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12.46 hrs.

(Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and some other hon. Members then left the House)

Title: Regarding combating cross-border terrorism.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me the floor. I would like to bring it to the notice of the House and, through you, the Government of which several important Ministers are present. This very House is on record having supported the Prime Minister and the entire Government on three occasions whenever there was a crisis to combat cross-border terrorism and we are still united in our resolve. We shall not do anything that remotely helps Pakistan or Pervez Musharraf to build up any campaign against India. ...*(Interruptions)*

श्री नवल किशोर राय (सीतामढ़ी) : अध्यक्ष जी, हम भी बोलना चाहते हैं।

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : What is this? हमको तो बोलने दीजिए।

श्री सुरेश रामराव जाधव (परभनी) : आप हर विषय पर बोलते हैं।

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : You should know that I represent the principal Opposition. If you do not know that, keep quiet. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, when I speak with your permission, why should he interrupt me? ...*(Interruptions)*

The Government made this resolve with the support of the Opposition parties. As I have said, the entire House till today is united to combat cross-border terrorism.

But there is an unfortunate development as has been reported in *The Times of India* today. Yesterday, the Minister of Defence while replying to a question in Parliament said that cross-border terrorism, after the deployment of the Armed Forces, had gone down. I quote what he had said:

"The mobilisation exerted military pressure on Pakistan and forced the Pakistani President to denounce support to '*jihad*' through his speeches of January 12 and May 27."

He further added:

"Some of the terrorist organisations in Pakistan were banned, some terrorist camps in POK were closed, their accounts frozen and leaders arrested. The infiltration this year has come down considerably compared to the figures of the corresponding period of the previous year."

This is the official opinion of the Ministry of Defence given to the House. It has been further reported:

"Curiously, MEA figures show that the period of 175 days after Pervez Musharraf's May 27 declaration of ending infiltration had seen a higher number of incidents and civilian deaths. There had been 1,624 incidents after May 27 compared to 1,403 before, and 582 civilians had been killed after that, compared to 442 before."

Now the MEA is campaigning with figures that cross-border terrorism is on the increase and activities are on. The Ministry of Defence is claiming that things have been brought down because of the deployment. This has created a total confusion to the whole approach of the Government and its entire perception.

Therefore, I strongly feel it important that no less than the Prime Minister must come next week to clear the whole thing because this kind of campaign by the Government from two doors is only adding strength to Pervez Musharraf and not the people of this country in their resolve to fight cross-border terrorism.

I, therefore, demand that the Prime Minister must dispel these misgivings and clear the whole issue whether the Defence Ministry is right or the MEA is right...*(Interruptions)* We are not creating any confusion...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker Sir, I do not like this to be taken in a lighter way. The Government is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha and two Ministries cannot have two separate perceptions on the whole issue. This is only helping Pervez Musharraf and Pakistan. Therefore, I think, the Government is accountable and since there is a conflict between the two Ministries, the Prime Minister must clear the whole issue before the nation. ...*(Interruptions)*

I demand that the Prime Minister must come and clarify the whole issue...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (GOPALGANJ): No.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Why no? Sir, I want a response from the Government...*(Interruptions)* Sir, this is not an issue to be taken in a lighter way ...*(Interruptions)* The Government must respond because this is an issue taken up by the principal Opposition Party...*(Interruptions)* The Government cannot keep quiet on this issue...*(Interruptions)*

श्री रघुनाथ झा : डिफेंस मिनिस्टर को सुनना पड़ेगा, तभी यह होगा। *(व्यवधान)*

अध्यक्ष महोदय: आप बैठिए। मैंने आपका नाम नहीं पुकारा है।

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, when two Ministries differ on an issue, it is only for the Prime Minister to clarify...*(Interruptions)* Sir, the Law Minister is sitting there and the Energy Minister is also sitting there. They represent the Cabinet. They must respond whether this confusion between these two Ministries is correct or whether the Prime Minister will clarify the position...*(Interruptions)* Sir, the Foreign Ministry is saying that things have not been reduced while the Defence Minister is saying that things have been reduced. Sir, we want an answer on this...*(Interruptions)* I shall not keep quiet if the Government does not respond...*(Interruptions)*

श्री मोहन रावले : अध्यक्ष महोदय, ये आज पाकिस्तान के खिलाफ स्ट्रॉंगली बोल रहे हैं। *(व्यवधान)*

श्री प्रियरंजन दासमुंशी : आप पाकिस्तान के खिलाफ तीन महीने से बोल रहे हैं। हम नेहरू जी के समय से बोल रहे हैं। *(Interruptions)*

अध्यक्ष महोदय: आप कोआपरेट करिए। सब का बोलने का नम्बर आ जाएगा।

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: There are three Cabinet Ministers present in the House. I would request you to bring it to the notice of the hon. Prime Minister.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): Sir, I will bring it to the notice of the hon. Prime Minister.
