

## (ii) Incident of bomb blast at Dhemaji district, Assam

Title: Regarding incident of bomb blast at Dhemaji district, Assam.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Sir, on behalf of Shri Shivraj Patil, I make this statement.

A powerful bomb explosion took place at 0850 hrs. on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2004 at the venue of the Independence Day function in the Dhemaji college ground, resulting in the death of 13 persons (seven male and six female including five school children) and injuries to a few others. All the victims were spectators who had come to participate in the function. Critically injured persons have been shifted to the Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh. Preliminary investigations have revealed that the explosion was caused by an I.E.D planted 40/50 meters from the rostrum near the public enclosure. The explosion appears to be the handiwork of ULFA cadres. The Flag was hoisted by the Deputy Commissioner at 0915 hrs. at the same venue.

There were two other incidents in Assam on Independence Day. In one incident an I.E.D explosion took place in the Dhakuakhana, Normal School field, Dhakuakhana sub vision of North Lakhimpur district at 0755 hrs. In this incident an I.E.D was buried just beneath the flag post. No casualty has been reported. The explosion was caused by timed device planted well in advance and ULFA cadres are suspected to be behind the act.

In the second incident an I.E.D explosion took place after the Independence Day celebration function at the Gauripur Field in the Dhubri district at 1320 hrs. No casualty has been reported as public had already left the venue after the morning function.

The State Government has placed the Superintendent and Additional Superintendent of Police under suspension for the security lapses. The Deputy Commissioner is also being replaced. State Government has also declared *ex-gratia* grant of rupees three lakh each to the next of kin of the deceased and Rs. 50,000/- each to the seriously injured. An amount of Rs. 10,000/- each will be paid to those who suffered minor injuries. All the medical expenses of the injured will be borne by the State Government.

State mourning was observed on 16<sup>th</sup> August and peace processions and public meetings condemning the dastardly acts and asking the militants to shun acts of violence are being held today.

The Government of India shall provide all the assistance required by the State Government to counter the acts of violence and insurgency, perpetrated by the militants.

...(Interruptions)

**श्री रामजीलाल सुमन** : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, राज्य सरकार ने स्थिति से निपटने के लिए भारत सरकार से क्या सहायता मांगी है और भारत सरकार ने क्या मदद की है, क्या सुविधा उपलब्ध कराई है, माननीय मंत्री जी हमें बताएं। **â€** (व्यवधान) भारत सरकार ने वहां की स्थिति से निपटने के लिए राज्य सरकार से क्या पत्र-व्यवहार किया है, उसका खुलासा भी माननीय मंत्री जी करें।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not the way. You cannot ask any question now. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (SHIMOGA): Sir, I would like to appeal to the Leader of the House to agree for a discussion on this...(Interruptions) There have been reports in some section of the Press that there had been a breach of security in the area...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (BANGALORE SOUTH): Sir, there has been a breach of security in the area...(Interruptions) There should be a discussion on this...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can give a notice for this.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. BANGARAPP : Sir, we are appealing to the Government to agree for a full-fledged discussion on this issue...(Interruptions)

**उपाध्यक्ष महोदय** : आप नोटिस दीजिए। नोटिस देने के बाद उस पर डिस्कशन के बारे में निर्णय लिया जाएगा ।

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : Sir, this is not a small matterâ€ (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It will be decided by the BAC.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : Sir, the Government should agree for a discussion on this issue.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down. This is not the way.

...(Interruptions)

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