hitler remarked that if they had listened to the request of the Field Marshal Romel for sending 75 planes to Malta Island, the picture of the war would have been different. Napoleon had listened to Foulton about the possibility of steam ships, the result of the war would have been different. These are the "Ifs" of history. But even in future in order to avoid encroachment of religious places for political purposes,

misuse of these places for very bad purposes by some miscreants, by anti-social elements, this Bill has been brought forward. I welcome this Bill. I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH ATHWAL (Ropar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have stood up to oppose this Bill. There are many people who, as time passes, forget the teachings of their spiritual leaders. Master Tara Singh was an illustrious leader of the Sikh Panth. He used to say that a gurudwara should not be demolished just because its 'sewadaars' have done some wrong. If a gurudwara has been misused or has been the scene of violence, the Government should not start attacking the fundamental principles of Sikhism which say that religion and politics are interlinked. Therefore, I oppose this Bill. Looking back at the history of India we find that religion and politics have always been interlinked. We consider Lord Krishna as God. The same Krishna who killed his uncle 'Kansa' was the ruler of Mathura and who gave political sermons to Arjuna on the battlefield. The Holy Geeta, besides being a religious book is a political book also. When we think of an ideal rule we do not perceive a country plagued with Bofors or submarine scandals, a country where political and economic exploitation of the poor and atrocities on Harijans continues even 40 years after Independence. All that we perceive is "Ram Rajya". The same Ram who was the son of Dashrath.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): In this House there is 'Balram Rajya'.

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH ATHWAL: I am talking of the Ram who killed Bali in the Sugreeva-Bali fight and crowned Sugreeva, who killed Ravana and made Vibhishana the king and who was the ruler of Ayodhya. We hope for such a rule where every person is treated equal.

SHRI VIR SEN (Khurja): Rama who killed Shambuk and who forsake Sita
(Interruptions)

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH ATHWAL: Besides being a religious book, Ramayana also preaches political wisdom. My Muslim colleagues would excuse me when I say that the heir to prophet Mohammed was a Khalifa as well as Amir-UL-Momeen. While being a spiritual leader he was also the commander of the armed forces. What I want to say is that minorities in our country cannot look at religion and politics separately. It appears that this Bill has been brought for all the religious institutions in the country but in fact it has been brought to attack the basic tenets of Sikhism. Our religion and politics are one. Some of the hon. Members who spoke before me have said that 'Gurbani' is misinterpreted. But I do not agree. I want to say that religion and politics have been one ever since Sikhism was born. The Sikh religion is a complete concept of life. People of higher classes used to look down upon those belonging to lower classes. To bring about social equality Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, said:--

*"Neechan ander neech jat
neechi hoon ati neech.
Nanak tinke sang saath
vaddiyan syu kya rees.
Jithe neech sumaliyan
tithe nadar teri baksheesh."*

To remove economic disparities he said:

*"Hak paraya Nanaka
Us soor us gai."*

For a Muslim grabbing of other's dues is as much forbidden as eating pork. Similarly, for a Hindu grabbing of other's rights is as much forbidden as eating beef. Not only this, Guru Nanak has said that there should be awakening among people, and they should not believe in superstitions. People should be knowledgeable enough to resist attempts by others to exploit them. A Government can exploit people only when the latter are ignorant. He says:--

"Ani praja gyan Vihuni"

The masses should be intelligent.

[Shri Charanjit Singh Athwal]

When Nanak was taken prisoner alongwith his countrymen and brought before Babar, he accused Babar of being a perpetrator of atrocities, of having an army full of sinners. He said 'Babar too Zabar hai'. Even at that time he urged his countrymen to resist threats from foreign invaders who wanted to enslave the country.

I mean to say that this is the fundamental principal of Sikh religion and politics (Mir and Pir). It was Guru Nannak Dev who founded Sikhism. When Humayun went to meet Guru Angad Dev, the latter was meditating. When his meditation was over he opened his eyes and saw Humayun advancing towards him with a raised sword. At that moment he told Humayun that the swords should have been raised on the battlefield against Sher Shah Suri and not against a hermit. Similarly, Guru Arjun Dev attained martyrdom. In the religious context, Jehangir has written in his 'Tojeke Jehangir' and as regards political Context, some historians say that when his son Khusró ran from the battlefield and reached Punjab, the Guru provided him with meals, money, companions and other means for survival.

Previously, the words, "Vahe Guru Satnam" were used in Gurubani as prayer to the Almighty. Later these words took a practical shape in the form of 'Miri and Piri.' 'Miri and Piri' denoting temporal and spiritual powers respectively. I think there are others who can explain it better. There was one sword for each. The sword for 'Miri' symbolising temporal power and the sword for 'Piri' symbolising spiritual power. From the day Guru Hargovind Sahib Maharaj sat on the throne, he wore two swords. From that day temporal and spiritual power became one. Guru Hargovind Sahib Maharaj issued an order that a Sikh visiting him should bring along a good horse and good arms to display true Sikhhood. The Guru got a Takht made along with the Golden Temple. Visitors to the temple can see that alongside the Darbar Sahib which is meant for religious purposes, there exists a Takht Sahib also.

He had got that Takht made. He used to wear a 'Pagri' adorned with a 'Kalgi' (feathers) sit on the Takht and also used to go for hunting. This was his principle. After Guru Arjun Dev's martyrdom he realised that religion cannot be protected by prayer alone. Violent methods need to be adopted to deal with violence. And that is what he did.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, since this Bill is regarding Sikhs and principles of Sikhism, I may please be granted more time. Later this principle was followed by other Gurus also. After the martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur, Guru Gobind Singh, like Lord Krishna in Geeta, asks in his 'Vichitra Natak' "Why have I come into this world? What are the reasons for my taking birth on this planet?"

In his book 'Vichitra Natak' he says:-

*"Hum yeh Kaj jagat mo aaye,
dharm hetu gurudev bithae
jaham tahan tum dharm bitharo
dusht dekhiyan pakar picaro
Yahi kaj dhara hum janam
samajh le sadhu sab manan
Dharam chalavan sant ubharan dusht
saban ko bhool aparan."*

Not only this, he asks the Almighty to --

*"De Shiva var mohr, yeh
hain shubh karman te
Kabahu ne tarun,
Nahi darun arson jab
Jave larun, nischaya kar
apni jeet karoon,
An Sikh hoon apne he
man ko, he lalach hon jun
ton uchrun,
jab aab ki aud nidhan bane,
atn he run mein
tab juh maroon."*

He said that God would protect him in his fight for the truth. Besides this, he related his principle as follows:-

*"Choonkar uj huma he:
te dar gujshat
Halal asth burdan ba
shamsheere dast."*

If a religious person stays at a Gurudwara he will be provided with meals and other comforts. But if anyone tries to attack the sacred place I shall deal with the attacker. And he fought many wars against tyranny to preserve religious principles.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, everyone is aware of the contribution of Sikhs in the freedom movement. A movement for reform of gurudwaras was launched. Even if we call it the Shiromani Committee movement or part of the freedom movement it would amount to the same thing. For this, morchas were launched by Akalis in which congressmen also participated. At that time the affairs of gurudwaras were in the hands of Mahantas. They issued a religious order against the martyrs of Kamagataman; and conferred a 'Saropa' on General Dyer who was responsible for the Jalianwala Bagh tragedy. These people worked against the wishes of Sikhs. The basic tenets of Sikhism were not being observed. Importance was being given to idol worship people were being divided on caste lines. Morchas were launched against all this. Sikhs did not want the country's enemies to be accorded respect and to be treated well. To voice their protest, Sikhs launched the *jaito morcha* against these 'Mahants' where even Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru courted arrest. The 'Guru ka Bagh' morcha was launched where Sikhs raised slogans of "Satnam, Satnam, Vahe Guru, Vahe Guru" while they were mercilessly beaten up. This is a long story which includes Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's arrest and his subsequent imprisonment for two-and-a-half years along with Professor Gidwani. Pt. Madan Mohan Malviya has said that even Andrews who was an Englishman was moved at the sight of Sikhs being dragged by the hair and beaten up. All 'Jathas' first visited the Akal Takht before launching any morcha. A 'diwan' was held there and 'Saropas' were given to the "Members of Jathas." National and Akali leaders used to give their speeches. Then the 'Jathas' made a *parikrama* of the Golden Temple and afterwards courted arrest or made sacrifices. All the morchas launched before Independence began from Akal Takht and gurudwaras but at that time it was not misuse of gurudwaras because Sikhs had to be

prepared to sacrifice their lives at the altar of country's freedom.

Today, when a Sikh stands in front of the Akal Takht and says that Sikhs are being subjected to injustice he is accused of misusing the gurudwara. If the same thing is said from the Manji Sahib gurudwara, it is said that the forum of Manji Sahib is being misused. If Sikhs use the Diwan Hall of the Akal Takht to rightfully ask for fulfilment of promises made to them before Independence and acceptance of the Anandpur Sahib Resolution by the Government leaving 4-5 departments with the centre and giving rest of the authority to the states and accord special status to Sikhs, they are said to be misusing gurudwaras.

If the Sikhs stand in front of the Akal Takht and demand for the release of Jodhpur detainees, to stop killing the innocents in encounters, to let Punjabis have Chandigarh as it belongs to it and also other areas which are dominated by the Punjab and grant its share of river waters, it is alleged that Gurudwara are being misused. If the Sikhs come here to appeal for the punishment of the real culprits of the 1984 riots and not the ones who have been mentioned in the Mishra Commission's Report but those who are occupying positions in the Government, it is said that they are misusing the places of worship. I cannot say as to how far this Bill can be actually effective in strengthening the unity and integrity of the country and how far will it help the Congress in getting political gains out of it during the coming elections but I can certainly say that it has injured the sentiments of the Sikh community. When this Bill is passed, the Sikhs will definitely feel that they who have sacrificed everything for the independence of the country are being considered as second grade citizens. On behalf of my party, I oppose every word, every clause every Article of this Bill. Today when this Bill is passed, it will be a black day for the Sikhs and therefore is passed, it will be a black day for the Sikhs and therefore I and my party walk out in protest.

At this stage, Shri Charanjit Singh Athwal and two other hon. Member left the House.

[English]

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK (Kalahandi): Sir, I rise to support the Religious Institutions (Prevention of Misuse) Bill. The main philosophy and concept to bring this Bill is only to promote the principles of secularism enshrined in the Constitution, in order to strengthen our sovereignty, unity and integrity.

Even while the debate in the Constituent Assembly was going on, there also - because they were well aware of the eventuality of the religion making inroads, a resolution was passed on April 3, 1984 advising that all steps, legislative and administrative, necessary to prevent such activities should be taken. This was the spirit in the Constituent Assembly also. In almost all the National Integration Council's meetings, this has been the idea and this has been the spirit that such a Bill, such a legislation should come. So, keeping all this in view and being well aware of the imperialist designs of the world today, and their main force to destabilise this country being these communal, divisive and separatist forces, the Government has brought this Bill to check their activities. So, from the point of view of the national interest, we also cooperate and support this Bill.

As the previous speaker said - he was a little bit emotional - we all agree and we are all proud of the glory, sacrifice, dedication, genius and patriotism of the Sikh religion. Sikh religion is the religion of the entire humanity - of Hindus Muslims and others. So, everybody is proud of that religion. There is no question of doing any injury or insult to that religion and that is not the spirit of this Bill. The idea behind bringing this Bill is to maintain the holiness of the shrine, to maintain its sanctity and to create an atmosphere so that all persons can come to the Swarn Mandir for prayer. So, my previous speaker should have congratulated the Government for bringing this Bill. This Bill is not applicable only to Gurudwaras, this will be applicable to all religious institutions - it may be of Hindus, it may be of Muslims, it may be a mandir or it may be a masjid. If anybody is utilising the

religion or institutions for anti-national or anti-social activities, or if he is utilising any fund for his political ends or for anti-social or anti-national activities, the Bill will be applicable to such persons only. So, the logic and argument given by my previous speaker was entirely based on emotion and not on any logic or reasoning. We should go to the consideration of the Bill clause by clause. There we will find that there is prohibition for the use of religious places for political activities and funds should not be misused. There are some obligations on the part of managers of the institution and others. The Government has also taken all the care that there should not be any ban on the use of 'Kripan'. So, taking into consideration all these points, I would say that this is a Bill to strengthen our national integrity, unity and sovereignty. But only through legislation, it will be possible. So in order to create a sense of secularism and awareness, we should do our best and it is challenge to all patriots in this country to see that there is a true nationalism, nationalism I mean is that which has a link with the question of peace, anti imperialism, non-alignment and economic advancement together with social justice. We all should be careful and we should develop a sense of nationalism in this spirit and we should try to create an atmosphere of secularism in a true sense by developing an attitude of tolerance.

Lastly, I would like to suggest that there are some amendments with which the Government is coming forward and there should not be any disagreement to them. Concerted effort should be made in this respect and there should be clear and categorical clause in the Bill which should unequivocally state that no religious institution should have any link with these preaching fundamentalism and politics. It should be totally banned because this would be most dangerous thing for the country's progress and development.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipal): Sir, in whole-heartedly support this Bill. It is very unfortunate that a country has been brought to such a situation that this kind of measure has been necessitated. In

fact, religion and religious sentiments cannot be controlled successfully by law because religion is mostly voluntary action and then certain profession with care should also maintain the sanctity of temple and places of religious worship are maintained absolutely, I should say, in a large measure by voluntary efforts, cooperation and mutual understanding of the people professing that religion. But now in view of the situation, particularly in Punjab; this bill has been necessitated. Many of my friends from both the sides had expressed the doubt that the implementation of the provisions of this Act will be a serious problem. Sir, here in religion, we do not say misuse of temples, misuse of place of religious worship, but we say 'desecration'. When a temple or a religious place is not used properly or a religious place or worship is not properly used, in religious language that temple or place of worship is desecrated. That means the temple or the place or premises for the religious worship has been made use of for the religious purpose, namely, harbouring, criminals, terrorists, antinationals storing of arms conspirings against the state. This desecration has been committed by a certain section of a community which would like to identify themselves with the whole community this is a tall claim by that section. The community as a whole minus the section resorting to extremism is interested in peace and prosperity. They are against the misuse of temples non-desecration purposes.

Sir, although this Bill has been necessitated by the situation in Punjab, since it mentions places of religious worship and also it mentions political activities in relation to public worships, it covers other places also. My hon. friend Shri Shahabuddin from the other side, has made observation that it interferes with the minority rights. I do not know in what sense the hon. Member has made this observation because in any case and in any sense, under any circumstances, any measure, any step, any action taken to desecrate the sanctity of a religious place should be opposed by all communities, by all people who have faith in this religion, and he has even gone to the extent of saying that in

public life, for instance, a Rashtrapati or a Prime Minister or a Minister or a public leader appearing at some religious function should be stopped. I do not understand in what sense he has made this observation. In fact, politics should be not only separated from religion, but religion should be placed on top, above all material considerations. This is perhaps our objective because ours is a secular State. In this secular State we recognise practically and by necessity also the existence of so many religions, so many faiths. In a way it is necessary that to succeed in public life, in politics or as businessman, in any profession, he has to exercise a certain amount of that sense of tolerance. Sir, I do not know, honourable Member Indrajit Guptaji also had mentioned that during election campaign, one should not go to masjid, one should not go to a temple. Perhaps this again goes against our own tradition. The intention or the spirit of the Bill is that we should not mix up religion with politics, but then that does not mean that we should be rather separating ourselves from our religious practices, religious habits, the good habits that are necessary for being a good citizen. This should not stop a politician being a religious man. Sir, this Bill will be enabling a policeman, or the law enforcing agencies to enter into temples, places where public worship takes place. In this context, speaking from experience, with sincere faith we have we have in religion, the law enforcing agency should be the last resort, as I said in the beginning, the community as a whole should come to the rescue of its religious place. To my friend from the Akali Dal, I wish he listened to my speech, here what I would like to say is that the whole community should protect the temple. When a section of the community does not like to use the temple properly and the peace-loving citizens are helpless, it is there law in to come in. In fact, the law in such cases will be very weak. That is what I was going to say. Sir, when a whole community does not like to act and also punish the criminals, those who misuse the temples, those who desecrate the temples, then it is a very serious situation. I know of a law in my State. We have a community

[Shri N. Tombi Singh]

Kukis. They do not have any land to themselves, no private possession. The Chief owns all the land. It was considered this was not very proper, each a situation handicaps the villagers. The villagers should have a law enabling all the individuals to own their lands. An act was passed for abolition of Chiefships. And then not the Chief, but the people, the prospective beneficiaries, opposed that law. The implementation has been practically stated. Even now in the States of Mizoram, Manipur and Nagaland the land is possessed by the Chiefs of the kuki tribe. The Chiefs themselves have not complained against the legislation. But the victims of the old tradition rise against the legislation which enables them to own their own private land. The implication is that, if the whole community is not interested in implementation of a particular legislation, which is good for them, the implementation agencies are helpless.

17.00 hrs.

If particular reference is to be made, it is the good, brave people, the Sikh people who have contributed so much for the freedom of the country and who also even now, in spite of the insurgency in Punjab, I should say, majority of them, share with the mainstream to contribute to the maintenance and to the working of the present Constitution that we have given unto ourselves. This community, should rise as one person and should isolate their own mislead brethren and taked steps against their own wrong doers. Then the burden of the Government would be lessened.

With these words, I would support this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI R. ANNANAMBI (Pollachi): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for permitting to participate in this discussion on the Religious Institutions (Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1988 on behalf of the Jayalalitha Group of AIADMK.

The terrorist problem in Punjab has been discussed by all sections in this august House for a long time. Yet, the problem remains unresolved. I am not going to discuss it at length as many other members here have already alluded to it in great details. This law has been brought before this House with a view to maintaining the sanction of the Golden Temple which has been defiled by the terrorist. We have enacted so many laws in succession to curb terrorism. The Govt. has also given many concession to the terrorists in order to appease them. Despite these, terrorism is on the increase. One thing is very clear, the Punjab tangle is not going to be solved by these laws and concessions. This problem requires a unanimous settlement arrived at after discussions between various political leaders. You can give any amount of concessions to appease the terrorists. The Govt. gave the biggest concession to the Sikhs. The Govt. first proposed to set up a Railway coach factory in Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu. But subsequently, it was set up in Punjab simply to appease the terrorists. Despite this, the Govt. could not solve the Punjab tangle. The solution to the Punjab problem can, therefore, only be political.

When the Govt. is taking all steps to ensure the sanctity of religious institutions and to prevent the misuse of these institutions certain disquieting news flows in from Rajasthan. I read from Hindu today that temple was banned for Harijans in Nathdwara in Rajasthan. I was surprised about it. We are living in 20th century. Mahatma Gandhi, Periyar and Anna Dorai preached against this inhuman treatment of Harijans. They espoused the cause of Harijans and advocated the rightful entry of Harijans into temples. The Congress party which is in the Centre is ruling that State. Still no action is taken. Processions are being taken in Nathdwara against this. The situation many any time explode. Hon. Minister must take necessary steps to ensure communal amity.

Communal riots continue to rage all over the country. Recently, Meerut, and

Ahmedabad were in Comunal flames. Many have lost their lives. This should be prevented. Communal clashes may even assume the scale of a civil war.

Certain vested interest mix religion with politics. They exploit the sentiments of the people and use religion as a device to attain their short-term political ends. They desecrate religion and religious institutions. In Tamil Nadu the 'Madurai Adhinam' is indulging in such activities. Unless, his actions are checked, you would not be able to take effective action against such misuse of religion which you seek to do under the provisions of this Bill.

The ancient land of Ayodhya is sacred to Hindus. The temple of Rama is still under lock. This was due to some dispute between the Hindus and Muslims. Even many religious leaders from Tamil Nadu including Sundarakavi Samy have visited the disputed place to appeal to all concerned in this matter. The temple must be restored to the Hindus after proper dialogue between both the communities. This is my humble suggestion.

Tamil Nadu was a bigger State than it is now when it was Madras Presidency. When it was reorganised into Tamil Nadu, certain parts went to Kerala and Andhra Pradesh. There is a Kannagi temple on the border of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Thousands of devotees from Tamil Nadu visit this temple every year. While the Tamil devotees go to this temple every year to worship the deity of Kannagi, clashes between the devotees and the people of Kerala are reported to take place. Attention of the Govt. was drawn to this by our late Chief Minister Dr. MGR and our leader Miss. Jayalalitha. I once again request the Hon. Minister to take steps to restore the Kannagi temple to Tamil Nadu.

Certain Godmen in Tamil Nadu, in the garb of religion, are cheating the poor public. These Godmen exercise the ignorant masses to indulge in committing human sacrifices. Punitive measures must be taken against these Godmen gangs.

I would also like to say a few words about

the misuse of temple property. The temple lands are being liberally rented to well placed private individuals who do not pay even the nominal rent to the temple authorities. These lands must be recovered from them and should be administered by the Govt. The revenue received from the temple property should be credited to the coffers of the Govt.

In the name of religion, certain religious trusts are running schools and colleges which charge exorbitant capitation fees. This loot must be checked. Their licences should be cancelled. Whether it is Hinduism, Islam or Christianity, the Govt. should have a secular approach to all religions. I hope this Bill would ensure it. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. Many hon. Members from this side have submitted that religion cannot be separated from politics. I want to submit by taking this basic fact into consideration that if religion is not separated from politics then what sort of a politics are you going to practise in secular politics, religion must be separated from politics.

I want to submit that the provisions included in this Bill are not adequate. This Bill should be made comprehensive so that religion can be separated from politics.

I have been listening carefully to the discussions which have been taking place here. Just now an hon. Member of the Akali Dal was making his submission. He said that this Bill has been brought for the Sikhs. It is a very wrong notion. If such things are said, it will have an adverse effect on the entire country. They should think that they have been elected by 10 lakh votes and if they make such wrong statements, then what will be the consequences? I believe that it will not only have an adverse effect on the people of this country but on the people of the whole world. They should consider these points seriously. I went to tell my brothers of the Akali Dal that this Bill is not against the Sikh community at all. It is against those religious institutions

[Shri Shanti Dhariwal]

which misuse its buildings for nonreligious purposes. The Government should take stern measures wherever such places are misused. You know as to what statements the Shankaracharya of Puri has made from inside the temple premises. We kept on listening to the statements day and night and kept on discussing them but no action was taken. The consequence was that even the ordinary followers of the Shankaracharya began making provocative statements. Some action should be taken to put an end to all this. When such things take place in any temple, mosque or Gurudwara, it is the duty of the Government to put an end to it immediately. It should be ensured that there is no propaganda. What is happening inside the temples. Intoxicants like ganja and bhang are consumed in temples. Mr. Chairman, Sir, an incident occurred in my area and I want to relate it. It happened only a month ago. One dog lay dead inside the campus of one temple. The priest told one harijan to remove the dead dog. The harijan replied that he would remove it only when the doors of the temple are opened to the harijans and all the harijans of the village are allowed to enter it and have glimpse of God. The priest was not prepared to do so. Some of the villagers intervened and requested the priest to somehow enable the harijans to have a glimpse of God from outside the temple but the priest did not open the doors and started religious discourse instead. This resulted fighting between the harijans and caste Hindus and case was registered under Section 307. This incident had little effect in the country and there has been no change in such attitude. I mean that it would not be proper if temples are misused for holding meetings of Vishwa Hindu Parishad and contributions are raised and R.S.S. is provided with funds. Where 'Akharas' function 'Bajrang Bal' are prepared, then, if Government brings a Bill to curb such activities, you do not welcome it. If you cannot welcome it. If you cannot welcome such measures then which measure will you welcome. You should change your attitude. The same thing happens in the Mosques as well. During the time, when the prayers are offered in the

Misques the Maulana Bokhari, while reading religious pronouncements indulges in politics. Is this written in the Koran? This will never be condemned because it is not suited politically. You want to mix religion with politics. This should be stopped. If you want to strengthen the country, then this feeling that religion is separate from politics should be instilled among the people. Hindus, Sikhs, Christians etc. all are equal and government should treat all religions on equal footing. And in order to do so this Bill has to be passed. Wordly things should not be discussed in temples and mosques but all these things are done there. The Imams indulge in all sorts of propaganda and especially so during the time of elections.

So far as the Golden Temple is concerned, I think if these untoward incidents had not taken place there, then the Government would not have thought of bringing this Bill. I do not want to go into all that because many hon. Members have already spoken on it. What all happened there? Even today, dead bodies, human skeletons and evidences of oppression of women are being recovered from the debris of the Akal Takht. Why don't you appreciate this? Some people have left but I want to thank hon. Shri Ramoowalia for not doing so but being with the country and safeguarding its interests.

With these words, I conclude and thank you for giving me an opportunity to make my submission.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Chimur):
What happened to that dog?

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: I did not remove that dog.

17.19 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Bill and want to submit on this occasion that inspite of being a bigot, I support it. It is unfortunate that in a country where everyone lives together and all religions co-

exist, there, religion is used for personal gains. There are three things, the religion, the society and the politics. We follow religion living in one society and the society is formed of the people having identical feelings and sentiments. We decide the future set up of a country, state or a place through politics. All these three things are different. It is not correct in any way to bring religion into politics.

Being a Hindu, I have faith in a Gurudwara a mosque and a church. I go to all these places. We believe in equality of all religions. All of us should share these sentiments then only we will be able to live like good citizens. We should honour the feelings and sentiments of all and go ahead with the feeling of oneness. It is only then we can take the country forward. Which religion tells that if a procession passes through one route, the god becomes greater and if it passes through a different route the god becomes smaller. I am not prepared to accept such a god. There is a big agitation if the Government directs that the procession should take the different route. On the other hand, if the Imam closes the gates of the mosque then no body comes forward to prevent him from doing so. Nobody is prepared to say that Imam has no right to close the gate of mosque on the day of Id. Similarly, the Sikhs carried out their procession on the day of 'Ganga Snan', but now they have fixed the day one day earlier suit to their convenience. If the Government had directed them to do so they would have never agreed to it.

We want to use religion for political purpose. We want to exploit the religious sentiments of the people for political ends. We use religion at different places. Now this Bill has been brought forward. I agree with Shri Shanti Dhariwal that Bill should be made so stringent that the people may not exploit religion for their political ends.

I would also like to say here that it is totally improper to use religion for usurping public land. It is also not proper that the people propagate their religion on mike in early hours, say at 4 a.m. People committing

excesses or even murders in the name of religion is also bad. It is also improper to abuse the political leaders by assembling on a religious platform. It is also not right to close the gates of the temples or mosques in the name of religion. It is also very bad to kill people in the name of religion.

Temples and mosques are the most reverential places in our society. When a child is born, he is taught to touch the feet of his elders. When grows slightly older, he is given education. Then he is taken to the temple and taught to bow down at first step of the temple. He is taught to be afraid of the god. He is not taught shooting, abusing any body. He is not taught to quarrel with others in the name of religion. The Government should be stiff in such matters. No matter we survive or not, this Government survives or not, but if the country survive we all can live together.

People are now being instigated to form Shiv Sena, Adam Sena. They are seeking votes in their names. There should be a ban on all such activities. You will have to implement strictly the provisions of this Bill.

I am Aggarwal but I do not support unjust activities of Aggarwals. I do not support the man who takes wrong steps in the guise of the religion. We should discourage and condemn people who preach something else and practice something else. Why do we fear, whenever we talk about temples, gurudwaras, mosques we have a fear that the people outside will be angry at this, so we should say such things mildly. No, it will be a wrong way to tread. If we impose religion over politics, the situation cannot improve, it will lead to increase in hatred. This way, we can never tread the right path.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to say only two things. We should impose a ban on the groups formed in the name of religion like Shiv Sena, the Muslim league and others so that they may not exploit religion for seeking votes. The second thing is that restrictions should also be imposed on

[Shri Jai Prakash Agarwal]

political parties formed in the name of religion which take political decisions while sitting in temples, mosques and in gurudwaras. Action should be taken against such people and they should not be allowed to progress in politics. Then only, this bill will be meaningful.

Just possible my words might have hurt the sentiments of some people. If a decision is taken that everybody residing in the country is an Indian first, then I will be the first man to drop Aggarwal from my name. I will be Jai Prakash an Indian. With these sentiments I support this Bill.

[English].

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is most unfortunate that the Government deemed it expedient to promulgate this so called law of Prevention of Misuse of Religious Places through an ordinance.

S. BUTA SINGH: It is 'called', not 'so called'.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I have just begun and you are so uncomfortable with my first sentence, Mr. Home Minister!

This law was promulgated through an ordinance. It represents a total abuse of the ordinance making power. This Parliament was in session till 13th of May and the ordinance was issued on the 26th of May. It is abundantly clear that this House and the Parliament was by-passed.

Not a single new incident of urgency that might have occurred after the prorogation of the House and before the promulgation of the ordinance, i.e. during May 13 and May 26 period, has been cited by the Government. On the one hand the Government has been saying that they want a national dialogue on these topics and on the other hand even this Parliament was not consulted and an ordinance was issued. I must, therefore, express my total dissatisfaction with the way in which the matter has been dealt with.

It is tragic that today this House has been called upon to consider the provisions of a Bill for preventing the misuse of religious institutions because it is these very institutions that had contributed a significant role during the nationalist movement at the time of our freedom struggle.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Hon. Member may continue his speech tomorrow.

17.30 hrs.

[English]

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

UNEMPLOYMENT

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up the Half-an-Hour discussion. Mr. Thampan Thomas to speak.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): This is one of the very vital issues about which the nation is very much concerned. The problem of unemployment was brought through Question No. 65 before this House. The Hon. Minister had given some reply but that reply was not satisfactory. Some of the friends also raised some other supplementaries in that question and, I think, the hon. Minister could not give the detailed answer in this regard and, as such, this discussion has come up. Further I very much doubt whether the Minister of Labour will be able to appraise the House about the realities because the Question is very much related to Eighth Plan schemes and also the job opportunities provided to the unemployed in the country.

In the Plan document which was there at the time of its framing it had been said that it was estimated 34 million hands will be there seeking jobs at the end of the fifth year and the Government will be able to provide them jobs and also give about a million jobs more to clear the backlog. That was the impression there at the time of

preparation of the Plan document. I have gone through the mid-term appraisal given to the members of the House on the Seventh Plan. I have gone through the entire document but I could not find any statistics giving exact number of jobs created and the people absorbed. If this data had been available one could go through other surveys on the subject but here I would like to refer to Economic Survey. In this what is stated is much different from what the hon. Minister had stated in the House. I quote:

"Growth in the employment in the organised sector has been sluggish in recent years. According to the quick estimates, there was a marginal increase of 1.7 per cent in employment in the organised sector which increased from 250.37 lakhs in June 1986 to 254.73 lakhs at the end of June 1987. The increase took place entirely in the public sector which showed an increase of 3 per cent in contrast to a decline of 1.2 per cent in the organised private sector."

The survey figures further indicate that the number of job seekers has been on the rise (estimated at 304.95 lakhs at the end of November, 1987), while the number of jobs created has not only been highly inadequate but also the rate of growth has been going down. The situation, it is needless to add, is taking on crisis proportions even by the official figures. Those unemployed are not only rural illiterate, but also educated, youth. Further it has been estimated that little over 39 million people will be added to the labour force every five years if the present rate of population growth continues.

Future requirements for creation of employment are quite high. The provision of adequate employment opportunities is not just a welfare measure, it is a necessary part of the strategy of development in a poor country which can ill afford to keep any resources unutilised or under-utilised. The development process should not ignore the human capital of the society for otherwise the costs of development may turn out to be too high. So, Sir, to give an impression to the House citing what is

stated in the outline of the Plan document and saying this much of employment has been created and this much has been absorbed is not the right thing. In reality it is not on the increase. It can also be seen from what had happened in the past. The Economic Survey says the number of applicants registered with employment exchanges in 1971 was 5.1 million. In the 1980 it became 16.2 million. In 1984 it rose to 23.5 million and in the year 1986 it further rose to 30.13 million. From 5.1 million in 1971, it has increased to 30.13 million in 1986 in the matter of registration of unemployed people in the employment exchange to seek jobs. Then, how can the hon. Minister's statement establish that one million people have been absorbed from the backlog. I cannot understand this.

I went through certain documents which were available and found out the condition in other nations. I wonder if the Government's statistics are correct. When I looked through certain articles, I found:

"It is claimed in the Plan document that by 1990 about 40 million pairs of hands will be added to the work force. Also that currently the unemployed number only three per cent of the labour force i.e., out of the 290 million strong labour force only 8.7 million are really without jobs."

Sir, the most industrialised society, Japan, is having more than 6 per cent of the work-force as unemployed. In the United States, it is between 8 per cent to 16 per cent. According to the Plan document, only 3.1 per cent of the work-force is unemployed in India. What is the jugglery of these statistics? I really wonder whether the Indian conditions are better than those in America. Are the Indian conditions better than those in most of the industrialised societies? With this jugglery of statements and data, are you making Members of Parliament and the public fools? It is much more than that. When we estimate that only 293 million people are available as work-force, what is the reality? Out of 800 million people, more than 600 million people are the work-force, which is available.

[Shri Thampan Thomas]

What are the people doing? How are the jobs provided to them?

I would also like to point out another aspect. According to my information, the rate of unemployment is increasing at a much higher rate. It is shown by the number of people registered with the employment exchanges.

There is another factor. The agriculture sector has not absorbed more people. One employment opportunity which can be provided for the Indians searching for jobs, is in the agriculture sector. But what is happening there. Because of bad weather conditions, drought, heavy rains and all that, what has happened is that job opportunities in the agriculture sector have dwindled.

Another thing is that kulaks and big landlords have large land-holdings. They have better facilities to employ technologists. When one tractor is used, a minimum of ten persons will be out of job in a field. I am not against tractors. I say that the employment opportunities in the agriculture sector have never been increased. These have only dwindled on account of two or three reasons. One is the technical development, which I appreciate. Another one is that the natural calamities have denied employment opportunities for the workers. That is what has been brought out in the data. In the agriculture sector, employment has not gone up. The number of educated persons seeking employment as evident from the registers in the employment exchanges, has shown an upward increase. Then, on what basis, this Government, its statistics and its planners, have claimed that there is only 3 per cent of the work-force which is unemployed in India? On what basis, has the hon. Minister said that the backlog is being cleared? I would like to have a detailed answer. What is the number of people who are seeking employment? How many persons have been provided employment? Has the Government got any machinery to assess such things? Is the Labour Department in a position to assess these things on a nationwide scale?

I would like to point out another important aspect. How many industries have been closed down? Four months back, one lakh and fifty thousand industries were closed down. In all these industries, how many people would have been employed? What has happened to all those people? How many people have been thrown out of employment because of closures in the organised industrial sector? Has the organised industrial sector given any promotion for employment generation? The Government's policy, the utopian policy followed by the Government is privatisation of industries, by which computerisation comes, technology comes, new industries come and people are thrown out of their jobs. That has been elicited in the Economic Survey which says that in private sector, employment has dwindled whereas in the public sector, there is marginal increase. So, the Government's policy to support privatisation has thrown out thousands and millions of people out of their jobs.

Then comes factory closure. As per Government's policy, factories can be closed, people can run away, eating the money of the Government, take the bank loans and escape. One lakh and fifty thousand factories have been closed. By this, employment is going away.

Another aspect is the traditional industries. I have got a very strange, a very painful experience in my State, in southern States. It is not only in Tamil Nadu. People who were engaged in the traditional industries like the handloom industries, cashew processing, handicrafts industries and such other industries, were thrown out of employment. In coir industry, about four lakhs of people in Kerala are thrown out of employment because of the import-export policy of the Government. Cashew is not being exported. Two lakhs of people in Kerala are out of job in the recent past on account of this. The same is the case with the handloom workers. How many crores of tonnes are being held up in various parts of the country and handloom could not be sorted? Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and

Tamil Nadu are facing this situation and almost everywhere it is there. Because of the traditional industries which could not be promoted by this Government, many millions of people have been thrown out of employment. Therefore, this is a big question which is before this Government. This Government has to tackle it in the manner in which other countries are tackling it. This Government should take the responsibility to provide job for everybody. It should be included as a Fundamental Right in the Constitution. The Government should see that every man is entitled for a job and he is entitled for a livelihood. That should be provided. Such a method should be adopted. I would like the hon. Minister to explain the attitude of the Government in this matter.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister may now reply.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I am grateful to the Hon. Member who has given some very important informations in the House which will be kept in view while finalising the employment policy for eighth five-year plan. I would like to inform the hon. Member that his figures regarding the persons registered with employment exchanges and the logic given by him to disprove the Government assessment regarding the unemployed persons in the country and the reply given by me is not correct. I know and the hon. Member is also aware of it that the number of unemployed people registered in the employment exchanges does not reflect the exact number of unemployed people. That number cannot be taken as correct or as the correct basis. I have personal experience because I have been associated with the industrial workers and with the industries. The people keep migrating from villages to the cities for employment and for getting appointments. I also know that many people have got their names registered in more than one employment exchanges and some persons who are already employed also get themselves registered with the nearest employment ex-

changes as they do not have employment commensurate with their qualifications.

The second thing is that there are such persons also, and their number is quite big, who do not inform the employment exchanges that they have been employed and that their name should be deleted from the register. There are some other reasons also on the basis of which it can be said that the number of persons registered as unemployed with the employment exchanges is not correct. Keeping in view the figures available in the Seventh Plan document or the assessment regarding employment in the beginning of Seventh Five Year Plan made by the Planning Commission and on the basis of which employment policy was formulated for employment of the unemployed people in the Seventh Five Year Plans and also keeping in view of the census for the last 15 years and a balancing position between the employed and the unemployed we carried out a survey which shows that 39.38 million people will be unemployed during the Seventh Plan period. These figures do not include the backlog. Keeping all this in view, investment policy was formulated. We create employment opportunities, and for this we make investment in different sectors, say in agriculture sector, in service organisations in infrastructure development, in the non-agriculture sector in the industrial sector etc. Then, out of that investment, we assess the output and the growth in national economy. Keeping all these things in view, we assess as to how much employment potential we will be able to generate during the Seventh Year Plan period. On the basis of investment envisaged for the Seventh Plan period the Planning Commission reached the conclusion that employment can be generated for 40.36 people. The important thing behind the assessment was that we are able to achieve 5 per cent economic growth every year out of the investment made then we will be able to create employment opportunities to the people who will be available for employment during the period of five years. It is right that our expectations in the agriculture sector has received a set back due to the drought, but the mid-term appraisal

[Shri Bindeshwari Dubey]

conducted by the Planning Commission recently shows that there has been an average economic growth of 4.4 percent during the last two years of the Seventh Five Year Plan. The monsoon have been very good this year and if the crops are also good for the next two years then it can be presumed that the target of 5 per cent economic growth fixed can be achieved.

The growth in the industrial sector has been 8.9 per cent and it can be called quite satisfactory. Keeping everything in view, including the growth in industrial sector, employment generation in the Seventh Plan period was estimated to be approximately 40.36 million and on the basis of this I have said in reply to a Question that we will be able to provide employment to not only to all those unemployed people during a period of 5 years but will also be able to provide additional employment to one million people out of the back-log of 9.20 million unemployed.

It cannot be claimed that the figures given by me regarding unemployment and the estimates prepared by the Planning Commission on the basis of different surveys are precisely correct. We have certain norms and formulae for conducting surveys and we arrive at unemployment figures on that basis. If we quote those figures we cannot claim them to be very precise on the day we have quoted them because of the frequent and constant changes in the formation of age groups in the country. As I said the basis of strategy for providing employment is the same viz how much employment potential can we create, how much investment can we make and how much output we fix and achieve accordingly. Then we can generate employment for the people as per the estimated economic growth per year. I said the same thing the other day also and did not hide any fact. I said that while we are succeeding in removing unemployment from the rural areas and the number of unemployed people has come down there, in cities the number of unemployed people has increased. I said it earlier that we have

not succeeded in taking adequate steps in that direction. When I say urban area it includes the industrial sector also to a considerable extent. Therefore this factor cannot be ignored and I have told as to what is the process for creating employment.

Besides, there is one more point. I have said all this on the basis of the general economic growth and the investment made in different sectors. Apart from this there are special employment programmes in the rural areas like R.L.E.G.P. and N.R.E.P. programmes which are concerned not only with the development of agriculture or agriculture production, but are meant are for generating employment also. Assets and employment potential is created through R.L.E.G.P., N.R.E.P. and I.R.D.P. The results of all these have been good.

I believe that for self-employment programmes, which are meant for the poor in urban areas, loans are provided for education, for opening fruit shops, tailoring and other such works. Subsidy too is provided for those programmes. There is a separate scheme for the educated people, but we have been unable to tackle the problem of employment through these programmes. Our hon. Members know that the extent of unemployment in the rural areas is not the same today as it was 10 years back.

The majority of our country's population lives in the villages. Therefore we paid attention in our Five Year Plans to reduce the rural unemployment to the maximum. It has certainly been reduced.

The hon. Member mentioned the figures of International Labour Organisation in his question and said if economic growth continues at this rate till 2000 A.D. then employment will be generated at the rate of 3.99 per cent. I want to tell him for his information that we will be able to tackle this problem by 2000 A.D. According to the figures India will be sharing two-thirds of the unemployment in the world by 2000 A.D. I do not know as to where from he has got these figures. But I want to submit that keeping the increasing population of

India in view if we compare it with other nations, then the whole situation gets clear. I have got the comparative details of other countries and I want to say that those countries which are recognised as prosperous—like European and Asian countries, which pump money by paying huge funds, have a much higher rate of unemployment. Therefore we will have to agree that the Government has been trying its level best to tackle the problem of unemployment. We are committed to this. We will require the cooperation from all sections for the purpose. This is a problem where politics cannot be involved. All our hon. Members are concerned about this. This representative Government feels concerned about the unemployment problem and we are determined to face the problem and make all out efforts to solve it.

18.00 hrs.

The hon. Members mentioned that a number of industries have become sick and they are being closed down. Due to that also the labourers are going unemployed and on the other hand it is being said that so many jobs are being created. It is right that a number of industries have closed down but it is not true that the Government have given full liberty to the private sector to do whatever they like in the name of modernisation or computerisation and declare the workers surplus. So far as computerisation is concerned, the policy of the Government is clear that while we consider the computers as a means of increasing efficiency, at the same time no manpower should be rendered surplus as a consequence thereto. The employer should train his employee and employ him in the same job without allowing any retrenchment. So far as modernisation is concerned, we are considering that no retrenchment should be made in the name of modernisation, technological development or upgradation. The Government and the Ministry of Labour is aware that it can be misused but as the hon. Member said that had some of the industries not become sick and closures had not taken place, then we would have been able to reduce the urban unemployment which, as I have said, has slightly increased. We could have reduced

the number of unemployed because job opportunities have increased. I have accepted this and have also said that I will not only let our cabinet colleague, the Planning Minister, know about your feelings, but also my own feeling that he should plan a strategy for the Eighth Five Year Plan where steps may be taken to remove unemployment. We must bear it in mind that while we have succeeded in removing rural employment to a large extent we have not been able to contain the urban unemployment. It is not necessary that a big industry should be established for that purpose.

I do not want to discuss the education policy. Why are the educated youth unemployed? Everyone wants an appointment in a Government office or in any other office. The need of the hour is that people should get various types of technical training. A number of agro-based industries can be set up in the villages and many technicians can be accommodated there. There is a need of technicians for the new and developed techniques being introduced in the field of agriculture. Whenever a pumping station in a village gets out of order, no technician is available to repair it, and the same thing can be said about the electric motor and tractors when go out of order. If such training is imparted to the villages then ample employment opportunities can be generated. The need is to impart technical education for self-employment so that maximum number of people may get jobs and open their own cottage industries.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Vocational courses should be introduced in the schools.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: I agree with you that such trainings should be imparted so that the small-scale and cottage industries may increase in the rural areas and the excessive agriculture dependence may be reduced. The people including some educated ones who are leaving agriculture, should get such a training which may enable them to get employment by opening small industries in the villages only.

[Shri Bindeshwari Dubey]

The figures quoted by me have been obtained from the Seventh Plan Document which is based on the survey conducted and the project reports submitted on that basis. I have only presented the figures available and have not placed any thing on my own. They have quoted figures from the Seventh Plan Document and Economic Survey etc. But as I said that it is the right that if economic growth continues at the rate of 5 per cent every year, then according to our assessment we will be able to generate employment potential for 40.36 million people. According to the mid term appraisal our economic growth in the last few years have been a little over 4.4 per cent. If the situation remains all right then I feel that the Government will be able to generate that much of employment which can be provided in the Five Year Plan period. We will also reduce some of the backlog. Our estimate till 2000 A.D. is that we will be able to provide employment to 120 million unemployed people. If the backlog of 9.20 million is also added in it then we will make an arrangement to provide employment to roughly 130 million people. The target of our plan is to successfully achieve the 5 per cent economic growth rate. If we go on achieving it and even if we consider it 3.99 per cent or roughly 4 per cent and we try to maintain it. Then it is my belief that we will be able to tackle the problems relating to employment by 2000 A.D. (*Interruptions*)

I agree that I have not replied to all your points. You have mentioned certain other things which we will take into consideration including the traditional industries while formulating the plan scheme.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no doubt in it that the number of unemployed persons is increasing gradually in India. Its main cause is stated to be the population explosion. Whatever the statistics may be, practically it has been observed that in the category of unemployed persons, there are educated and unedu-

cated persons both. Educated unemployed persons includes persons with medical and engineering degrees as well as having technical training and it comprises non-technical persons with graduation and post-graduation degrees who are in search of jobs. They are all unemployed youths.

So, I would like to know what measures are being taken to provide employment to the uneducated persons, technically qualified persons and non-technical persons such as having B.A. and M.A. degrees.

Sir, the Planning Commission has expressed its displeasure over the percentage of unproductive employment being generated out of total employment generation in the country. If this process continues and employment is provided in the unproductive services, the number of unemployed youths will increase further. The people of the country have high expectations from the hon. Minister. I would like to know what will be the result of providing employment in the unproductive services in various departments and neglecting productive services. Will it not increase the number of unemployed youths. How this problem is proposed to be solved? Sir, I would also like to know the number of unemployed youths estimated to be in Eighth Five Year Plan, and whether the Government is proposed to tackle the problem of unemployment through its old method or proposed to evolve some new device to provide more employment opportunities. If so, details thereof and the views of the Government with regard to it may kindly be stated.

Sir, it is true that 40 million man-days are to be generated during Seventh Five Year Plan under various anti-poverty programmes and the work of constructing roads, dams, or schools under NREP, RLEGP is monitored by the same people who accomplish it. The hon. Minister is also aware of the fact that the entire work is done by contractors and bogus mandays are created on the basis of preparing fake muster-rolls. They show that as many as 10 to 40 thousand mandays have been created. In reality, a particular team accom-

plishes the whole task every year. The particular figures of the creation of mandays are shown on paper, but nothing is done.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, India is a democratic country, and the Government is supposed to provide facilities and employment to the masses. So I would like to know as to how the Government is proposed to rectify the defects such as practice of showing wrong data. Instructions have been issued that in the construction work of the schemes, 50 per cent should be spent on materials and 50 per cent on labourers. Suppose a primary school or a Junior High School is to be constructed at the estimated cost Rs. 70 thousand. Out of this amount as much as an amount of Rs. 60 thousand is spent on materials alone, leaving barely a meagre amount of Rs. 10 thousand for labourers. How can 50 per cent mandays be generated with this amount of Rs. 10 thousand only. This scheme is faulty. This shows lack of foresightedness on the part of the persons who envisaged it. It is some sort of fraud with the country. So this norm of 50 per cent for materials and 50 per cent for mandays is not possible in each case. This policy is required to be reconsidered.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a food for work programme. But everybody knows that the officers mint money by selling entire allocation of wheat. Labourers are reluctant to take wheat. If this is impractical, why wheat is provided to them? Government should make payment in cash in lieu thereof. At present, foreign exchange is spent on importing wheat. That wheat could be supplied during natural calamities like floods and drought. The Government ought to pay attention towards these matters.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the most important issue is that of industries. In spite of every efforts, employment has been generated only in the industrial sector. It is an accepted fact that unless surplus labour force in agriculture is absorbed in industrial sector, unemployment cannot be removed. But the official figures of last ten years reveal that a large number of industrial units

have been closed. Many industries are on the verge of becoming sick and incurring huge losses. If the same situation continues, the mills will be closed. How will it help in generating employment. On one hand, unemployment is increasing, on the other Government is raising the age of retirement from 58 years to 65 or 62 years.

[English]

I want to know from the hon. Minister, whether in coordination with the other Ministries he will have the courage to discuss that the age of retirement of the officers of officials should be reduced to provide employment opportunities to those who are, millions and millions in number, unemployed and roaming on the roads in our country.

[Translation]

Before I conclude I would like to make yet another submission. Under the present licensing policy it takes two to three years in getting a licence and arranging finance from the banks for setting small and big industry by an entrepreneur. The sooner the industries are set up, the sooner employment will be generated. But delay in this work is causing an increase in unemployment. I would also like to know as to how the Government is proposed to deal with such problems.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, even in developed countries like Canada which is thinly populated there is a problem of unemployment but in those countries compensation is paid to the unemployed persons. Certainly, in our country, there is increase in employment, but the hon. Minister in his answer to the original question said that the backlog was 9.20 millions at the beginning of the Seventh Plan and that it is to be reduced to 8.30 million at the end of the Seventh Plan. I do not know whether the growth of population in these five years has been taken into consideration.

[Shri Somnath Rath]

Besides, the hon Minister has also supplied that by the turn of the century 130 millions will be provided jobs. I want to know from the hon Minister, what he means by 'jobs'. Does it mean only the workers, or unemployed persons, who registered in the employment exchanges, the semi-educated or educated, beginning from primary to college education? But there are a large number of unemployed persons in rural areas who have not registered in those employment exchanges. So, when you think of planning, it is not of the labour department alone and when you say about the poverty alleviation schemes that is another Ministry's concern, when we talk about production and productivity increase, there is another Ministry; and there is a Ministry for implementation and also Planning. So, all the concerned Ministers and Ministries ought to discuss this important issue of unemployment and come to a conclusion. I would like to know from the hon Minister, about the scheme - as he has spoken about the thrust on the Eighth Five Year Plan that is going to be finalised, our Prime Minister has also given stress on district planning-- will he talk to his colleagues in the other Ministries and see that a data bank is prepared, at the district level about the unemployed persons so that the BDOs, the Inspectors of the Labour Department of each State should prepare a data bank, as to how many persons have not been employed, or are being registered in the employment exchanges, and how many persons in the rural areas and even urban areas have not been registered stress has to be given to unorganised labour. And, when you talk of the agricultural labour, it is to be pointed out that they are not paid minimum wages. It is an open secret. These agricultural labourers are not having employment throughout the year. So, to supplement it, what we have to do is, we have to set up cottage industries in villages. So, Khadi Board should take up this job and provide employment to the villagers during the lean period. I would like to know what steps have been taken in this regard?

Sir, in employment exchanges, the names of those who have registered there

after reaching a certain age limit are struck off. This does not mean that they have provided employment to these people. They are also jobless. There is a problem of inter-State migrant labourers. There is a problem of emigration labourers outside the country so, this is a matter which the Government has to look into.

We were proud about the Government's policies that is *Bekari Hatao* and *Ganbi Hatao*. These policies can only be implemented if really statistics is taken from all the sectors. It is no use only the labour Minister giving some statistics of his Department. It is concern of the nation. It is a problem which can be tackled only if it is taken on its proper perspective. Schemes and programmes have to be prepared so that by the turn of this century we can give employment to 130 million people. I would like to know from the Hon Minister how best he is going to achieve it?

SHRI SB SIDNAL (Belgaum) Sir, this problem has been continuously worrying not only this country but all the countries. How are you going to solve this problem? This problem has been discussed many times on the floor of this House, and outside. What is the solution? How best we can achieve the result? How will we give employment to the younger generation? Is it by industrialisation alone? No, because we have not advanced very much and within ten or fifteen years, we cannot give employment to all the people, who are unemployed now. In due course, this number will swell. There are public industries, private sectors, self-employment, agricultural section, and so many other things. Have you planned systematically to feed these youngsters? Sir, in my opinion, we have planned, but that plan is not adequate to absorb the younger generation, who are being continuously frustrated. So, what best could be done in the available circumstances is really a big problem.

According to me, it is not only concerned with the Labour Ministry, but with the Health Ministry also. Population has to be curbed in proportion to the job that may be created by the turn of this century.

We are not serious about this problem. Unless you curb the growing population, whatever we have produced will vanish. The moment you go outside, thousands of mouths will approach with a pair of hands, whom we are not able to feed. Therefore, the whole planning process has to be changed from A to Z.

My friend mentioned that our beloved Prime Minister has been thinking seriously to plan at the district level. Can it help? According to me, we have very seriously analysed the facts and we find it is sumptuous. How? In districts, we know the sources of employment. And that we have not been able to do. One example I may give. You take afforestation programme. It may be very small, very negligible, but it makes all the wealth of the country. If you make a master plan for 15 years to make the country green and clean, in each district you can give employment to 10,000 uneducated and unskilled persons. 5000 persons will go on planting the trees and another set of 5000 will go on maintaining them. For 15 years if you calculate, the profit will be more than the investment that we have made. And those people will get employment there.

Another section is agricultural section. It is not taken care of scientifically. We have been providing seeds, pesticides, manure, everything. But have you trained the man who is using these things? We have not trained him. Many people have died while spraying pesticides on cotton and other crops. We have not been able to give them proper education. They do not know how to utilise water properly, how erosion takes place, what are the minerals of the land. Agriculture is the biggest sector in the country. 80 per cent of the people live in rural areas. It has the capacity to absorb all of them provided we plan for agriculture, which we have not done so far. We have built many projects. But they are all affected by silt deposit. Erosion is threatening us very seriously. The other day when there was a discussion on floods, it was brought to the notice of the House how erosion has taken place. It is not by discussion alone that things will be all right. We have to plan, we have to halt somewhere

to re-structure and re-build our country. Unless you produce more, you cannot employ more people. The problem of modernisation, mechanisation or computerisation of the industry was there in Japan also. They absorbed these people after giving proper training suitable to the job of modernisation or upgradation. And the rest of the people were silently sent to other sectors where they were absorbed. We cannot deny the entry of science into our country. If we do that, we will be left behind the clock of the world. If we are left behind the clock of the world, we cannot stand in the international field and we have to be poorer and poorer. To solve unemployment problem we cannot keep our machines idle. If we do so, production-wise, we will be very small, quality-wise we will be worse. Then there will be no market and no transaction. About the district planning and all that, the Minister was telling so beautifully as if things are going to happen today or tomorrow. Really a serious attention has to be paid to this aspect not by Labour Department alone or Industries Department but by the whole Government including the opposition. All of them should sit and thrash out the plan. It is not that people sitting in air-conditioned rooms of Yojana Bhavan will do it. A very serious thought has to be given as to what is the best way to curb our population. Today, all concentration has taken place in big cities. With the result, there is no place to live, no water to drink and no air to breathe. So satellite cities have to be planned immediately.

My friend from the other side, has put all the accusations of the world on our head because we are ruling. We welcome some serious criticism. Madam Gandhi foresaw all those things. After nationalisation, full incentive and subsidy has been given not only to backward and weaker sections but to backward districts also. But my friends on the other side criticise us for the sake of criticism. If they have any plan better than this, we welcome that. But they have never done this. They only criticise. We welcome any good criticism.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now please conclude.

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: So, what I would request the Labour Minister is to have a dialogue with the Health Minister, the Industry Minister and the Agriculture Minister to see how we can stop the inflow of the rural people into the urban areas, adding to the population. In the rural areas you don't get even Rs. five per day. If I go to Bombay or Delhi and do even shoe-polishing, I can earn Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 per day. So, why should I live in a rural area? Rural areas have been totally neglected by the State Governments. I appeal to the Central Government to give correct directions to those people for creating activities in the rural areas, cooperative-wise or agro industry wise or in any other manner which is suitable and appoint a high-powered committee, including all experts in this country. I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

[Translation]

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have already mentioned in detail in the very beginning of my speech, about the measures being taken to tackle the problem of unemployment. I do agree that only productive employment should be generated. I am not in favour of generating unproductive employment. So I am in agreement with the hon. Member that it is of no use to generate unproductive employment. But I would like to say that planning is a continuous process. A plan is prepared for a particular period taking into account the necessity of the time. We do undertake mid term appraisals also, and the strategy of the plan is also changed accordingly. The hon. Member has himself stated that the Hon. Prime Minister is very much concerned about it and he wanted to effect changes in the strategy in making the 8th Five Year Plan. He is interested in the planning from below, or planning at district level. The hon. Member has himself made suggestion that planning process should be initiated at district level and a data banks be set up at dis-

trict level. It is a good idea to gather correct information.

There is no need to reply to those points. I will pass on those suggestion to the Minister for Planning and I will discuss these points with him.

The Ministry of Labour is concerned with registering the names of unemployed persons and forwarding the names to the employers who send demands. But we have the joint responsibility. This question is addressed to Ministry of Labour, so I am replying. But it is also true that the Planning Commission is also concerned with this question. We have to coordinate the various departments to gather information with regard to achievement of target fixed for the various sectors and generation of employment. I will have talk with the Minister of Planning about these suggestions made by the hon. Member. I will also find ways and means as to how best the various department are to be coordinated to arrive at mutually agreed decision in this regard. it is a very good suggestion.

The Hon. Prime Minister himself is very much concerned about it. As a Member of the Council of Minister I am saying that he is also seized of the matter and is holding talks with the Members of his Cabinet. I would convey these suggestions to him so as to take these suggestions in view while preparing future strategy to solve this problem. That is what I wanted to say.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House is adjourned to reassemble tomorrow.

18.36 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, August 11, 1988/Sravana 20, 1910 (Sakha)