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EDITORIAL NOTE

The year 1991 has indeed been momentous in the history of independent India with our parliamentary polity undergoing remarkable changes of far-reaching consequences. The nation went to the polls yet again following the resignation of Prime Minister Shri Chandra Sekhar in March 1991 and the subsequent dissolution of the Ninth Lok Sabha. The elections to the Tenth Lok Sabha saw parliamentary democracy asserting its primacy once again though, of course, it was marred by the tragic assassination of our former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The trauma of his assassination notwithstanding, the electoral process was eventually completed much to the gratification of the nation at large. The Tenth Lok Sabha was duly constituted and the system was at work yet again reiterating the fact that parliamentary democracy has struck firm and deep roots on the Indian soil.

The year 1991 was significant for one other reason too. In September 1991 India had the proud privilege of hosting the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in New Delhi. The Conference, inaugurated by the President of India, Shri R. Venkataraman, was yet another milestone in the history of the CPA as also of the Commonwealth. It was one of the largest CPA Conferences, if not the largest ever held, with as many as 448 Delegates, Observers, special invitees and their spouses assembling in New Delhi.

On our part, the Conference Secretariat endeavoured to ensure that the distinguished guest had a meaningful and pleasant stay in India. It was a matter of gratification for us that the New Delhi Conference had very fruitful deliberations on various issues of topical concern. The discussions reflected truly that the CPA as an institution has been firmly established in promoting the twin Commonwealth ideals of consultation and cooperation. It was with a sense of humble satisfaction that we bid farewell to our guests from the Commonwealth community. Our enlightened readership will be delighted to know that the Special Number of the Journal of Parliamentary Information (Vol. XXXVII, No. 3, September 1991) with the focal theme of "Parliamentary Democracy at Work in India" was released by the Vice-President of the CPA, Mr. Darrell Rolle at the valedictory function of the Conference on 28 September 1991.

Keeping in mind the historic occasion, we include in this issue a Special Feature "The 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference: An Overview" highlighting all activities of the New Delhi Conference. Another feature, "Addresses at the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference" carries texts of speeches delivered at the various functions of the Conference, including those at the inauguration of the Conference as also at the closing ceremony.

Article 87(1) of the Constitution provides that at the commencement of the first Session after each general election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first Session of each year, the President shall address both Houses of Parliament assembled together and inform Parliament of the causes of its summons. On 11 July 1991, the President of India, Shri R. Venkataraman addressed the members of the two Houses of Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament at the commencement of the first Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha and outlined the policies of the Government of India on various issues and the legislative programme for the Session. We reproduce the text of the Address by the President as a prominent Feature in this issue of the *Journal*.

A balanced distribution of powers—administrative, legislative and financial—between the Union and the States makes a federal structure a great success. Whenever there is an imbalance in their powers, the federal system cracks under its own weight. Sardar Surjit Singh Minhas, Speaker, Punjab Vidhan Sabha, in his article, "Distribution of Powers in Federal Structure" discusses the salient features of the Indian federal structure in the light of the demand by various State Governments for political non-interference by the Union in their affairs and for more financial autonomy. The author concludes that ours being a pluralistic society, it needs a balanced federal structure so that ethno-political development of all communities is ensured and democracy develops from within the grass-roots which is essential for ensuring a strong, prosperous and united India.

On 13 August 1991, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah was elected Deputy Speaker of the Tenth Lok Sabha. On behalf of the *Journal of Parliamentary Information* and its readership, we extend our heartiest felicitations to Shri Mallikarjunaiah on his election. We include in this issue a special Feature on the Deputy Speaker's election.

We felicitate Sarvashri D. Sripada Rao, Jibakanta Gogoi, Sheikh Hassan Haroon, P. Kannan, Kesari Nath Tripathi and Hashim Abdul Halim on their election as Speakers of the Legislative Assemblies of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Pondicherry, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, respectively. We also extend our felicitations to Sarvashri Debesh Chakraborty, K. Narayana Kuru, Moreswar Temurde, A.V. Subramanian and Anil Mukherjee on their election as Deputy Speakers of the Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Maharashtra, Pondicherry and West Bengal, respectively.

Our readers would remember that we could not carry the regular Feature in our September issue (Vol. XXXVII, No. 3) since it was a Special Number. However, we have carried in this issue all the regular Features, viz, Parliamentary events and activities, privilege issues, procedural matters, parliamentary and constitutional developments, documents of constitutional and parliamentary interest book summaries,

resume of Sessions of Rajya Sabha, Lok Sabha and State Legislatures and recent literature of parliamentary interest which takes care of the entire period of the two issues, viz. 1 April to 30 September 1991. A comprehensive Index to Vol. XXXVII of 1991 also finds place in this issue.

We have been constantly endeavouring to make this *Journal* more useful and informative. We would greatly welcome suggestions for its further improvement. We would also welcome practice and problem-oriented non-partisan articles in the field of parliamentary procedures and institutions from members of Parliament and State Legislature, scholars and others interest in the field of parliamentary political science.

C.K. Jain

THE 37TH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE

The 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference was held in New Delhi in September 1991. The Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma inaugurated the 11th Commonwealth Conference of Members from Small Countries on 21 September 1991. The 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference was inaugurated by Shri R. Venkataraman, President of India, on 23 September 1991. On the same day, the Secretary-General of Commonwealth, Chief Emeka Anyakou addressed the Delegates. The closing ceremony was held on 28 September, 1991.

The Addresses delivered on these occasions are reproduced below. A comprehensive article entitled "The 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference: An Overview" covering all functions/activities of the Conference also finds place in this issue.

—Editor

INAUGURATION OF THE 11TH COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE OF MEMBERS FROM SMALL COUNTRIES, NEW DELHI, 21 SEPTEMBER 1991

WELCOME ADDRESS BY SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL, SPEAKER,
LOK SABHA AND PRESIDENT OF THE CPA

Honourable Vice-President and Distinguished Guests:

On behalf of the people, the Parliament of India, and on my own behalf, I extend a very warm welcome to all the guests in this inaugural ceremony of the Conference of Small countries, who have come over here from abroad and different parts of India.

On your behalf and on my behalf, I express our profound gratitude to the Honourable Vice-President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma ji, for agreeing to inaugurate this Conference.

India is an ancient country which has seen the ups and downs of history. The Honourable Delegates here will no doubt have opportunity to see often the great edifices and the scars and wounds that history has left behind.

The essential message of India, however, lies in our philosophies that sees *microcosm* in *macrocosm* and *macrocosm* in *microcosm*. Since

the dawn of history, it has been India's unique privilege to carry the torch of these ideals to distant lands and inspire them too to noble endeavours. As Swami Vivekananda once said: "Like the gentle dew that falls unseen and unheard and yet brings into blossom the purest of roses" India has contributed to the thought process of world thinkers throughout the ages. We see a unique oneness of essence in all things in the world, small and big, living and non-living. Our philosophies emphasise the holistic nature of human existence in harmony with the Cosmos.

From our point of view, the essence of greatness does not lie in size or population but in essential human attainments. The small countries may be small in size of their lands and in population, but, with respect to knowledge, wisdom and the real and ultimate essence of life, they stand on the same platform as any other country in the world. We, in India, look towards the countries of the world from that angle. We would continue to look towards these things from that angle only.

The small countries have the genius and capacity to make democracy work and succeed in achieving their objectives. In our ancient period, we had a large number of small viable democracies in constant communication with their people through procedures not much different from today's parliamentary form of Government. History shows that small states have been able not only to compete with other countries, but they have been able to excel in all that they have been doing. We hope that this may continue to happen in future also.

All the same, there are problems which are more likely to be faced by the small countries than others. These problems pertain to politics, economics, technology, science and culture. They relate to the issues of trade and commerce, security and a place and voice in the world. These problems have to be attended to on priority and solved. They can be solved by the cooperation between small countries and by cooperation between the small countries and other countries. They can be solved by seeing that certain kinds of helpful and enlightened attitudes and policies are adopted the world over and by the international associations and Organisations. Together, the countries of the world can solve any problem that crops up. Together, they can reach any height of glory, prosperity and happiness.

What the countries of the world need is cooperation and design and plan to compete; compete they should for excellence, efficiency and economy. Simultaneously, they should also cooperate for harmony, justice and the ultimate goal of happiness and prosperity of all. Our effort at cooperation and meaningful competition should encompass the areas of agriculture, industry, communication, commerce and technology.

As we develop, we will have to formulate strategies in new areas like the use of the resources of the Ocean and the usage of the potentialities of the Space and the Outer Space. Our strategies in these areas will call



11TH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE OF MEMBERS FROM SMALL COUNTRIES

New Delhi, 21-22 September 1991



The Vice-President of India, and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma inaugurating the 11th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference of Members from Small Countries at the Banquet Hall of Ashok Hotel on 21 September 1991.

for close cooperation in utilising the common resources of all mankind and the protection of the interests of all, whether small or big. It is in these fast evolving areas that we can help each other through cooperation or irreparably hurt ourselves through short-sighted action.

In India, we hold that if we have to be happy, we have to see that all others are happy too. We cannot be happy if there are some who are unhappy. That is why it is the responsibility of the countries of the world, which are advanced to see that the less advanced and developing countries are cooperative to see that the small countries are treated on par with the big ones. Let us hope and trust that a climate for this kind of cooperation and conditions is created, in greater degree through this Conference and through other Conferences of this nature.

I now request the Honourable Vice-President to inaugurate this Conference.

ADDRESS BY DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA, VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA AND CHAIRMAN, RAJYA SABHA

Honourable Mr. Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker of Lok Sabha, India and President, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Honourable Mr. Darrell E. Rolle, Member of Parliament, the Bahamas and Vice-President, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Honourable Mr. Ghulam Nabi Azad, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, India, Honourable Mr. Clive Griffiths, MLC, President of the Legislative Council, Western Australia and Chairman of the Executive Committee, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Honourable Mr. John Reynolds, MLA, Minister of the Environment, British Columbia and Vice-Chairman, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Honourable Dr. Manmohan Singh, Minister of Finance, India, Honourable Mr. P.V. Rangaiah Naidu, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Communications, India, Honourable Mr. Ivan Buchanan, Speaker of the St. Christopher and Nevis National Assembly, Excellencies and Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am delighted to be among friends from the Commonwealth family gathered here in New Delhi. The small countries constitute a significant section of the Commonwealth group of nations. It is true that they have to face several problems that are peculiar to them. The common constraints that hinder their development and make them particularly vulnerable can only be minimised by mutual sharing of views and collective efforts. I am sure that the deliberations of this Conference will be a purposeful exercise in this regard.

It is indeed difficult to define smallness, yet over the years, factors like geographical size, accessibility, economic resources, market size and degree of political development have come to influence one's perception about smallness. Today, a cut-off level of a population of one million is generally accepted as a working definition for studying the problems of

small states. Friends, an under-developed political system, a fragile and vulnerable economic infrastructure and a staggering society struggling hard for its identity, are some of the traits that immediately come to one's mind while thinking about small countries of the world. Today, when a small portion of the world's population is enjoying the fruits of democracy, industrialization and the most advanced scientific knowhow, it is indeed ironic that the majority of the nations are struggling to retain their identity.

Friends, it is well-known that about ninety per cent of the small countries still rely mainly on the export of their primary products to sustain their economies. The prices of primary commodities in the international market being very low, these countries find it extremely difficult to meet their development targets. Again, the majority of the small countries also suffer from an unfavourable ratio between their populations on the one hand and their capital and natural resources on the other, resulting in a low standard of living and extensive unemployment or under-employment. There is a growing need for external aid to build the infrastructure of these countries.

Some of the small states have also to contend with threats to their territorial integrity and sovereignty. It is a matter of satisfaction that the Commonwealth is playing a pioneering role in drawing attention of the small countries to their special needs. It is, therefore, a major task requiring imaginative approaches and a continuing process of innovation.

The Consultative Group of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, since its inception in 1984, has been providing us with a detailed study of the position of small states in global society and has come up with valuable suggestions for their betterment. You may recall that Commonwealth Heads of Government at their meeting in Melbourne in 1981 had noted with concern the particularly difficult economic and trading situation faced by small and poor countries and urged the member Governments and Commonwealth Secretariat to strengthen their economies by providing needed assistance to them. The Commonwealth Secretariat accordingly began new ventures in small developing countries, some in collaboration with individual member countries, while strengthening some others.

The Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting held in New Delhi in 1983 also discussed the problems of small states extensively. The Goa declaration on International Security, adopted at the conclusion of the New Delhi Summit said:

"We are particularly concerned at the vulnerability of small states to external attack and interference in their affairs. These countries are members of the International community which must respect their independence and, at the very least have a moral obligation to provide effectively for their territorial integrity. We have separately agreed on an urgent study of these issues. Additionally, however we will play our part in helping the International community to make an appropriate response to the UN Secretary General's call for strengthening of collective security in keeping with the Charter.

In an effort to implement the ideals imbibed in the Goa Declaration, Commonwealth Secretariat has undertaken study of the special needs of the small countries in consonance with their right to sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Friends, a variety of parliamentary systems operate in Commonwealth nations, each one of us having adopted a system to suit our own needs. I am of the opinion that a political system which is not responsive to the needs of the people and which fails to maintain a regular dialogue with the people, can never be stable or strong enough to face internal as well as external challenges. The issue of national security is thus inextricably linked with the political health of a nation. There is, therefore, a need for small countries to strengthen their parliamentary systems in order to face the threats to national security effectively.

One of the major threats to any democratic system comes from economic inequality and under-development. Absence of a sound economic base weakens the very foundations of a society. Almost all developing countries in general and small countries in particular share the basic problem of restricted domestic markets, which makes them vulnerable to international economic influences. I am sure that if all the small developing states come together on a common platform, they can go a long way in dealing with these problems. Developing countries, therefore, should work together to gain reciprocal trade benefits from the industrialised world.

Another impediment to the development of small states is that long-term low-interest finance is often not forthcoming. Past experience has shown that raising of the finances at high interest rates, adds to strains on weak economies. The suggestion to create a Commonwealth Development Fund, to which all members might, according to their capacity, contribute for the benefit of small developing countries to encourage local production and to reduce small countries' dependence on limited export products and markets, is a laudable one.

The Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation devotes more than half of its resources to the support of our small brethren. It has also given extensive technical assistance to regional organisations like the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the South Pacific Commission and the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Cooperation. Over two-thirds of the industrial projects assisted by the Commonwealth Secretariat's Industrial Development Unit have been in small states.

Benefits of cooperation can never be over-emphasised. Members of Commonwealth can pool their resources to handle many more problems like spread of education, population control, educating the masses on drug abuse and other social evils. The Commonwealth has, indeed, assumed a leading role in articulating and addressing the problems of small states.

I am happy to inaugurate this Conference and am confident that it will prove to be another milestone in our joint efforts of cooperation for building a better future for the people of our country and indeed of the whole world.

SPEECH BY MR. DARRELL E. ROLLE, VICE-PRESIDENT, CPA

Mr. Vice-President of India, Mr. President of the Association, Mr. Chairman of the Executive Committee, Mr. Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee, Mr. Speaker, Buchanan, Distinguished Guests, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my very great honour to thank you, Sir, Mr. Vice-President of India, on behalf of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for gracing this occasion with your presence and for your very inspiring and challenging address which will no doubt stimulate our thoughts during the course of our two-day deliberations.

In an age when the form of Government and institutions in well-established and developed countries of Europe and indeed the shape and boundaries and even the economies of those countries are changing daily before our eyes, we in the Commonwealth of nations can look to our parliamentary institutions as a beacon of hope for the present and the future.

In a time of global economic recession, and in view of the massive needs of Eastern bloc countries for the already over-burdened financial resources of the West, the prospects for the economic future of underdeveloped and developing small States are certainly not bright. The challenges which this presents for economic and social prosperity cannot be ignored. We must, therefore, pool our resources and our experiences to devise through the Commonwealth complementary plans of action which will address not only our common problems but those individual peculiar problems of small States.

It is often said that the greatness of a country is not in its size nor in its population, but in the hearts of its people. I believe, Mr. President, that this is especially true of our Association and our Commonwealth and it is on that solid foundation that we look to the future with optimism and assurance.

Mr. Vice-President, may I once again thank you for your opening and inspiring address to this Conference. May I extend to you, Sir, your people and your country the very best of peace, prosperity and happiness.

Thank you, Mr. Vice-President.

SPEECH BY MR. IVAN BUCHANAN, SPEAKER OF THE ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Your Excellency the Honourable Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, Vice-President of India, Honourable Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker of the Lok Sabha

and President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Honourable Darrell E. Rolle, Minister of National Security, Leader of the House, the Bahamas and Vice-President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Honourable Clive E. Griffiths, President of the Legislative Council, Western Australia and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Honourable John Reynolds, Minister of Environment, British Columbia and Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Distinguished Guests, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am asked to respond on behalf of the delegates. To those of you, perhaps, who do not know of my existence, I am from a small Island of St. Christopher, commonly called St. Kitts in the Caribbean.

It is with the greatest pleasure that I embrace this opportunity to respond firstly to the warm words of welcome by the Honourable President to us, the delegates attending this 11th Conference of Small Countries and secondly the sound remarks of His Excellency the Vice-President.

This 11th Conference is tangible proof of the steadfastness, the success, the usefulness and the solid contribution that the deliberations of the Small Members of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association have brought to this unique Organisation over a decade. We, the delegates, regard this 11th Conference convened here in the Sub-Continent of India as a continuation of the unity forged over a decade. We are not awed by the size of this Sub-Continent but rather we are happy to be embraced by you as a big brother.

Your Excellency, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, Vice-President of India, we, the Delegates from the Small Countries, are honoured and deeply touched that you have found time to grace with your presence this the Opening Ceremony of the 11th Conference of Small Countries of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

We join in the sincere sentiments expressed by our brother Delegate the Honourable Darrell E. Rolle and we are already looking ahead to the 12th Conference of Small Countries to be convened in his country, the Bahamas, next year.

It is said that history repeats itself. Christopher Columbus was looking for a Westward passage to this Sub-Continent, India, 500 years ago to prove his theory unsubstantiated at that time that the world is round. He discovered firstly the Bahamas and then the other Islands which are now known as the West Indies. It is now 500 years since we have found India now and we are here today.

And we will be setting our courses like Columbus to the Bahamas next year.

I thank you, one and all, on behalf of the delegates for sharing in this memorable and historic occasion.

Thank you.

**INAUGURAL FUNCTION OF THE 37th COMMONWEALTH
PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE, NEW DELHI, 23 SEPTEMBER 1991**

**WELCOME ADDRESS BY SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL, SPEAKER,
LOK SABHA AND PRESIDENT OF THE CPA**

Respected Rashtrapati, Venkataraman ji, Respected Up-Rashtrapati, Shanker Dayal Sharma ji, Respected Pradhan Mantri, P.V. Narashimha Rao ji, the Vice-President of CPA, Mr. Darrell Rolle, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Parliamentary Association, Honourable Clive Griffiths, the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Honourable David Tonkin, Respected Sanjiva Reddy, Respected Giani Zail Singh, Respected Jatti, Respected Hidayatullah, Honourable Governors, Honourable Chief Ministers, Honourable Speakers, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Members of Parliament, Honourable Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, Honourable Delegates, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I rise to welcome, on behalf of the people and Parliament of India, the distinguished Members of the Delegations and their spouses and our other honoured guests who have congregated in this historic Central Hall of the Parliament of India, this morning for the Thirty Seventh Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference. It is for the third time that the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference is being held in India.

Earlier, India had the privilege of hosting this Conference in 1957 and in 1975. We express our profound gratitude to the Members of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for bestowing once again this honour on us.

According to our scriptures and tradition, guests are like the Gods to us. We say:

अतिथि देवो भवः

We have tried our best to make the stay of the distinguished guests in our country comfortable, meaningful and enjoyable. It is our sincere hope that they would appreciate the Conference arrangements and overlook the shortcomings, if any, and would carry happy memories back to their countries.

The respected President of India, Shri R. Venkataraman ji, the respected Vice President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma ji, and the respected Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narashimha Rao ji, have honoured us by gracing this occasion with their presence. The Honourable President will be inaugurating this Conference. We express our immense gratitude to him for the honour he has done to us. The Honourable Vice President had inaugurated the Conference of Small Countries day before yesterday. We are greatly beholden to him. The Honourable Prime Minister will also be



The President Shri R. Venkataraman inaugurating the 37th CP Conference in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 23 September 1991. Also seen in the picture are Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Chairman of the CPA Executive Committee, Mr. Clive Griffiths, Vice-President of the CPA, Mr. Darrell Rolle and Secretary-General, CPA, Dr. David Tonkin.

addressing this august gathering. We thank him immensely for the consideration and whole-hearted cooperation extended by him to this Conference, as also for his presence here today and his address to the Conference.

The history of Indian Parliamentary Democracy, in a way, has been inextricably linked with this historic Central Hall of the Parliament. This magnificent Hall has witnessed the ceremony transferring the sovereign power of the nation to the People of India. It was again in this Hall, the Indian Constitution was debated, framed and adopted. In recent days, all the momentous ceremonies of national importance have been held in this Hall. Honourable President addresses the Members of both the Houses of Parliament in this Hall, outlining the achievements and policies of the Government. We are indeed delighted to see that the inauguration of this Conference is taking place here. The Hall will add to the dignity of the Conference and in its turn, this Conference will add to the dignity of the Hall. India, as you all know, is a land of many diversities. The snowclad Himalayas stand sentinel in the north; the southern fringes witness the confluence of the Ocean and Seas at Kanyakumari where the Sun appears to rise and set on the horizon at the same place; the silvery and sandy deserts of western India have their own enchantment and glory; the sylvan greenery of the north-east bears testimony to the experiments in the laboratory of nature.

Ours is a land where many languages are spoken, varieties of culture exist, where apparent attitudes towards life appear to be different and yet, where there is a strong bond of oneness and essential harmony amongst the people at large. India is also the land where basic philosophies of existence were discovered and developed guiding human beings in clear and unambiguous terms, to the purpose of their existence, to their relations with one another, with other creatures, plants and non-living things. Our philosophies developed through long years of keen observations of the Cosmos and of nature of the human thought processes and of relations between all human beings. They were the results of discussions and acceptance of the reality of different known and unknown aspects of things—living and non-living.

It is through these profound processes and approaches that the journey from darkness to light, from mystery to truth, from destruction to indestructibility and immortality is traversed. All compassion, consideration, tolerance and respect for other's views, and life, concepts of equality, freedom and justice are inevitably the result of the evolution of these philosophies.

The spirit and the soul of democracy and discussion which are at the very root of parliamentary systems, were known to the Indian people from time immemorial. One of our ancient sayings in the *Rig Veda* ordains:

Meet, associate and assemble peacefully;
 Speak and discuss freely;
 Know, learn and study fully and profoundly so as to arrive at a unanimous decision; and thus thoroughly prepared, discharge your duty nobly, just as the sages are wholly unitedly, wisely and fervently devoted to God, the World and their Duty.

Even in respect of forms of democracy and parliamentary systems which were prevalent in the ancient India, there are striking similarities with the models of the modern world. The people of India, since ancient times, have said that the voice of the People is like the voice of the God—*पंच परमेस्वर* an idea asserted by Rousseau many centuries later as *Vox Populi Vox Dei*.

The Constitution of India has endeavoured to uphold and preserve all these noble ideals. The Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic of India is ceaselessly striving to secure to all its citizens, Justice Social, Economic and Political; Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship; and Equality of status and Opportunity. It is also trying to promote amongst them Fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation. Even though the Constitution does not make any specific reference to the scientific, cultural and spiritual aspects of life we stand committed to promoting these ideals too.

Ever since the adoption of the Constitution, we, the People of India, have proved time and again that we are democrats by choice and conviction. Over the past four decades, ten general elections have been held to choose the representatives to the Lok Sabha. The system has withstood stresses and strains and can cope with difficult situations. The Tenth general election held recently in our country was both momentous and tragic at once. Momentous it was, since Parliamentary Democracy asserted its primacy once again in our political system. Tragedy struck the nation in the brutal assassination of our former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi midway through the elections. It speaks volumes of the maturity of the Indian electorate that even this traumatic blow did not prevent the electoral process from being completed.

The system, thus, has sustained, worked and produced results and we are confident that in future too, it will prevail. The challenge before us is to remain in tune with the times and the world, without losing our soul and spirit which are rooted in the wisdom of the ages. The story of the evolution of modern Commonwealth is also the saga of the democratic experiments in India and the other member States. The forms and the systems that are prevalent in the Commonwealth have their origin in the Westminster model. There have of course been modifications and amend-

ments to suit the genius of different climes and peoples. These modifications have considerably enhanced the worth and value of the basic systems. And that is as it should be. Thus, India and the Commonwealth countries have exchanged views and philosophies and enriched one another. In future too, they should persevere in this noble tradition. The annual Conferences of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association provide a unique opportunity to parliamentarians to discuss and share their experiences on subjects of parliamentary interest, as also exchange views on major political issues of topical concern. These Conferences also enable parliamentarians to discuss and better understand the diversity in the nature and content of the parliamentary democratic polity prevalent amongst them. The modifications and differences in the systems can be discussed and adopted by countries in which they would produce results, thus creating greater harmony and strength. As Sir Bernard Braine once said, this Association is in fact "a power house of ideas, rather than an anvil upon which policies are hammered out."

Today, we are living in a world of many uncertainties, and also one with tremendous potential if we all stand together. We are beset with many problems—political, economic and social—common to all of us. These days, the problems of drug trafficking, terrorism and pollution of the environment confront us all. These cannot be solved by the efforts of individual countries alone, but, they can be tackled if we join hands and evolve common strategies. History tells us that no hurdle is insurmountable, if we are united, but it also tells us that those who do not learn from their mistakes are condemned to repeat them.

The future beckons us to effectively make use of the resources on the land, in the oceans, the space and the outer space. This need not remain just a dream, but can be achieved in reality if the countries of the world work hand in hand. The development of knowledge in different fields can be better advanced if the community of nations consults and cooperates.

In the sphere of trade and industrial development, as also in other areas, there is an imperative need for cooperation and coordination of activities. Competition may help to achieve excellence and at times economy. However, progress is achieved also through cooperation and coordination. Unfettered and mindless competition may lead to grave injustice and even destruction whereas cooperation and coordination may preserve and economise resources and energies and help in real development and harmony. Conferences such as this, I am sure, provide opportunities to evolve positive programmes of action.

At the global level, we have the United Nations, consistently endeavouring to achieve results through cooperation. The problems and issues confronting mankind today are gigantic and complicated and cannot be solely and effectively solved, within an acceptable time frame, by the United Nations alone. A helping hand from organisations and Associations

like the CPA can go a long way in addressing these problems and arriving at acceptable solutions. The representatives of individual countries may not, of course, have full sanction to approve of plans and programmes like these. But, they can contribute ideas and concepts. They can also imbibe ideas and concepts. In their legislatures, they can give expression to what they have received and acquired. This way, they can contribute substantially towards creating a climate for broad understanding and cooperation among nations and peoples.

Our ancient philosophy talks of *वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्*. The whole world is a family. The Commonwealth is also a family, unique in itself. Our goal should be *लोकः समस्तः सुखिनो भवन्तु*. Let the whole of humanity attain the prosperity, happiness and the eternal bliss. For this, each and everyone of us in the Commonwealth should live up to the twin ideals of consultation and cooperation. As Shridath Ramphal once said: "The Commonwealth cannot negotiate for the whole world, but perhaps it can help the world to negotiate".

What we all have to keep in mind is the ultimate welfare of the people and the world. It has been proved beyond doubt that the fundamental freedoms of the people cannot be denied for ever. For us, in the Commonwealth, the will of the people comes first and last. Our differences should not come in the way of promoting peace and prosperity everywhere. Together, we have to march ahead. That architect of modern Commonwealth, Jawaharlal Nehru once said:

What strikes me about the Commonwealth is not so much the points of likeness, which are many of course otherwise, we would not be together but rather the points of difference which have not been allowed to come in the way of our meeting, conferring, consulting and cooperating with each other, in a large measure. And if that is good for Commonwealth, it should be good for others also, and good for the world at large.

The world has become small over the centuries. Our odysseys today take us into the space and even beyond. The world abounds with varieties of culture and perceptions and attitudes towards life which we should retain and enrich. For, only then, will life be truly meaningful and worth living. At the same time, there is 'something' which is common in all human beings, living things and non-living things. That 'something' must be understood in proper perspective and further strengthened. That would evolve into an international culture, both very powerful and lasting. Conferences of this nature unleash the forces and reveal strategies to achieve those objectives. If we take a few steps ahead in this direction through this Conference, we would have achieved our objective. Let us strive to do it. Let us discuss and debate to achieve it. Let us have faith in ourselves and proceed forward.

With these words, may I now request the respected President to declare open this Thirty Seventh Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference?

**INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN, PRESIDENT
OF INDIA**

The Honourable Vice-President, the Honourable Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker, Vice-President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Chairman and Members of the Executive Committee and Secretary-General of the Association, Parliamentarians, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Honoured Guests:

India feels privileged to be able to host the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference on its soil. The Parliament of India and indeed our people are delighted that we should have this opportunity for the third time. Many of you might have attended the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences held here in 1957 and 1975. For others this would perhaps be their first visit to India. On behalf of the people, the Parliament and the Government of India and on my own, I extend to all the honoured delegates, observers and other guests from the several countries of the Commonwealth spread over almost the entire globe, a very cordial welcome.

The people of India share with me the sincere hope that for each one of you the visit will be a rewarding one, and that the ensuring Conference itself will be a purposeful and memorable experience.

At the time of the 1957 Conference, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association had forty-nine branches. A little over one hundred delegates and observers attended it. In 1975, the number of branches grew to 90 and nearly 300 delegates and observers assembled here. I am glad to see that the family has since grown further and today, in 1991, the CPA has as many as 109 branches, acting as a vital link between members of the Parliaments of the Commonwealth. Based on the principle of consultation, discussion and cooperation, the Association brings Parliamentarians from different lands together to discuss, learn and benefit from each other's experience.

During its long history that goes back to some 80 years, the Association has developed what I would like to call the spirit of the Commonwealth based on mutual cooperation in quest of peace and democracy, building bridges of fellowship and understanding among peoples belonging to diverse, racial, ethnic, cultural and social background, strengthening parliamentary institutions in their respective lands, ensuring the freedom and dignity of the individual, equality of man and rule of law and finally providing a Government responsible to the people.

In the noble task of welding into a Commonwealth newly independent countries of the former British Empire, Prime Minister Clement Attlee and Jawaharlal Nehru played an invaluable role. Today we are proud that its

membership spreads from Australia to Zimbabwe, encasing the A to Z of democratic virtues.

In all its eight decades of existence among them many turbulent epoch-making years—the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association has remained the guardian of parliamentary democracy. The Association has forged close bonds by enabling members to interact as Parliamentarians and equals, thereby exemplifying the world-wide spirit of democratic unity. In nurturing the spirit of democracy, guarding its institutional framework and fostering fellowship, the CPA has rendered a unique service to the world community at large.

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is a unique institution. It has not just a shared past but a common present and a prospect of future togetherness. This mutuality is not regulated by any agreements or treaties and its resolutions and decisions are not binding on anyone. It is an association of independent nations which knows they are free to express their views and opinions on matters which are brought before them by common agreement. It is left to each individual country to take advantage of the variations adopted to the parliamentary model and to absorb such of them as suit their genius. It is this characteristic of the CPA which has made it last so long and will enable it to last in the future also.

As one of the oldest members of the CPA, and a consistent champion of the spirit of freedom, democracy and peace, our country cherishes the sense of belonging and oneness that comes from being a member of this special family. India, to those coming here for the first time may appear strange in some ways, full of mysteries and myths, a land of great complexity, contrasts, contradictions. And that would be a valid reaction, for ours is an ancient civilisation and a new nation-state. Here many centuries and cultures coexist, strengthening and being strengthened by one another.

India has cradled some of the most ancient republics in the world. Millenia ago, representative institutions and deliberative legislative bodies flourished here. The literature of the Vedic and Buddhist periods is replete with references to institutions like the Sabhas and Samitis with highly developed and sophisticated parliamentary processes and procedures which included rules for regulation of business and even provisions *inter alia* for a quorum, a presiding officer, voting by division and—surprising as it might seem—even something akin to the institution of a Parliamentary Whip !

The modern institutions of representative parliamentary democracy in India, however, owe their origin and growth directly to our British connection. During our struggle for independence, one of the early important demands was for the establishment of parliamentary institutions and the association of Indians with it. Distinguished Indians had entered

the British Parliament and we felt that it was only right that Indians should be allowed the same privilege on their soil. Successive instalments of constitutional reforms had to concede this demand and consequently, our people gained some experience of the working of franchise and of legislative institutions. When independence came in 1947, this historic hall and its adjacent chambers reverberated with expressions of faith in the parliamentary system as the one most suited to her genius, heritage and needs. It was realized as a point of national consensus that there was no substitute for a Parliament in a country of India's size and diversity, and that if the rule of law, the freedom of expression and representative government were to be our priorities, the primacy of parliamentary institutions would have to be affirmed.

Over ten general elections to Parliament and numerous to State legislatures, the people of India have come to acquire something of an expertise in the process of democratic decision-making, sometimes for continuity and sometimes for change. Electoral verdicts apart, it is clear that the deciding voice is firmly and irrevocably that of the people.

Speaking of the parliamentary system at the opening of the 21st Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in 1975 in this Hall, Shrimati Indira Gandhi had said :

We opted for this system not to emulate Britain or because the framers of the Indian Constitution were unaware of other forms of democracy, but because it was best suited to the Indian reality. It was a deliberate choice and was determined by the non-violent nature of our fight, by our preference for peaceful and orderly change, and by our conviction that the people must have the deciding voice.

(Unquote)

But opting for the parliamentary system is one thing; running it efficaciously is another. Political resilience and the recognition of the need and desire for adjustments to changing situations are the basis of democratic functioning. And, there is no denying the fact that we are, the world over, passing through stupendous change. Parliamentary processes have come under critical review in some countries including those that have been members of the Commonwealth. Alternatives have been thought of, seriously suggested and sometimes actually experimented with. Presidential forms of government have been tried by erstwhile democracies of the Westminster type at the same time, Presidential systems have been sought to be replaced by Parliamentary democracy in certain countries.

Ultimately, however, a system is only as good as the people who operate it. Also, there are many possible variants within the parliamentary system itself. There is none that can claim infallibility or universal validity. But, we do know that not only have countries that gave up the parliamentary system in favour of other models sought to return to a

parliamentary polity, but even countries which for decades operated a monolithic system are now actively adopting multi-Party parliamentary processes.

If worked properly and honestly, there is perhaps no better substitute for representative parliamentary democracy. With all its deficiencies, it is still superior to all other systems that human ingenuity has so far been able to devise. There is no other system which better protects the rights of the individual through the Rule of Law, and which enables, through the mechanism of debate and free discussion, the ventilation of the grievances of the people.

In recent years, scholars and experts have devoted considerable thought to the philosophy and operational mechanics of parliamentary democracy. Parliament today is not merely a law making body. It has become more and more a multi-functional institution performing a wide variety of roles—with grievance ventilation and redressal having primacy among them. New Branches of knowledge and separate academic disciplines of Parliamentary Political Science, Legislative Process and Legislative Management Studies have emerged and gradually taken shape.

Discipline and decorum are the basic foundations of parliamentary democracy. To speak and let others speak, to hear and let others hear, to propose and to let the opposition have its say and to argue vehemently but accommodate ultimately, is the pith and substances of Parliamentary process. Parliamentarians should enter the portals of legislatures to give, not take. I am reminded of the wise words of Gibbon on the fall of the Roman Empire. And I quote :

When the people of Rome wanted not to give to society, but for society to give to them, when the freedom they wished foremost was a freedom from responsibility, then it was that Rome ceased to be free.

(Unquote)

Friends, as products of scientific age, we tend to believe, and not unnaturally, that the marvels of science can provide all the answers to problems that concern the future of humanity on the planet. Certainly, we would not deny that science and technology, which have equipped humankind with a tremendous range of control and mastery, are important aids to human development. And yet, if we seriously take stock of the manner and nature of the progress made, it becomes imperative to redefine the whole purpose of development itself. We are becoming increasingly aware that our tremendous potentiality, all the remarkable achievements of our age, the stupendous range of possibilities of human experience available to us, will count for little if we are also simultaneously engaged in the annihilation, physical and moral, of our resources and values.

The world has grown smaller with contact, communication and exchange among nations. Yet it has not necessarily become more peaceful. Struggle for power and influence still dominate global affairs. While the recent treaty between the US and USSR to reduce strategic nuclear arsenals is a tangible contribution towards a nuclear free world, there can be no denying that there is still immense scope worldwide for a greater reduction of expenditure on armaments. Economic disparities and ecological degradation stare us in the face. We are assailed by a sense of foreboding that we are inhabiting a chaotic universe of competing social, economic and political forces and unless appropriate measures are adopted betimes, the very preservation of the human species will be in jeopardy.

Both at the governmental and non-governmental level, there are now some two hundred Commonwealth organisations in educational, economic, technical, professional and other fields. One of the most outstanding of these, is the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. I find from your conference papers that many matters of global importance are listed for discussion in the agenda. These include protection of the human rights of refugees; the rôle of the Press in democracy; reforms in South Africa; environmental protection in relation to population growth, industrialisation and urbanization; health care in developing countries; and the problem of drug abuse and crime.

While there are many positive developments on the world scene, there still are many matters of continuing serious concern. Despite encouraging developments in South Africa, much remains to be done for basic political rights of the people of that country. I believe that the source of most of our troubles is in the unholy desire of man to dominate over his fellow men, to deny those basic human rights to others which he wants for himself.

I happen to be one of those parliamentarians who attended one of the earliest Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences—the conference held in New Zealand in 1950. During the customary tour of the host country, our group of Parliamentarians was taken to the glow-worms' cave. We were warned that the glow-worms were sensitive to noise and would not glow if there was any. So all of us held our breath and became dead silent. Imagine Parliamentarians not just from one country but from a bunch of the Commonwealth remaining quiet even for a brief second! But we did. Then we saw millions of diamonds sparkling on the roof of the cave—a sight of unparalleled charm and beauty, that has lingered in my mind ever since. Later during our speeches, the Canadian delegate said he would like to borrow the glow-worms and present them to the Speaker to enable him to keep order in the House. Speaking later, I said that I would like to borrow the glow-worms for a different purpose. I said the glow-worms have an unique capacity for shedding light without heat and that was what I would like My Parliament to learn. I am sure this is exactly what this Conference would want all Parliaments to do.

I trust your deliberations will be fruitful and will foster a better understanding among the Parliamentarians from Commonwealth countries, of the problems that confront humanity as a whole.

Once again, I welcome all of you most sincerely to India and wish you a very pleasant sojourn in our country. With these words, I have great pleasure in declaring the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference open.

Thank you.

SPEECH BY SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO, PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

Respected Rashtrapatiji, Honourable Vice President, Honourable Speaker, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, Distinguished Delegates, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

India is honoured to play host to the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference which has brought together in its capital, distinguished Parliamentarians and Legislators from different countries belonging to the Commonwealth family. This is not the first time that India has been chosen as the venue of this august gathering. We have happy memories of previous Conferences held in New Delhi in 1957 and 1975 respectively. Let me extend to you, distinguished delegates, a very warm welcome to India. I wish you every success in your deliberations.

A Commonwealth gathering is always a remarkable event. It is like a family reunion of diverse nations, cultures and races spread across several continents. What we share and what brings us together are the noble ideals of freedom, justice and equality and common commitment to democracy and its implied values of tolerance and political accommodation. The institution of Parliamentary democracy is another common legacy we all share and cherish.

Here in India, the institutions of Parliamentary democracy are both firm and deep-rooted. We have had ten General Elections to our national Parliament and several more to our State legislatures. The present Parliament is the 10th that has been constituted. We have witnessed several changes in Government and Governments being formed by different political parties, both at the Centre and in our States. We have been through turbulent times. We have had our share of national tragedies, including the recent tragic assassination of Rajiv Gandhi. The path that we have traversed since our independence has not been easy. I am proud to say, however, that we have traversed this path with unwavering faith in democratic ideals and firm adherence to Constitutional processes. The verdict of the people has always been respected and as a result, the country has seen not only peaceful changes in Government but also proved that democracy provides a resilient mechanism for absorbing and overcoming even the most difficult crisis.

At this Conference, therefore, we participate not only as the world's most populous democracy but as a people with a long and well-established tradition of a functioning and tested Parliamentary democracy.

The 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference takes place at a time of profound international change. The old order has vanished. There are new stirrings of hope and optimism. We should welcome the many positive features in international relations. The confrontation between rival military alliances is now a thing of the past. The danger of a catastrophic nuclear war as a result of East-West conflict has now subsided. We have seen the beginnings towards reduction in stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction and a positive trend towards the resolution of conflicts in many parts of the world.

The motive force for these dramatic changes lies in the remarkable upsurge of the human spirit which, in country after country, has been demanding and achieving freedom, openness and democracy. For the Commonwealth family, this is a cause for celebration.

At the same time, there is need to pause and reflect upon the new international order that we want to bring into existence. Should it not also be based on the same principles of democracy that we uphold so zealously within our own countries? As Parliamentarians and Legislators we instinctively appreciate the need to accommodate the inherent plurality and complexity in our societies. The same applies to international relations as well. The wide-ranging issues that concern us today, such as environment, control of drug trafficking, elimination of terrorism and the pervasive problem of poverty, all these demand global solutions. Such solutions will only be effective if they are based on genuine international cooperation; and international cooperation in today's world demands precisely that we respect pluralities of approaches and solutions. Multilateral fora such as the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference provide opportunities for deliberations on these issues which affect all of us and call for collective responses.

This Conference will deliberate on many important issues. It has a large and varied agenda, ranging from the situation in South Africa to the problems of Refugees to collective security under the UN system. Social issues such as enhancing health care, the menace of drugs and offences against women and children, will come under your focus. Environmental concerns will be debated. The exchange of ideas and experiences among distinguished delegates from so many countries will undoubtedly have a positive impact. It will not only lead to enhanced awareness but will also influence legislation for the collective good in many of our countries. There can be no doubt that the cumulative effect will be to benefit not only the Commonwealth Community but the wider international community as well.

May your deliberations be crowned with success.

SPEECH BY MR. DARRELL E. ROLLE, VICE-PRESIDENT, CPA.

Your Excellency, the President of India, Mr. Vice-President of India, Mr. Prime Minister, Mr. President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, distinguished Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, Mr. Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Distinguished guests, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my very pleasant duty, Your Excellency, to express to you the deep appreciation of our Association for having opened our Conference this morning. It is, I am sure, a great significance to India, to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and to the Commonwealth as a whole.

The Excellency, the President of India, attended the first Overseas Conference of the CPA in New Zealand in 1950. There cannot be many people who are still associated with the CPA today who can make such a claim and certainly, Your Excellency, there are such persons—I doubt there are any—who could have given Commonwealth Parliamentarians in 1950 a very constructive admonition that you gave us, that we should always attempt to be like the glow-worms of the caves of New Zealand. They shed light and not destructive fire in our pathway of parliamentary democracy. And so, Sir, certainly, to have attended the CPA Conference in 1950 and to have achieved the illustrious position of opening this, the 37th Conference of the CPA, 41 years later is, indeed, a unique situation which tests to your strong commitment to parliamentary democracy and to your strong commitment to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and to the Commonwealth as a whole.

We congratulate you, Sir. Your example of continued commitment to all the Members of parliamentary democracy in this great democracy of India as well as your words of wisdom to us this morning will be an inspiration which will guide our deliberation to constructive and meaningful conclusion over the next few days. We are particularly conscious, Your Excellency, of the very painful and tragic loss suffered by your nation, the Commonwealth and indeed the world in the passing away of the Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi and virtually at the same time, you held a general election in your country. It is with these traumatic events in mind, we commend and compliment your Government, the Members and officials of the India Branch of the CPA who have achieved nothing short of a miracle in organising both the Conference and the tours at times of great national loss complicated by a general election. As individual Branches of the CPA and the CPA itself, we have already expressed our deep sense of loss and grief at the tragic loss of Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi. He was not only India's Prime Minister but also a Commonwealth and international spokesman, a great visionary, a courageous fighter for justice and equality for all.

I recall, Your Excellency, with fond and cherished memories his stellar performance at the 1985 CHOGM Meeting in the Bahamas when he stood strong and unmoveable against Apartheid in South Africa. It was during that time that he endeared himself to our country and even more so your country to ours. His contribution to his nation and to mankind will always shine as a beacon light to all those who subscribe to the principles of Parliamentary Democracy.

Your Excellency, that we are meeting in this great historic hall, in this great nation, so soon after the events to which I have just referred, indisputably reaffirms India's place as one of the world leaders of democracy, confirming the strength of our parliamentary way of life and indeed, gives hope for a future of India and of the Commonwealth. I venture to suggest that this gathering of parliamentarians is of special importance at a time when enormous governmental institutional changes are taking place at breath-taking speed in countries that two years ago we would have thought absolutely impossible. And yet, even in those countries, which subscribe to the principles of parliamentary democracy, Parliament is on the challenge. Indeed all of us live in an era when so many things are under question by so many people. It might be well, that we should hope that your admonition of 1950 in New Zealand that even though we might in fact be witnessing the light from glow-worms in the interests of democracy, we should ensure that that light does not lead to fire.

Your Excellency, I share along with my Commonwealth Parliamentary Association colleagues, your belief and I believe it is the belief that is common to all of us, that we are here because we know that like many other institutions, no Parliament is perfect. For, without a democratic legislature, no man, woman or child can truly be free. Our parliamentary institutions are the most valuable possessions of our countries and they are supported by our people and with this support, our leaders can lead us to incomparable accomplishments and so it is surely right that we should debate together how parliament can best be preserved by meeting the changing needs of modern life.

It is also at these parliamentary conferences as in many other Commonwealth gatherings every year, that one sees the living colour, the strength and value of the Commonwealth Association both of which seek to bring together nations large and small, so that a better understanding of each other's problems can be created, so that experiences of one can be the advantages of all, so that the warm spirit of friendship can envelope the world and people, rich and poor, great and small, can live in peace, in unity and in amity with one another without regard to colour, creed or forms of democracy.

Your Excellency, may I once again thank you Sir, for opening our Conference? We are glad to be in your wonderful country and we

wish India and all her people peace, happiness and prosperity in the years to come.

Thank You.

**ADDRESS BY CHIEF EMEKA ANYAKOŪ, COMMONWEALTH
SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE 37th CP CONFERENCE NEW DELHI,
23 SEPTEMBER 1991**

Mr. President of the CPA, Mr. Vice-President, Chairman of the Executive Committee, Honourable Secretary-General of the CPA, and distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen:

My first words must be, "Thank You" to the CPA for the honour of inviting me to be with you once again this year. It is for me a particular pleasure as, indeed, it is an honour to accept your invitation.

We are meeting at a place which, in every sense of the word, is the most appropriate venue for the Commonwealth Meeting of this importance at this time. It is not only that this morning you, Mr. President, in your very eloquent speech at the opening, told us of the very ancient roots of some of the democratic principles in India, but also that India over the last 44 years since its Independence has been the bulwark of democracy in the Commonwealth and besides India, through the farsighted and imaginative leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru, working with the then Prime Minister who was remembered this morning by His Excellency, the President, in his speech, Mr. Clement Attlee, it was the co-operation and farsightedness of people like Jawaharlal Nehru that launched the Commonwealth on its path of evolution into the modern Commonwealth and made it possible thereby for the number of newly independent countries in Africa, in Asia, in the Pacific and the Caribbean, which followed thereafter to find it not only appropriate, but extremely rewarding to join the Commonwealth.

It is right that we should be meeting in India at this time, particularly in the wake of the shocking tragedy which was referred to this morning, the tragedy of the assassination of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi while on an election campaign. I was very privileged to be able to be here in May to join with India in mourning the passing away of her illustrious son, nay, I would say, the illustrious son of the Commonwealth and indeed, of the world at large.

It must be an abiding tribute to India, to the strength of the Indian democratic institutions, that notwithstanding that shocking tragedy, the tragic interruption of its election, the last election, that the country was still able to complete the elections and to relaunch its democratically elected Government on the firm path that it has remained on.

Mr. President, you were kind enough to refer to my meeting with you last year in Harare. I was then hardly three months in my new office. I spoke then of the launching by the Commonwealth of a high-level appraisal by ten Heads of Government and of the promise which that exercise held for the Commonwealth. I dared then to refer in general

terms to the directions which I hoped that this high-level appraisal exercise will put the Commonwealth at its conclusion. Now, at the end of my first year in office, I believe that some of the hopes I pointed out last year have been confirmed in my thoughts. And they are the thoughts that I would like to share with you today, in addition to telling you how things have progressed since then. It is true that the Ten Heads of Government who have the primary responsibility for this high-level appraisal have not yet met. Their first plan to meet in London in January was unfortunately, but unavoidably aborted by the outbreak of war in the Middle East. And then they refixed the meeting some time in June. And then again, sadly because of the tragic event which I referred to a little earlier and developments in one or two other Commonwealth countries, it became yet again unavoidable to postpone the meeting. I can tell you now that the meeting has been rescheduled for the 15th of next month in Harare; the Ten Heads of Government will meet a day before the full Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting. And it is my confident expectation that their meeting in Harare on the 15th of the next month will bring to a successful conclusion the process of the high-level appraisal which was launched, as I said, two years ago when the Heads of Government met in Kuala Lumpur, a process which has since then been sustained by the work at the senior official's level. A Committee of senior officials met three times and prepared a report which would be the basis of the deliberations of the Ten when they meet in Harare. I would like to say, Mr. President, and distinguished ladies and gentlemen, that when this high-level appraisal exercise is completed, I expect that the Commonwealth will emerge stronger, will emerge renewed for facing the tasks and the challenges that are ahead of its members and the international community as a whole.

Let me, perhaps, start with one of the challenges. And I will want to start with the challenge in an area which is very close to your hearts, an area where the CPA is a living symbol of that activity, and of which area you yourselves, honourable ladies and gentlemen, are the active exponents, and I mean the areas of democracy and the promotion of human rights.

Over the last year, the promotion of democracy has emerged as one of the important areas where the Commonwealth has a distinctive role to play in the service of its member States, indeed in the service of the world at large.

We have witnessed in the last couple of months momentous changes throughout the world. The resurgence of democratic spirit in many countries has become a part of the world-wide changes that we have been witnessing in the last few months. Whether it is in Eastern Europe, in Central Europe, in Africa, in Asia, we have been witnessing in the last year the rise of people's wishes to assert their freedom and their democratic rights. And we in the Commonwealth believe in democracy. It

is one of the very essential basis of Commonwealth Association. It has been considered appropriate and right that the Commonwealth should play whatever role to assist its members in the promotion of democracy — and in the last year I have been told, as a result of the request from certain Governments, to respond to their request to organize observers to monitor and observe the conduct of elections in their countries. We began with Malaysia last October, and then in February this year we sent a similar team of observers to Bangladesh, and now plans are in hand for similar groups of observers to go to Zambia and Guyana to observe the elections. Someone asked me the other day, why is it that important that the Commonwealth should be engaged in observing elections in its member States? But, I said to this gentleman that in many of our countries the democratic institutions have been progressively undermined by progressive loss of confidence in the electoral process. Wherever a Government has been elected in circumstances where losers have good reason to cry for, the natural reaction is to deny such Government's legitimacy and respect. And that inevitably means the beginning of an erosion of confidence in the democratic institutions. So by being present in these countries to observe elections the Commonwealth is able to inspire confidence into the electoral process and to exert an influence which works for better conduct of these elections. And I hope that the consultation which I have been able to maintain with your Secretary-General in this matter and the cooperation which I have continued to receive from your members will continue, because I believe that in the Commonwealth we have a duty to prove wrong what I seem to recall some years ago a very distinguished Under Secretary of State in Washington, George Ball, has since written his memoirs called 'Disciplining of Powers'. George Ball recalled that during his years at the State Department as Under Secretary of State, he could not remember how many times he was woken up at night and told of yet another *coup*, military *coup*, in yet another country whose name sounded like a typographical error. And we in the Commonwealth know better, and I think it is right that whatever the Commonwealth can do to boost up the confidence in electoral process and in democracy should be done.

And it is not only in that area that the Commonwealth holds good promise in the future. In the changed international environment, the Commonwealth has a great potential for greater service to its member States, and I dare say, to the broader international community. Of the Commonwealth's 50 members, 46 are developing countries. And in recent years the economic conditions in all these countries have not always been for the better. In fact, in many cases, there has been a distinct deterioration in their economic situation. So the development, socio-economic development, rightly represents the area where the Commonwealth can and has been playing an important part in contributing to its member States' efforts to improve their socio-economic conditions.

We do so by playing an active part in international debates. As of now to give you an example, one of the key problems in the way of sustained growth, and now, in some cases of economic recovery in some of the Commonwealth countries, is the problem of external indebtedness. There are many of our countries whose external debts are such that, servicing them continue to impede their effort at economic recovery and sustained growth. And we, in the Commonwealth, have tried to be mobilisers of the conscience of the world particularly, the conscience of the countries of the North, who are as industrialised countries, invariably countries to whom these debts are owed.

You will want to know what happened last year at the meeting of the Finance Ministers in Trinidad and Tobago, Port of Spain, to which I rushed, leaving your Conference in Harare. At that meeting, the then British Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is now the Prime Minister Mr. John Major proposed a very important initiative which we have since come to describe as the 'Trinidad and Tobago terms'. The terms of this proposal, which was tabled, as Finance Minister then, by Mr. John Major, involved the doubling of the write-off terms that have been earlier provided under the Toronto terms for debt relief. For example again, it has proposed the increase of repayment period from fourteen years to something like twenty-four or twenty-five years. In addition, it has provided for the countries concerned the possibility of the first five years, whenever the negotiation is due, being repayment-free, because the interest accumulated could be capitalised. This has been the major proposal by Mr. Major. It is now before the Paris Club, to try and get its approval.

If this proposal is approved, it would benefit not only the Commonwealth countries, who are poor and the most debt-distressed, but also non-Commonwealth countries. The origin of this initiative, as I said, was the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' meeting, and the originator was the former British Chancellor of the Exchequer. Therefore, in that area, there is a concrete contribution of the Commonwealth to an important international debate.

But there are several ways in which the Commonwealth is seeking to help its members, for their socio-economic development. We have the Commonwealth multilateral programmes in the Secretariat. The most prominent is the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation. This Fund is currently running at about thirty million pounds a year. It has enabled us, in the Secretariat, to respond to requests for technical assistance from some of the developing countries of the Commonwealth. It enables us, for example, to provide to Malaysia, India, Nigeria, Guayana, Jamaica whatever the developing countries may be—teams of experts to assist in the planning and operation, sometimes, of important economic development projects.

There are, in addition to these multilateral programmes, bilateral aid, organised as assistance. The four major donor countries in the Commonwealth, because of their Commonwealth connection, have been programming their assistance in the direction of the Commonwealth member-countries.

Above all, there is the great potential of the Commonwealth non-Governmental organisations. These organisations—there is a myriad of them—are not Government-sponsored. They are expressions of the people of the Commonwealth and their desire to co-operate and relate to one another. These organisations are not only involved in keeping alive the values and principles of the Commonwealth, but they are also involved in playing an important part, particularly at the grassroot level, in assisting the socio-economic development efforts of Commonwealth member-countries.

Again there is an important area of human resource development. Everyone knows these days that no country, no people, can really achieve their potential in development unless their human resource is appropriately encouraged to develop its own potential. And in the Commonwealth, because of our historical associations, we have unique attributes that facilitate cooperation in the areas of human resource development. It is not only that students of Commonwealth countries and teachers of Commonwealth countries are able to meet, are able to benefit from one another's institution and experience, it is also the case that there are various multilateral and bilateral commonwealth programmes that facilitate the development of Commonwealth countries as far as human resource is concerned.

We have had in the last couple of years the problem of the unexpected differentiation in fees charged to overseas students who have unfortunately included Commonwealth students. This is a matter which I am sure a good many of you are aware of. It used to be the case in the years before 1981 that Commonwealth students were able to go to the developed Commonwealth countries and study at the same rate of fees as home students, but since 1981 we have witnessed the unfortunate differentiation between home students and overseas students who include Commonwealth students. And it is not only in the United Kingdom that that is happening, now we see it happening in Australia, in Canada, some of the provinces in Canada and in New Zealand. We in the Commonwealth Secretariat and indeed the Commonwealth Ministers of Education have consistently enjoined on me the task of bringing to the attention of the Heads of Government the unfortunate implications which this policy is bound to have for the future cohesion and relationships within the Commonwealth. I have put it down on the agenda for the forthcoming meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government and it is my hope that they will consider it and think of ways in which to alleviate the unacceptable implications of these policies.

Then again, I would like to point out the potential of the Commonwealth in helping to sustain the concept of the importance of the security of small States. This morning the distinguished Prime Minister of this country, in his address to the opening Session talked about the need for democracy in international relations and that carries with it the acceptance of the rights to security and progress of States, however big, however small, and we in the Commonwealth, including us—we had no less than 27 countries, whose populations are around one million or less—we have the singular duty of remaining particularly aware of the importance of this subject and doing what we can to sensitise the rest of the international community to the need for special measures in protection and promotion of the security and development of small States. We have to our credit in the Commonwealth a number of programmes which have been devised in this area and I was particularly interested to see among your Conference documents that there are two papers, at least two papers, that deal with this subject. I believe that it is an area where the Commonwealth has a singular contribution to make to the development of international regime in that area.

Mr. President, at a time when the world is witnessing very momentous changes, people sometimes ask, "what is the future of the Commonwealth?" There are some cynics who say that for many years Commonwealth Heads of Government meetings have been seized and dominated by the problem of South Africa. Now that there are very encouraging developments that at long last a solution may be found to the South African problem, they ask, "What will be the future areas of concentration of interest of the Commonwealth? What will it be for the Commonwealth to do in the future?" I say to them—and I have tried in the comments I have made earlier to point out—that the Commonwealth has great potential for serving its members and the international community. These momentous changes today in the international environment underscore the point that from now on the world has to try and survive on the basis of consensus politics. Gone are the days when automatic majority at the United Nations formed the basis of resolutions, most of which were never implemented. We have learned in the Commonwealth that the soundest basis for implementable decisions often is a consensual decision, and in the Commonwealth we have a microcosm of the world—a microcosm of the world which equips the world, serves the world as a seedbed for consensus-making and as problems emerge—and many more such problems will emerge that will require global approaches to their solution—whether it is in the areas of environment or in the areas of international debate on development cooperation or in the areas of dealing with dangerous drugs and illicit traffic in dangerous drugs. We will continue to need consensus as the basis for decision-making, and the Commonwealth is the most viable and potentially the most convincing pace-setter for the international community in consensus-making.

And so, Mr. President, if I may conclude, I would want to say that the high-level appraisal exercise which Heads of Commonwealth Governments are undertaking for themselves and which is expected to come to its fruition in Harare next month will, I believe, confirm the potential of the Commonwealth to do these things about which I have been speaking. Happily there are, in many Commonwealth countries, dedicated sections of opinion-sections that include your honourable selves—who believe in espousing the values and aspirations of the association. Our challenge is to see that there is continued growth in the number of such dedicated sections of our Commonwealth countries. As far as enabling the commonwealth to realize this potential is concerned—and I am here going to refer to the areas of resources that would be necessary—I believe that this is not the most propitious time to go to Commonwealth countries and Governments and ask for vast new resources. And so I have taken steps, since I assumed office in the Secretariat, to look very vigorously at our existing resources with a view to seeing how we can re-allocate existing resources, or part of it, from activities of diminishing to activities of growing priority. I hope that by doing so we will better enable ourselves to respond more up to date to the needs that arise from time to time. But I do believe that notwithstanding such vigorous review and notwithstanding such cost-effective performance which is the basis of our operations, there will continue to be need for some modest new resources to be made available. I hope, therefore, that here at your 37th Conference, renewing your commitment to the CPA's objectives and the programme of Action, you will be able on your return home to play your part in stiffening the resolve of your governments and your public to equally renew their commitment to the Commonwealth and to renew their determination to enable the Commonwealth to realise its full potential. I am looking forward with great anticipation to a reflection of this renewal when the Heads of Government meet in Harare next month.

I thank you, Mr. President.

**CONCLUDING CEREMONY OF THE 37TH COMMONWEALTH
PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE, NEW DELHI, 28 SEPTEMBER 1991**

SPEECH BY MR. DARRELL ROLE, VICE-PRESIDENT, CPA

Outgoing President, Speaker Patil, Mr Chairman of the Executive Committee, Mr. Secretary-General, other Officers of the Association seated at the Podium, Speaker Makombe, other Distinguished Guests seated on the Podium. Distinguished Guests, Distinguished Delegates and Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my privilege and honour, once again, to express to our outgoing President, Speaker Patil, and our host country, India, our gratitude for the wonderful experiences we have had during this Conference.

At the time when India offered to host this Conference it was not possible to foretell that the world's largest democracy would have its democratic stability, nay its very resilience tested by reason of the tragic



Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha, addressing the concluding ceremony of the 37th CP Conference at the Convention Hall of Ashok Hotel on 28 September 1991.

loss of its former Prime Minister and the holding shortly thereafter of general elections. Faced with these challenges many wondered whether India would prove once again that even in the face of great adversity its strong commitment to parliamentary democracy would once again prevail. By successfully hosting this Conference so soon after such traumatic events attests to the fact that India has come through with flying colours and that parliamentary democracy is alive and well in India.

This significant accomplishment is attributable to many people in India but I should like to single out one person, for a moment our distinguished, illustrious outgoing President, Speaker Patil.

History has taught us that in time of great national adversity when a people need a leader to take the helm but are at a loss to identify one, God has provided that leader at the right moment. Such a leader has been and will continue to be Speaker Patil.

When in Harare Speaker Rabi Ray assumed the helm as President of CPA, little did he or indeed India herself know that leadership of a special quality would be required for the successful hosting of this Conference in India this year. Little did he know or little did we know that in so short a time and in so stern a manner, all the established virtues and traditions of parliamentary democracy in this land would be so strenuously tested. President Patil assumed the presidency during the currency of this crisis. Today we joyfully acknowledge his triumph and call on all to join us in acclaiming his sterling accomplishments for his nation, CPA and for our Commonwealth in successfully hosting this 37th CPA Annual Conference.

Speaker Patil is a gentleman of regal bearing, of infinite charm whose quiet confidence and statesmanship exudes confidence and hope in all of us. An outstanding parliamentarian this prince of CPA, this fearless warrior for parliamentary democracy, this champion of India and of mankind has through his untiring contribution to the hosting of this Conference vanquished the foes of parliamentary democracy and the foes of India, whether within or without.

And so, Mr. Speaker Patil, I am confident, and I am sure that I shall be shortly vindicated by the unanimous applause of the delegates here assembled, when I express the unanimous sentiments of this Conference when I say that your contribution to this CPA, to this nation, nay to mankind, will always shine as a beacon to all who aspire and subscribe to the principles of parliamentary democracy.

Here I may crave your indulgence for a moment. To borrow the language of the theatre, this is the grand finale. The curtain falls as the star Speaker Patil stands at centre stage to the unending applause of the audience. But like Winston Churchill, like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Mr. Kenyatta, Dr. Eric Williams and countless others, though the curtain falls yet the star remains standing and continues to be

applauded by the many people and nations to whom their contribution will for ever be an eternal inspiration. Speaker Patil, you stand now at that place.

We in the CPA, Sir, hold high our standards, our values, our customs and our traditions and we elevate you to a similar standard of having lived up to every ounce of expectation and having deported yourself in your office as President of the CPA in a manner which complements the existence of the CPA in our individual countries, in the Commonwealth of nations and in the world as a whole.

Now, Mr. outgoing President, no expression of appreciation would be complete without an expression of our deepest gratitude to His Excellency the President of India, His Excellency the Vice-President of India, the honourable Prime Minister, national and provincial Ministers and officials and, last but not the least, the people of India, for the very excellent arrangements laid on for us, as well as the unending display of warmth, friendliness and hospitality. It was a royal performance executed with impeccable taste and style by our host on every single occasion. Some of us, I believe—and many of the ladies—have bought the Indian ruby which, as you know, displays a star every time it is exposed to light. And even those of us who have not bought it will always remember the wonderful entertainment, the sumptuous cuisine, the visit to the Taj Mahal and so many wonderful experiences which have etched in our hearts an indelible place for India. I can only say that we thank you from the bottom of our hearts and we shall be eternally grateful for the experiences we have had in your great country.

And now you will permit me one little iota of selfishness. May I acknowledge that it is now 'The Bahamas' time?

I warmly welcome you to the Isles of June, a perpetual paradise where the islands have been placed like emeralds scattered over turquoise and aquamarine water. Bahamians describe this alluring paradise by numerous catchy sayings. The one I commend to you, as I welcome you yet again, is that of a Bahamian poet who wrote:

If the Good Lord never went on a holiday, then, tell me why he made the Bahamas.

See you in the Bahamas next year.

SPEECH BY MR. N. C. MAKOMBE, SPEAKER, PARLIAMENT OF ZIMBABWE

- *Mr Shivraj Patil, the Chairman of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, the Secretary-General, Members of the Executive Committee of the CPA, Colleagues, Honourable Delegates.*

I am afraid that I do not have the dramatic romance that we have enjoyed from the Speaker from the Bahamas. But my role is to thank the

Speaker of the Parliament of India and the people of India for their warm welcome they have given to me and my delegation and all of you.

We are having the hospitality of the Indian people during their time of grief and challenges, when the illustrious son of this land, Rajiv Gandhi, is no longer with us. It is unfortunate that we just started our Conference here in this august room without giving him a standing ovation. We could have stood for a minute in the memory of the late Prime Minister of this great country. But all the same, I think, in our hearts we have already done so.

I would like to thank, for the supreme organisation of the Conference in general, by the members of the staff of the Indian Parliament, beginning, of course, from the head of the institution, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Dr. Heptulla. Your wonderful organisation is going to be indelible in our memories.

I also want to thank the Secretary-general and members of the staff from the Headquarters of the CPA. This shows the splendour of parliamentary democracy which has been going on among the Commonwealth countries for a long time in our countries.

I am very confident that, as we have been invited to meet in the Bahamas, the supreme organisation and the friendly atmosphere even at times when there are controversial issues, will prevail and that ultimately we will arrive at a consensus on issues pertaining to the affairs of this organisation.

I wish to say to the incoming President of the CPA, "Good luck." The relay game has started, and we are supposed to be on the run. I want to wish you all *bon voyage* back home. I am sure that the CPA will flourish like many other international organisations.

With these very few words, on behalf of my delegation and on behalf of the Zimbabwe Branch of the CPA, I hope to meet you all in the Bahamas again.

Thank you.

SPEECH BY DR. (SMT.) NAJMA HEPTULLA, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN,
RAJYA SABHA AND VICE-PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE INDIA BRANCH OF THE CPA

Mr. President, Mr. Chairman, Members at the Head Table, Honourable Delegates and Friends:

It is my proud privilege to be presenting the Report of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's Second Conference of the Women's Group, which was held on 25 September, 1991. I must thank the Chairman of the Executive Committee, the President of the CPA and the Executive Committee and the Secretary-General and his Staff at the CPA in giving us all the support and help which we needed for forming

this group in Zimbabwe in 1991. I also thank the Women's group of the CPA for giving me this honour to be the Chairman of the Women's Group for 1992.

I, after taking my charge, organised a conference of the parliamentarians and the legislators from the various State branches of India. I must say that if I did not have the support of the President and the Speaker, Mr. Shivraj Patil, and that of the Government of India, the Prime Minister himself and his Cabinet and that of the Speakers of the conference Branches of the Commonwealth from India, I do not think we would have had a successful conference where apart from the parliamentarians and legislators, 600 women participated from various walks of life. They presented 30 very well written papers not only by the Members of Parliament and legislators and women experts, but also by Ministers, who are in charge of various departments. We discussed the issues of human resource development for women, sports, entrepreneurship, education, planning, law and many others. I can proudly say that we are going to take out all these recommendations in the form of a book which will be presented, I hope, before we meet in the Bahamas for our next conference.

When we met on 25 September, 1991 here in New Delhi during the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, the topic was "Commonwealth Reforms for Women and Future Options". While I present this report before this august body, I must thank all the participants who took part in various discussions. I must say here there were not only women delegates but there were many men delegates and a large number of their spouses also who have participated.

Mr. President and Mr. Chairman, this group is being formed in India as well as in Zimbabwe. I hope that this group will receive all your support in future.

I present before this august House the recommendations.

"We the women parliamentarians of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association who participated in the second conference in New Delhi on the 25th September, 1991 resolve and recommend to the Association that more women delegates should be given opportunities in the exchange programme of delegations amongst Commonwealth countries. That more women delegates should be recommended to the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association from various regions. That the Chairperson of women's group of CPA should become automatically a member of the Executive Committee of the CPA for the year during which she is holding the office. Attention should be paid for better education, awareness and economic independence of women in the Commonwealth countries.

We appreciate the offer of the Secretary-General and the members of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

for all their endeavours in supporting the women's movement, for the cause of women in the Commonwealth countries, for giving the parliamentarians of the Commonwealth countries an opportunity to form women's group and according them the recognition.

Mr. Chairman, before I hand over the charge to the lady delegate, Mrs. Ruby Ann Darling from the Bahamas, I hope that these recommendations will get due consideration from the Executive Committee of the CPA.

Now I request the honourable delegate from the Bahamas to take over the charge.

SPEECH BY MRS. RUBY ANN DARLING M.P. (THE BAHAMAS)

Mr. President, Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Members of the Head Table, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I count it as a distinct pleasure to accept the Chairmanship of the women's group of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association; and I dedicate it to the memory of those gallant and visionary women of the Bahamas, who, in 1962, fought for the rights of women to vote, thus beginning my long journey from the Bahamas to India.

This 37th conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, particularly for the Bahamian delegation, has been like a masterpiece of music. From the beginning of our arrival, it has been like an overture and each day, they have been fugues as endless fugues, as the hospitality and warmth of the Indian people complements the beauty of India.

As we conclude this historic occasion, there is a grand finale, a crescendo and warmth and hospitality, togetherness and peace. I hope and I know that the encore will be in the Bahamas Conference, 1992. The concerns of women are the same all over the world, not only within the Commonwealth but in the global communality amongst us as women, and as I accept this great challenge of being the Head of this Women's Group, I do it humbly. And my gratitude is forever to my great God that we will lift high a banner that will not only spread all over the Commonwealth but all over the world as we unfurl this banner of peace not only among the women of peace but indeed among men of good will and all over the global village. We will seek to right the wrongs, we will seek to arouse the social consciousness of our women and to educate and liberate our women. I pray, as we join hands and as we leave on the long journey back to the azure waters of the Bahamas, that we will go in peace, that we will go in safety and upon our return, we will find that all is well. May the Great God who rules the universe be with all of us.

**SPEECH BY MRS. BERYL M. ROLLE ON BEHALF OF THE SPOUSES
OF THE DELEGATES**

Mr. Outgoing President, Mr. Incoming President, Mr. Chairman of the Executive Committee, Mr. Secretary-General, Delegates, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am honoured to be afforded this opportunity to express, on behalf of the spouses of delegates to this Thirty-Seventh Parliamentary Conference, our sincere thanks to the CPA, the Government and the people of India, especially the women of India, for the hospitality extended to us during our stay here. Many of us have experienced the warmth and friendliness of the Indian people as they invited us into their homes. We have greatly enjoyed the cultural entertainment and the sumptuous meals provided for us by our host, the Indian Government. We will always have fond memories of the Spouses Programme which enabled us to see this country's arts and crafts, its temples and many of its national historic sites. I know the ladies will not forgive me if I fail to mention the wonderful shopping experiences. Now, the American Express will be looking for us and our husbands will be in hot pursuits. I think the Indian ladies who accompanied us on our trips are to be blamed. They were simply marvellous in the performance of their duties, whether it was in shopping or during sight-seeing. I would like to pay a special tribute to Dr. Heptulla and the Women's Group of the CPA who treated us so very royally.

They tend to improve and we intend to help them to improve. We want to tell them that the Commonwealth lady is not supportive of the role of the men in the affairs of state but intend to play an equal and hopefully complementary role in this whole affair. We do not seek to rule nor to dominate but merely to contribute. The role of spouses attending these conferences is a very important one. We are the best ambassadors because we get to see the country and its people through the spouses programme. We are better able to impart an understanding of the strength of the Commonwealth to our children, friends and neighbours in our respective countries. Be assured that we shall do justice to the fine display of goodwill, warmth and hospitality which the Indian Government has so generously bestowed upon us. On behalf of spouses I say it, you have been most magnificent and we thank you from the warmth of our heart for your warm and generous hospitality. The next year's conference will be held in the Bahamas. I invite you to our island Bahamas.

We in the Bahamas say to our visitors that once is not enough, even twice, you cannot see all. So if you have been there, come again. If you have not been there, now is the time. I will see you in the Bahamas.

Thank you.

SPEECH BY MR. CLIVE GRIFFITHS, CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CPA

Outgoing President, Speaker Patil, new President, Honourable Darrell Rolle, the Secretary-General of the CPA, other Distinguished Guests, Delegates, Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my very pleasant duty on all your behalf to pay tribute to work that has been carried out on your behalf by the staff at the Secretariat in London. Now, ladies and gentlemen, your organisation has a membership of some 50 nations of the world, consisting of 122 Parliaments from around the world with a membership of over 10,000 Members of Parliament and the work that is performed in administering the headquarters of that organisation is carried out by 12 people in London. I think that is magnificent and I think they should be commended for the dedicated way in which they carry out their duties. You may be interested to know that the work that the headquarters staff do on your behalf relating just to the annual conference alone is magnificent. For the next conference, the work commences tomorrow. So they are performing their particular duty on your behalf for the whole 12 months just preparing for the next conference. So I believe my words of thanks to them are quite inadequate really to thank them enough for what they do on your behalf.

Included of course is our Secretary-General, I frequently forget this, but he is always around, he seems to be taken for granted. But of course he heads the team. Let us give him a big hand. We are on the TV Programme and I do not know whether it is a 30-minute one; I am on the thirty-fifth minute but the point about this is that I, as your Chairman, also wanted to take the opportunity, if I might, to also thank the people in India who have contributed to the wonderful Conference that we have just concluded; and I refer to Shri C.K. Jain who headed up the team of workers for what they have done. But in particular, I am sure, you will forgive me, if I take a personal moment or two to pay a tribute to Shri Rabi Ray who was the Deputy President and the President of the Association when the organising was done for this Conference. I hope Shri Rabi Ray is here. I have not seen him this morning Oh! he is there. He has always got a smile on his face. I have a great deal of regard for him, he gave me great guidance, he gave me consideration and he gave the Executive Committee wisdom, dignity, kindness and in fact he endeared himself to all of us on the Executive Committee over the years that we were placed to work with him. So, I think have got to pay a high tribute to Shri Rabi Ray.

I also want to thank all the staff that Shri C.K. Jain had working for the Conference. There are lot of people, including the ladies, that are helping us in this auditorium over the length of the Conference, the parliamentary staff, the liaison officers, the security staff, particularly the one that followed me round the park every morning for about fifty minutes he has

finished labour with me this morning—the armed forces that looked after us, the hotel staff, and the catering staff, the transport staff, the organisers of the cultural events and indeed the artistes and performers who presented those cultural shows for us.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of you delegates for the way in which you have participated in the activities of this Conference over the last week. But personally, I would like to thank you all for the kindness and courtesies which you have extended to me personally.

And finally, ladies and gentlemen, on your behalf I would like to thank the people of India for the great welcome and love they have extended to us.

Thank you.

**SPEECH BY SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL, SPEAKER, LOK SABHA AND
PRESIDENT OF THE CPA**

Honourable Darrel Rolle, Honourable Clive Griffiths, Honourable Colin Shepherd, Honourable Dr. Tonkin, Honourable N.C. Makombe, Madam Darrell Rolle, Honourable Dr. Najma Heptullah, Honourable Gulam Nabi Azad, Honourable Fotedar, Honourable Sontosh Mohan Dev, Honourable Kumaramangalam, Most respected Rabi Rayji, Honourable Delegates and their Spouses, Honourable Observers from the friendly countries, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

We thank profoundly Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, the Patron of the CPA, for sending a message of Greetings and Goodwill to the Conference.

We express our deep gratitude to His Excellency the President of India, Hon. Shri R. Venkataraman, the Vice-Patron of CPA for sending a message of greetings, goodwill and encouragement and also for very graciously inaugurating the Conference and delivering a thought-provoking address to the gathering assembled for the inauguration ceremony and also for very kindly holding a reception in honour of the participants and their spouses. The thoughtful participation of the Head of the Indian nation added dignity and a deep meaning to the Conference.

We express our heartfelt thanks to His Excellency the Vice-President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, for obliging us by inaugurating the Conference of Small countries and giving very sound advice to the participants on Parliamentary Democracy and also for hosting a banquet in honour of the delegates, observers and their spouses.

We are indeed immensely thankful to the Hon. Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, for gracing the occasion at the time of the inauguration of the Conference and delivering a scintillating speech, on the system of Parliamentary Democracy and the international issues of

current importance, for helping in every respect the India Branch of the CPA to hold this Conference and also for hosting a dinner in honour of our guests.

We express our deep gratitude to my predecessors, Shri Rabi Rayji and Dr. Bal Ram Jakharji, who cooperated and helped splendidly to see that the Conference was field in the best possible fashion.

We thank the Honourable Chairman Mr. Clive Griffiths, Honourable Treasurer Mr. Ted Garrett, Honourable Secretary General Dr. Tonkin, the Honourable Members of the Executive, other office bearers and officers for not leaving anything undone to see that the Conference was a success.

We express our great appreciation to the India Branch of the CPA and the office bearers and officers for not sparing any effort in organising the Conference. We are grateful to the officers and staff of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, to the Secretaries-General, the Additional Secretary, the Joint Secretaries, their colleagues and other office bearers and their colleagues for working day in and day out to make the event of the Conference most meaningful, pleasant and rewarding for all. We thank friends in the Hotel Ashoka, the doctors and those who are responsible for providing transport facilities and for all the good arrangements they have made. It is their work behind the scene which provided all facilities to the delegates, to participate in the Conference without any hurdle.

We thank all the artistes who performed to show the glimpses of Indian art and culture to our guests. We thank Honourable Ministers Shri Gulam Nabi Azadji, Dr. Bal Ram Jakharji, Shri Jafar Shariefji, Shri Fotedarji, Shri Sontosh Mohan Devji, Shri Kumaramangalamji and other Minister friends, for extending all the cooperation to the India Branch of CPA for holding this Conference.

We thank our colleagues, Dr. Najma Heptullaji and Shri Mallikarjunaiahji for all the good work they have done for the success of this Conference.

We express our gratitude to Speakers and other Presiding Officers, the Secretaries-General and their colleagues of the State legislatures, the Chief Ministers and other Ministers of the State Governments for extending a helping hand in organising the Conference and the tours for the delegates and their spouses.

We also thank all others who worked behind the scene, even without once coming before the participants, to make this Conference a great success. In the list of such friends of ours, I would like to mention the security staff and those who have been providing transport facilities and medical facilities also.

We thank the hon. delegates, observers, their spouses and other guests for attending the Conference and taking part in its deliberations, tours and other activities with great interest, enthusiasm, understanding and

cooperation. But for their enthusiasm and interest, the Conference would have proved to be barren and less meaningful.

On the one hand, as good parliamentarians and democrats, they put forth their points of view with great skill and force and on the other hand, they allowed the proceedings to proceed and reach their logical conclusions. They discussed the issues of international importance and issues of lasting nature with all the skill and sincerity at their disposal. The discussions shed great light on the philosophical and pragmatic aspects of the subjects which would prove to be of great help, when in appropriate forums the policies on them would be formulated. The coming together of the delegates from small and big countries, discussing the issues relating to them and other countries of the world, living together for about two weeks, exchanging views in informal ways, would help immensely to develop deep understanding of the problems. The discussions in the Conference of the Small countries, in the Commonwealth countries Conference, in the panel on problems of women are of equal and great importance. What was discussed in the panels and the plenary sessions would remain in the conscious and subconscious minds of the delegates, would help in moulding the policies in their countries and the world.

The delegates would form into groups and would go to different parts of India, on tours and for informal discussions and interactions.

One group would go to Jaipur, where the delegates would be able to see the historical monuments. The second group would go to Aurangabad, Ellora and Bombay. The Members of this group would be able to see the poetry carved in the rocks, in the ancient caves at Ellora and Aurangabad, historical monuments, something of the industrial, scientific, technological and commercial level of India in Bombay. The third group would go to Bangalore and Mysore where they would be able to see the mix of the old and the new, something of the scientific and technological and artistic and cultural status of the Indian people. The fourth group would go to Madras and Mahabalipuram where the delegates would see the poetic people, the ancient monuments and the modern technological developments, and the beautiful beaches. The fifth group would go to Bhubaneswar and Calcutta where they would be able to see architectural heights reached by India in the ancient times, beautiful beaches and pulsating cities and would have some glimpses of modern India.

These tours would acquaint the delegates with the people of this country, with the agricultural, industrial, technological, scientific, artistic, cultural status of India in a greater measure. The first-hand knowledge acquired by them would go a long way in helping them to form their views of this sub-continent, in a correct fashion. The tours would bring the delegates nearer to one another, in their thinking and understanding and provide opportunities for forming lasting friendship which is one of the important aims of holding this Conference.

Interaction in the field of trade and commerce, agriculture and industry, science and technology are very important and can help us all to lessen our economic burdens and bring about conditions for speedy developments all over the world. The countries of the world can decide to use their resources and skills in the best possible manner and share the joy of existence and developments together, in a cooperative fashion. They need not do all things themselves. Certain things can be done and developed by some countries and shared with other countries. That way, a climate for enlightened inter-dependence can be created.

The world of ideas and culture is more powerful, lasting and useful than the world of commodities and goods. Greater understanding of the cultural aspects of lives of the people is bound to create conditions in which unity between the peoples, prosperity and peace in the world would be easier to achieve.

In the present-day world, the CPA and organisations like the CPA can play a very important and useful role. The role they play may not be very flashy and may not produce immediate results. They can certainly lay a strong foundation on which the future edifice of the world culture can be firmly built. And we are sure that this Conference has been a step in that direction.

In India, we say that Alpha and Omega of existence lies in:—

SATHYAM SHIVAM SUNDARAM

the truth, the bliss & the beauty.

It makes us one with everything in the world. It emphasises on the unity with time and space and all things, living and non-living in the cosmos.

The spirit of Commonwealth cannot be better described than in these lines:—

May happiness be the lot of all;
May distress come near none;
Giving up hatred, sin and pride;
May the world pour forth one continuous eternal beam of delight;
May Dharma become the main topic of conversation in every household;
May evil cease to be easily-wrought;
May increase of wisdom and merit of works;
May men realise the purpose of human life—freedom, peace and happiness to all.

Let us unite and march ahead to achieve prosperity and peace, beauty and bliss for all.

We, here, in India, will remember this Conference and you, our honoured guests, for long long time to come.

We hope, you would carry happy memories of this Conference and your

visit to this ancient land of Buddha, Gandhi, Nehru and Indira Gandhi back to your country.

Thank you one and all from the bottom of my heart for coming to this Conference and being with us.

May I say at the end, glory to the entire world, glory to the countries of the Commonwealth and glory to the unity of mankind.

Jai Hind.

Thank you very much.

**MESSAGE FROM SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL, SPEAKER, LOK SABHA
& PRESIDENT OF THE INDIA BRANCH OF THE CPA TO THE
DELEGATES TO THE 37TH CP CONFERENCE***

Honourable Delegates,

On the eve of your departure from India after the conclusion of post-Conference tours, I on behalf of India Branch and the State Branches of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and on my own behalf once again thank you for having made it possible to visit our country and attend the Conference. Your active participation in the Conference deliberations enriched the proceedings. The post-Conference tour could be lively only because of your enthusiastic response and involvement despite loaded with a crowded programme.

The Commonwealth binds us with invaluable links, and the links have a purpose, a goal and a mission, with a history of commonality— of vicissitude and sufferings for freedom and liberty. After India became free, the freedom ushered in different countries, both big and small, and a new ray of hope beckoned for bringing about a new order for reconstruction and development. It changed the character of the Commonwealth. Commonwealth pledged for cooperation on the basis of equality for assistance to each other. Over the years this spirit has been a guiding factor. Not necessarily we have followed always the same path. There have been occasions when we differed but these differences never reached the point of breaking us up. We endeavoured to resolve the differences and the fact that today we stand together is a testimony of our firm resolve to adhere to the principles of Commonwealth.

The occasion for the Conference provided you an opportunity to see our country, our system, our achievements and of course our shortcomings too. You have seen us first hand. For thousands of years, India has been an attraction for people from other parts of the globe. Our country has had a special attraction, not so much for her mountains and rivers, for her vast land mass, for her ancient monuments,

* Delivered to the Delegates at various points of departure, viz. Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, at the end of the post-Conference tours.

which are shared by other countries too, but for the message of peace and harmony which has been sent out by her through the ages.

You have seen the monuments. They do not speak merely of the bricks and stones; they speak that everything has time, a limited life, however rich and fabulous it may be. All those who were at one time their occupants had to leave this earth. They are a part of our heritage—their architectural beauty, splendour and past glory. But more than that, and that is of substance, they strike a caution to us that wars, conflicts, prejudices, hatred and violence do not qualify for immortality. It is only love, harmony and cooperation that shine for ever and provide hope for future.

You have also seen during your brief stay the glimpse of strides made by our country in the process of development in different fields. This process of development is for construction and building up a society free from want and misery. Our people are engaged with a resolute determination in shaping their future and at the same time to extend really a big hand of assistance and cooperation to others living in any part of the globe. We are sure you must have noticed our people abound with affection and respect for you all whichever part you have visited. We assure you our continuing friendship and cooperation. This message of Commonwealth, we do hope, will spread like fragrance of flower to the entire Commonwealth.

We do hope further that you enjoyed your brief stay and sojourn in our country and would carry back home only happy memories, forgetting any discomfort or inconvenience which you may have encountered all these days.

Before I say good-bye to you, I wish to request you to convey to your people the greetings and good wishes of the people of India. My own very best wishes for your personal health and happiness.

Good-bye and thank you. Bon Voyage.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO PARLIAMENT

The Constitution provides for an Address by the President to either House of Parliament or both Houses assembled together. The provision for Address by the Head of State to Parliament goes back to the year 1921 when the Central Legislature was set up for the first time under the Government of India Act, 1919.

The President may address both Houses of Parliament assembled together or either House of Parliament separately as per provision of Articles 86(1) and 87(1) of the Constitution. Under Article 86(1) the President may address either House of Parliament or both Houses assembled together, and for that purpose require the attendance of members. Article 87(1) provides that at the commencement of the first session after each general election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first session of each year, the President shall address both Houses of Parliament assembled together and inform Parliament of the causes of its summons.

Being a statement of policy of the government, the Address is drafted by the government who are responsible for its contents. It contains a review of the activities and achievements of the government during the previous year and sets out the policies which it wishes to pursue with regard to important internal and international problems. It also indicates the main items of legislative business which are proposed to be brought during the sessions to be held in that year.

On 11 July 1991, the President of India, Shri R. Venkataraman addressed the members of the two Houses of Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament at the commencement of the first session of the Tenth Lok Sabha and outlined the policies of the Government of India on various issues and the legislative programme for the Session.

Reproduced below is the text of the President's Address.

—Editor

Honourable Members,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to this joint session of Parliament. I felicitate the Members of the new Lok Sabha.

May 21, 1991 was a nightmare. The heinous assassination of Rajiv Gandhi plunged the country into gloom. His assassination was an inhuman act of the worst kind. He had provided leadership at a moment of grave crisis in the history of our nation. In his death the country has lost a promising leader. Rajiv Gandhi's vision of the future, the optimism which he exuded, his great patriotism, his commitment to the poor, his striving

for world peace will continue to inspire the people of India as well as peace loving people the world over.

The previous government constituted a Commission of Inquiry consisting of Mr. Justice J. S. Verma, a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court of India, to inquire into the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Government is of the opinion that the terms of reference of the Commission should be enlarged and made comprehensive.

The people of India have faced this crisis with fortitude and maturity. Forces which tried to subvert democracy and destabilise the country stand frustrated. The recently concluded General Election has once again demonstrated the strength and vitality of the democratic process in India.

The assassination of Rajiv Gandhi has brought into sharp focus the need to arrest the growing cult of violence in the country. The law and order situation in the country has been a cause of great concern for sometime now. Violence has continued in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. The situation in Assam, Nagaland and Manipur has continued to cause concern. Extremist activity in some states has also put the law and order machinery under severe pressure.

Violence and terrorism in Punjab continue unabated. It is, however, heartening that the people of Punjab have maintained communal harmony in spite of the nefarious tactics of the terrorists who constitute a small fraction of the population. Assisted by the Army in the border areas, security forces have been relentlessly fighting to contain the senseless killings, extortions and kidnappings by the terrorists. To check infiltration from across the border, the work on border fencing and flood lighting in Punjab was expedited and has been completed as planned. Elections to the Legislative Assembly and the Parliamentary Constituencies in Punjab were to be held on 22nd June, 1991. However, the large scale killing of candidates and the atmosphere of fear and terror created by militants rendered it impossible to ensure a free and fair poll. Polling has, therefore, been postponed to 25th September, 1991. Government will continue to deal firmly with terrorism and secessionism. Government is committed to restore normalcy and to start the democratic process in Punjab at the earliest. However, militants and secessionists will not be allowed to misuse the elections for their ends. Government stands by the Rajiv-Longowal Accord. Negotiations are always possible with those who eschew violence and accept the framework of our Constitution. Government is prepared to take whatever new initiatives are required and will continue to strive for a comprehensive settlement of all outstanding issues in order to have a permanent and peaceful solution in Punjab.

The law and order and security situation in Jammu and Kashmir deteriorated fast during the past year and a half. Secessionists and certain fundamentalist elements, aided and abetted from across the border, are carrying out terrorist and subversive activities. The security forces are

taking necessary and effective measures to combat secessionism and terrorism. Lately, encouraging signals have been received in the form of surrender of many militants. The relationship between Government and the people needs to be strengthened. People's committees will be constituted at different levels to ensure their participation. At the same time, stern action will be taken against secessionist forces. Special attention will be paid to providing employment for the unemployed youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

Elections were held in Assam and people have given a fitting reply to the forces of secession. The people of Assam deserve to be congratulated on the peaceful manner in which elections were conducted. Government will ensure that secessionist elements in Assam are brought back into the mainstream. Genuine grievances of the people will be redressed. Steps will be taken for the rapid economic development of Assam.

It is a matter of serious concern that the forces of communalism have been able to vitiate the atmosphere in the country leading to the out-break of serious riots in the last two years. Government are determined to combat such forces and uphold the values of secularism. Government will not allow the rights and interests of religious, linguistic and ethnic minorities to be compromised. A composite Rapid Action Force will be formed and appropriately equipped and trained to deal with riots and will be made available to the State Governments at very short notice. More Special Courts will be set up as necessary to try offences relating to communal riots. Procedures will be strengthened to enable speedy and adequate compensation to be paid to victims of communal riots. Places of worship must be treated with due respect. We cannot allow communal elements to defile their sanctity by using such places as instruments to generate controversy and discord. Government will make every effort to find a negotiated settlement to the Ram Janma Bhoomi—Babri Masjid issue with due regard to the sentiments of both communities involved. In case of all other places of worship, a Bill will be introduced to maintain the status quo as on 15th August, 1947, in order to foreclose any new controversy. The special cell established in 1988 to gather intelligence in communally sensitive districts will be strengthened with a view to preventing riots. The next-of-kin of those whose lives are lost in communal riots will be rehabilitated by providing suitable employment to them.

We are proud of our armed forces. They have risen to the occasion whenever called upon to defend the territorial integrity of our country, assist the civil authorities in the maintenance of law and order and in organising relief and rescue measures. Government will continue to pursue various welfare schemes for the defence services, both for serving and retired personnel. Government will give priority to the upgradation of and self-reliance in defence technologies.

Government recognises that the country is in the midst of an economic crisis of unprecedented magnitude. It has been living beyond its means and adopting soft options. We have been overtaken by events. We must act now. No sacrifice is too great to safeguard our economic independence and the country must prepare itself to take hard and unpleasant economic decisions.

Government is committed to the macro-economic stabilisation and structural reforms which will unleash the nation's latent energy to bring about accelerated development. The Reserve Bank of India has brought about an adjustment in the exchange rate in order to strengthen competitiveness of our exports, to reduce expenditure on inessential imports, to reduce the incentive for capital flight and stabilise the capital account. We intend to take concerted measures in the areas of trade policy and industrial policy reform further to enhance the competitiveness of our exports. We are committed to ensure that the poor and the underprivileged do not have to bear a disproportionate burden of the adjustment process.

Of particular concern is the rise in prices of essential commodities which hurts the weaker sections the most. Government attaches the highest priority to reducing inflation and will adopt necessary measures towards this end. The interest of the weaker sections of society will be kept uppermost in mind, while framing strategies for this purpose. Measures to restrain growth in money supply; economies in Government expenditure; encouragement to small savings; better supply and demand management of sensitive commodities; and provision of incentives for higher production in the medium term will receive priority.

Fiscal imbalances continue to be a major concern for the Government. Despite attempts at controlling expenditure and raising additional revenues, the revised estimate of budget deficit for 1990-91 is Rs. 10,772 crores against the budget estimate of Rs. 7,206 crores. Government is committed to observing strict fiscal discipline. The generation of black money will be checked. Government expenditure will be controlled. While making necessary adjustments, Government would ensure that the burden does not fall on the poor.

The balance of payments position, already under severe strain, was further exacerbated by the Gulf crisis, the direct adverse impact of which is estimated at \$ 2.7 billion (over Rs. 4,900 crores). Of this, the additional cost of oil imports alone accounted for \$ 2 billion while the rest was, among other, owing to the loss of exports, evacuation of Indian nationals and reduced inflow of capital. The balance of payments situation has become more critical as the flow of funds from international capital markets did not materialise as anticipated, though several countries did offer help. Significant bilateral assistance has come particularly from Japan as also from Germany, U.K., the Netherlands and Denmark. The management of balance of payments is one of the most crucial tasks

before us and Government will not hesitate to take the hard decisions necessary in this behalf.

Exports have a vital role in solving the balance of payments problem. During 1990-91, our exports were affected adversely, resulting in a slowdown in the rate of growth. Government has recently announced major structural reforms in trade policy. It is hoped that export trade will get out of the circle of low growth, high cost and stifling controls and once again get on to a high trajectory of growth. Government's ultimate goal is to eliminate all licensing control on the import of capital goods and raw materials except for a small negative list.

The Uruguay Round of multilateral negotiations is underway in Geneva. While attaching importance to strengthening the multilateral trading system, Government will endeavour to see that the outcome of the negotiations would be a favourable trading environment for developing countries.

Efforts will be made to step up industrial growth. In 1990-91, the average industrial growth was 8.4% compared to 8.5% during the 7th Plan period. Government is determined to work towards making India internationally competitive. For this purpose, fullest use will be made of modern science and technology. The opportunities provided by increasing internationalisation of the industry and trade will be fully utilised. The development of the small scale sector and khadi and village industries will receive the Government's close attention. Government will work for extensive deregulation and reduction of bureaucratic intervention. To this end, a comprehensive review of policies and procedures has been initiated. In order to raise the competitiveness and quality of Indian industry to global levels, technology imports will be liberalised and facilitated in areas where Indian technology does not measure up to international standards. Changes in procedures are being worked out so that the investment climate is made more conducive for participation by foreign companies and non-resident Indians. Efficiency will be promoted in services required by industrial and other users from financial institutions and banks.

Reforms in the functioning of the public sector are being formulated to improve its performance. The management of the public sector will be strengthened through selection of the best talent available. Public Sector managers will be allowed greater autonomy without diluting accountability. A policy is being evolved for disinvestment, including workers' participation in equity and for vacating areas of activity where public sector involvement is not essential and where private and joint sectors have developed capabilities.

To provide a boost to the electronics industry and to promote software exports, a number of measures are being initiated. These would include setting up of technology parks and attracting international leaders in semi-

conductors technology to set up facilities in India. High priority will be accorded to expanding the production of crude oil and refining capacity. Government will take special measures to tackle sickness in the textile industry and improve the price competitiveness of Indian textile exports. Immediate attention will be given to problems faced by the food processing industry, which has a critical relevance for the better utilisation and greater value addition of agricultural produce.

The development of infrastructure will receive Government's close attention. Power generation will be stepped up. Steps will be taken to make the steel industry more competitive. Modernisation of rail transport and augmentation of capacity will receive attention. Telecom services will receive very high priority. It will be the endeavour of the Government to upgrade telecom and postal services and to ensure that the telephone reaches every village before the end of the decade.

Science and technology must be brought to the centre stage in economic planning. It is to the credit of our scientists that we have been able to establish internationally acclaimed competence in several areas. During the current year, two major space events have been scheduled—the launch of the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite and the launch of the Indian National Satellite. These represent our commitment to provide services in areas like communications, telecasting, broadcasting and meteorology and relevant data in the areas of ground water availability, forestry, agriculture, and mineral resources. Significant progress has also been made in the development of various Satellite Launch Vehicles. Our efforts at using atomic energy for our development needs have yielded encouraging results. Members will be happy to learn that in the next few months Narora-2 power reactor and Kakrapar-1 power station will go critical. Government will take all possible steps to accelerate the pace of progress in science and technology.

The total production of foodgrains in 1990-91 is expected to be 177.2 million tonnes. This will be the third successive year of increased foodgrains production and this has happened for the first time since independence. This is due to the untiring efforts of our farmers and more effective adoption of scientific farm management practices. We will ensure that our farmers get a fair and remunerative price for their produce. Conditions will be created for further increase in agricultural yields. Agricultural research will receive the Government's close attention. Extension services will be strengthened and modern technology will be made available to our farmers in a usable manner. Technology for increasing productivity in rainfed agriculture would be further developed and efforts would be made to ensure that a package of supportive measures to increase the income levels of small and marginal farmers in these areas reaches them. The development of water resources will receive high priority. Government will make every effort to maximise indigenous production of fertilizers and ensure its timely availability to the

farmers. At least 90% self-sufficiency in nitrogenous fertilizers will be ensured by commissioning the gas based plants at Babrala, Shahjahanpur, Gadepani and Kakinada and doubling the capacities of the plants at Vijaipur, Aonla and Jagdishpur during the 8th Five Year Plan. Animal husbandry will be further developed with emphasis on genetic improvement, animal health and cost effective feed. Particular attention will be paid to remote areas.

Given the difficult economic situation facing the country, the formulation of the 8th Five Year Plan assumes added importance. The Planning Commission began formulating the Plan in 1988. However, due to frequent changes in Government, the Plan document could not be finalised. Government will take necessary steps for the early finalisation of the 8th Plan.

India has had a deep commitment to environmental conservation drawn from its ethos. India shares the emerging global concerns in the context of the environmental changes induced by economic and technological activities. We shall take the required initiatives to ensure that our commitment to sustainable development crystallises. Wasteland and water resource development have enormous potential for employment and productivity. A new policy on abatement of pollution is under preparation which aims at promoting environmentally sound and clean technologies to minimise waste and control pollution. A National Forestry Action Programme is being prepared with the involvement of all State Governments. The role of citizen groups will be encouraged.

The youth of India represent a large, creative and vibrant resource segment of our society. Investment in their development is an investment in the future of the country. Government will formulate policies for actively involving youth in efforts to nurture the spirit of national integration and pride in our country. Linkage between education, development of youth, sports and physical education will be strengthened. The rapid expansion of opportunities for productive employment will be a major objective of our planning and economic policy.

Women and children, particularly those belonging to poor households, are the two most vulnerable groups of our population that need special attention. The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), the largest child development programme in the world, has completed fifteen years of successful implementation. Government is committed to expand this programme during the 8th Plan to cover all the backward and drought and flood-prone areas as well as areas where there are large concentrations of Scheduled Castes and Tribes. Government is committed to the implementation of Indira Mahila Yojana. This integrated programme for the development of women and children was inspired by Shri Rajiv Gandhi and announced in November 1989. The programme aims at developing a new sense of awareness among women, particularly in rural areas, and

empower them, so that they become active participants in the process of social transformation and regeneration. The development of the child will be an integral part of this programme. We will take measures to enforce all the legislation for women already on the statute book. As a first step, we will appoint a Commissioner for Women's Rights with powers for taking action required for the effective enforcement of their rights.

Government is committed to the socio-economic and educational development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The composition of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which has been given constitutional status will be finalised shortly. The National Commission will be given all the support it requires to discharge its duties in regard to the implementation of the safeguards and other measures designed for the protection of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and their socio-economic development through the planning process. The National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation will be strengthened. Government is committed to special measures in favour of socially and educationally backward classes. In implementing these, preference will be given to the poorer sections among them. Where poorer candidates are not available, the benefit will go to other members of the backward classes. The Government will also ensure that the benefits of reservation are provided to other economically backward sections who are not covered by the existing schemes. A Backward Classes Development Corporation will be set up.

Steps will be initiated for the effective implementation of the 15-Point Programme for the welfare of minorities which seeks to ensure that the minorities are protected and that they are not discriminated against in the matter of employment in public services and benefits from development schemes. All possible assistance will be extended for the educational development of the minorities. The Minorities Commission will be accorded statutory status.

Improving the quality of life of the rural poor will receive the Government's closest attention. Efforts will be made to ease the pressure on land by providing alternative avenues of employment. To this end appropriate economic linkages will be established and non-farm employment stepped up. Small, medium and large-scale agro-based and food processing industries will also be established. The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) continues to be a major instrument for creation of self-employment opportunities and will be strengthened. The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana will be continued to generate more employment in rural areas. A special crash programme, to be named after Rajiv Gandhi, will be drawn up to provide drinking water to rural areas within five years. Improvements will be made in the primary health care infrastructure in rural areas.

The strength of our economy rests, in a very large measure, upon the toil of our working class, including those in the unorganised sector. It will be endeavour of the Government to protect and promote the interests of the working class. Efforts will be made to foster healthy industrial relations by carrying out reforms in the machinery for settlement of labour disputes.

Health is an essential elements in the development process and a crucial input for improving the quality of life. While there has been steady expansion in health care facilities, a great deal still requires to be done. All possible measures will be taken to reduce mortality and morbidity rates which are still high, particularly among children. With a view to further strengthening the health care system, a National Institute of Biologicals is being established to ensure safety of vaccines, kits and reagents. To draw upon the strengths of various systems of medicine, Government are taking measures to promote and develop indigenous systems. Assistance is also being provided to further encourage the study of homeopathy.

Today is the World Population Day. This is an occasion to focus attention on a global problem, which is of particular relevance to India. We are at a critical stage of development. A rapidly expanding population is exerting relentless pressure on our scarce resources. Greater emphasis will be placed on limiting population through propagation of the small family norm. A multi-pronged approach will be adopted to this end. Integrated health, nutrition, education and motivational services for the people in general and women in particular will be improved and strengthened. Maternal and child health measures will receive special care.

India's greatest resource is its people. The full potential of our human resource has yet to be effectively utilised. High priority will, therefore, be accorded to education. The National Policy on education formulated in 1986 on the basis of a national consensus contains the framework for our advancement towards a secular, modern, self-reliant and just social order. The uncertainty created in the last one and a half years about the policy has caused much harm. We shall now revive the spirit required to implement the policy with renewed vigour. We must move with confidence and determination, towards the goal of universal literacy and provision of good quality primary education for all children, especially those belonging to the disadvantaged sections. Government believes that equal opportunity in education is crucial to social harmony and progress. This emphasis of the New Education policy will remain Government's main plank. Particular attention will be paid to the education of women and girls. We shall simultaneously improve the quality of education and bridge the chasm that now exists between the world of work and the world of learning.

The highest priority of the Government will be to provide for adequate availability of essential commodities at reasonable prices. As an important part of this effort, the Public Distribution System will be streamlined and more sharply targeted to reach the poorest of the poor, especially those in

the rural areas. It will be an integral part of our strategy to fight rural poverty and give the rural poor a better quality of life. This effort would include measures like ensuring timely and adequate deliveries of foodgrains used in wage employment and supplementary nutrition programmes. The Essential Commodities Act will be strictly enforced to fight anti-social activities like hoarding, profiteering and blackmarketing of essential commodities. The provisions of the Consumer Protection Act will be used more effectively to provide simple, inexpensive and quick redressal of consumer grievances against sub-standard goods, services and unfair trade practices. An effective machinery will be set up to monitor the entire gamut of these efforts.

Government attach great importance to making administration more efficient and responsive to the needs of the people. Particular attention will be paid to those areas of administration where it interfaces closely and directly with the people. The grievances redressal machinery will also come in for close scrutiny with a view to enhancing its effectiveness. Government will complete the drive for filling the backlog of vacancies meant for Scheduled Castes and Tribes in various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India in a time-bound manner.

In foreign policy, we accord the highest priority to strengthening our relations with our neighbours in South Asia on a bilateral basis as well as through the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

We welcome the establishment of a democratically elected government in Bangladesh and look forward to working with them in resolving outstanding issues through dialogue and further strengthening our cooperation. We are deeply grieved over the unprecedented devastation caused by the cyclone which recently struck Bangladesh and are contributing to relief operations in a spirit of friendship and good neighbourliness.

Our relations with Maldives continue to progress on the basis of mutual trust and cooperation. Maldives too has been the victim of severe cyclones. India has been participating actively in relief efforts.

Our close relations and cooperation with Bhutan will be further consolidated and strengthened.

The emergence of multi-party democracy in Nepal will further strengthen our uniquely close ties. Over the past year, high level exchanges of visits have reinforced our political understanding and imparted a shared determination to intensify cooperation in areas of mutual benefit.

Government will continue the endeavour to reduce tensions with Pakistan. Agreements have been reached on several confidence building measures, including on providing advance notification of military exercises and prevention of air-space violation by military aircraft. We believe that all differences with Pakistan should be resolved bilaterally and peacefully on

the basis of the Simla Agreement. However, Pakistan's support to terrorism in Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir is a matter of serious concern and stands in the way of a genuine and sustained improvement in our relationship.

We are concerned at the continuing violence in Sri Lanka which has caused unending human suffering and led to nearly two lakh Sri Lankan nationals taking refuge on our soil. It is important that efforts for a lasting and durable solution to the ethnic issue are intensified and conditions created for the return of these refugees at the earliest. The India-Sri Lanka Agreement continues to provide a viable framework for this objective.

We have continued to strengthen our traditional ties of friendship and cooperation with our close neighbour, Afghanistan. We are concerned that resumed military activity would cause a setback to the peace process. We hope that peace and normalcy will be restored soon through a political settlement. India will continue to work for a strong, stable, independent and non-aligned Afghanistan.

Since the visit of Shri Rajiv Gandhi to China in 1988, there has been a marked improvement in India-China relations and we will seek to strengthen this process. The two countries have reached agreement on re-opening their Consulates in Bombay and Shanghai respectively and also to resume border trade. The scale of scientific and technical exchanges as well as cultural exchanges has been steadily expanded. The outstanding question of the boundary between the two countries should be settled in a fair and reasonable manner. Better understanding and cooperation between India and China will have a positive impact on peace and stability in our region and the world.

The Soviet Union is a major partner with whom we have friendly relations and wide-ranging, mutually beneficial cooperation. We wish the people of the Soviet Union success in their efforts to bring about a transformation in their country. We are confident that our bilateral relations with that great country will continue to develop in an atmosphere of traditional warmth and understanding.

We look forward to the further development of our relations with the United States of America. We believe that building a mutually beneficial and mature relationship is a goal shared by both countries. Indo-US cooperation in the commercial, scientific, technical and cultural fields has been steadily intensified.

We will continue to monitor closely the post-war developments in the Gulf region, a region with which we have deep-rooted, historic links. We hope that the new security arrangements that are being put in place would be based upon the initiative of the countries of the region and worked out under the overall aegis of the UN.

There can be no durable or stable peace in West Asia without a comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian problem. India has consistently supported the just struggle of the Palestinian people and has recognised Palestine as an independent state. We remain committed to supporting a settlement based on the Palestinian right to self-determination, the vacation of all Arab territories occupied since 1967 and the security of all the States in the region.

We have traditionally had good relations with all the countries of Europe. The European community is our major trading partner and a key source of investment and technology. We also recognise its growing potential as a political and economic entity. We will remain in close touch with the Community.

Our friendly relations with Germany have been strengthened with the visit of the President of Germany to India. Later this year in September, the Festival of India in Germany will be inaugurated in celebration of the cultural and intellectual interchange that has been a hallmark of Indo-German relations in the past decades.

The countries of Eastern Europe have witnessed momentous changes in recent years. India welcomes the success of the democratic movements in these countries and looks forward to strengthening our traditional bonds of friendly relations with them.

We desire the strengthening of our relations with Japan, which is already one of our major economic partners. We have engaged in a constructive dialogue with Japan on the entire range of matters of mutual concern. We appreciate the support they have extended to us.

Government will continue to maintain close and friendly contacts with all the countries of South East Asia. We will continue to participate in the process of finding a political solution to the Cambodian conflict, consistent with the sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence and the non-aligned status of Cambodia.

We remain totally opposed to the continuing efforts to institutionalise racial discrimination in Fiji.

We welcome the measures taken by the South African Government to remove the Statutory pillars of apartheid. We fully support the demand of the African National Congress to implement further measures, which will lead to the irreversible elimination of apartheid in South Africa.

In the short period of our current membership of the United Nations Security Council, since January this year, we have endeavoured to project not only our own national policies and aspirations but also serve the cause of maintaining international peace and security, in consonance with our faith in multilateralism.

Our foreign policy will take into account the far reaching changes taking place in the international situation while adhering firmly to the principles

of Non-alignment. We will continue to work for peace and disarmament and for global cooperation to reduce poverty and improve living standards in the developing nations.

Honourable Members, the main task before you will be the adoption. Of the Budget for 1991-92 and several measures of grave national importance. I am sure that your deliberations will be marked by maturity and wisdom and guided by patriotic and selfless devotion to the cause of the nation.

The crisis with which we are confronted today makes this session of Parliament particularly important one. You must give the lead and set the tone which will instil confidence in our people and enthuse them in the task of nation building. You have before you the historic task of building a strong and prosperous India, a humane India, an India where there is social harmony and communcal amity, an India from which poverty has been eradicated, an India based on equality and social justice.

I wish you all success,

Jai Hind.

THE 36TH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE : AN OVERVIEW*—

—LARRDIS

The Commonwealth, over the years, has evolved into a multi-racial, multi-cultural and multi-lingual association of independent sovereign states. Spread across the six Continents and the five Oceans, the member states of the Commonwealth hold dear the noble ideals of universal peace and prosperity, rule of law, freedom of the individual and above all a democratic form of government representing the sovereign will of the people. The Commonwealth is at once an association of governments as also of peoples and is committed to the twin ideals of consultation and cooperation.

The Commonwealth today is perhaps the best repository of the rich and varied traditions of parliamentary democracy. This unique association abounds in diversity even in the nature and content of the parliamentary democratic polity prevalent in the member countries. And it is the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) which endeavours to strengthen the cause of parliamentary democracy among its members. This cherished goal is sought to be met through Annual Conferences, Parliamentary Seminars and various publications.

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference provides a unique opportunity to parliamentarians to discuss subjects of parliamentary interest as also exchange views on major political issues of topical and common concern. Plenary Conferences of the CPA were biennial from 1948 to 1959 but since 1961 they have been held annually. India had the proud privilege of hosting this Conference in 1957 and in 1975. This rare honour was bestowed once again on India when the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, was held in New Delhi from 23 to 28 September, 1991.

* For the texts of the Addresses delivered at the various functions of the Conference, see Feature Addresses at the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference.

Conference Arrangements

In accordance with the Standing Rules of the Conference, the Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil presided over the Conference.

The India Branch and the State Branches of the CPA were the joint hosts to the Conference. The planning and organisation of the Conference arrangements were taken up well in advance which finally led to smooth conduct of the Conference. The Executive Committee of the India Branch of the CPA as also the Steering Committee for the Conference held several sessions to finalise all arrangements for the Conference as per schedule. Conference Secretariat was headed by Shri C.K. Jain, Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha.

The actual Conference activities began with the official arrival of Members of the Executive Committee on 19 September 1991 followed by the arrival of Delegates to the Small Countries' Conference on 20 September 1991. Delegates of the CP Conference started arriving in a trickle and by 22-23 September, 1991, all Delegates had reached New Delhi. All the distinguished guests arrived to a warm welcome and were escorted to their Hotels by senior officials of the Conference Secretariat. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Parliamentarians, the Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat and other senior officials were at the airport to personally receive the guests.

Executive Committee Meetings

The venue for the Conference was the Convention Hall of the Ashok Hotel. The Executive Committee held a meeting on 20 September 1991. The Executive Committee held meetings again on 21, 22 and 27 September 1991.

Small Countries' Conference

Following requests from the Branches in Small Countries for a forum to discuss their own special problems, the CPA introduced in 1981 a Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference for Small Countries. It is held annually immediately preceding the Plenary Conference. This meeting is intended for Branches serving jurisdictions of approximately 2,50,000 inhabitants. The Conference is normally held at the same venue as the Plenary Conference.

The 11th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference of Members from Small Countries was inaugurated by the Vice-President of India and Chairman of Rajya Sabha Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma at a function at the Banquet Hall of Ashok Hotel on 21 September 1991. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Sharma reminded that the small countries constituted a significant section of the Commonwealth group of nations and were faced with several problems peculiar to them. About ninety per cent of the small countries relied mainly on the export of their primary products to sustain their economies. They also faced threats to their integrity and sovereignty.

When a small portion of the world's population was enjoying the fruits of democracy, industrialisation and scientific know-how, it was ironic that the majority of nations were struggling to retain their identity, Dr. Sharma observed.

The Vice-President, however, expressed satisfaction that the Commonwealth was playing a pioneering role in focusing attention on the special problems and needs of these countries. Recognising that a major threat to these countries came from economic inequality and under-development, he noted with satisfaction that more than half of the resources of the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation and over two-thirds of the industrial projects assisted by the Industrial Development Unit of the Commonwealth Secretariat were devoted to small countries. He also lauded the suggestion to create a Commonwealth Development Fund for the benefit of small countries.

Earlier, welcoming the distinguished gathering, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha and President of the Conference, highlighted India's contribution to the thought process of world thinkers throughout the ages. In a philosophic vein, the Speaker observed: "We see a unique oneness of essence in all things in the world, small and big, living and non-living". Though there were problems which were more likely to be faced by the small countries than others, he expressed confidence that they had the genius and capacity to make democracy work and succeed in achieving their objects. "What the countries of the world need is cooperation and a design and plan to compete; compete they should for excellence, efficiency and economy. Simultaneously, they should also cooperate for harmony, justice and the ultimate goal of happiness and prosperity for all", he added.

Mr. Darrell E. Rolle of the Bahamas, Vice-President of CPA, also addressed the inaugural function, The Speaker of the House of Assembly, St. Christopher and Nevis, Mr. Ivan C. Buchanan proposed a vote of thanks.

Business Sessions of Small Countries' Conference

In the first Business Session of the Small Countries' Conference held shortly after the inaugural function, the subject Sociological and Economic Impact of New Technology and Equipment on Small States' provoked an animated discussion among the Delegates who participated in the deliberations, chaired by Mr. Ivan C. Buchanan, Speaker of the House of Assembly of St. Christopher and Nevis. The participants in the discussions highlighted various aspects of the subject—need for appropriate technology, impact of advances in telecommunications on the cultural identity of small countries, ways and means by which big countries could accommodate the requirements of small countries, etc. Those who participated in these discussions were: Mrs. Susan Plant (Guernsey), Mr. Gerald Simons (Bermuda), Mr. Joe Bossano (Gibraltar), Mr. D.E. Buffett (Norfolk

Island), Hon. Chief Fusitu'a (Tonga), Mr. Denis Collins (Northern Territory—Australia) and Mr. Terry Le Main (Jersey).

The afternoon Session witnessed a very lively discussion on 'How Best to Defend and Preserve the Environment of Small States in an Age of Growing Ecological Problems'. The participants dwelt at length on the ecological problems faced by their respective countries and threw light on ways and means to tackle environmental degradation and also suggested concrete measures to preserve the pristine purity of mother nature. The participants included Mr. Carlyle Dougan (St. Vincent and the Grenadines), Mr. Geoffrey J. Norman (Guernsey), Mrs. Winifred Strachan (Grenada), Mr. Robin Rumboll (Jersey), Mr. Tennyson Wells (Bahamas), Mr. T.W. Cain (Isle of Man), Mrs. Catherine Hopkins (St. Helena), Mr. Leleisiua Palemene (Western Samoa), Mr. David Prowse (Australian Capital Territory), Hon. Chief Fusitu'a (Tonga), Mr. Terry Le Main (Jersey), Mr. Elodio Aragon (Belize), Mr. D.A. Carter (Jersey), Mr. Valentine Grimes (Bahamas), Mr. Pres Nimes (Nauru), Mr. Gerald Simons (Bermuda), Mr. Ivan C. Buchanan (St. Christopher and Nevis), Mr. Joe Bossano (Gibraltar), Mrs. Ruby Ann Darling (Bahamas), Mr. Denis Collins (Northern Territory—Australia), and Mr. Henry L. Wilson (Turks and Caicos Islands).

The Third Business Session of the Small Countries' Conference which met on 22 September 1991, took up a subject of topical interest: 'Without a Second Chamber, is Parliamentary Democracy Doomed?'. Diverse views ranging from strong support for the indispensability of the Second Chamber to questioning of its role and relevance, dominated the protracted deliberations in which as many as twenty Delegates participated. Those favouring the Second Chamber justified it as a revising and reviewing house, utilising the experiences and expertise of elder Members of the Second Chamber drawn from diverse fields. The consensus view, however, was that a political system, whether bicameral or unicameral, must be a natural product of the political evolution of the country. Transplantation was not possible. They felt that much depended on the awareness of the people, the scope and the range of Parliamentary Committees and constitutional devices.

The participants in the deliberations were: Mr. Denis Collins (Northern Territory—Australia), Mr. S.W. Lowe (Bermuda), Mr. Robin Rumboll (Jersey), Mrs. Winifred Strachan (Grenada), Dr. Reginald Valarino (Gibraltar), Mr. M.A. Burgess (Bermuda), Mr. Teiraoi Tetabea (Kiribati), Dr. Fuataga I. Alama (Western Samoa), Hon. Chief Fustiu'a (Tonga), Mrs. Susan Piant and Mr. Geoffrey J. Norman (Guernsey), Mr. T.W. Cain (Isle of Man), Mr. T.J. Le Main (Jersey), Mrs. Sybil I. McLaughlin (Cayman Islands), Mr. Carlyle Dougan (St. Vincent and the Grenadines), Mr. D.E. Buffett (Norfolk Island), Mr. Valentine Grimes and Mr. Tennyson Wells (the Bahamas), Mr. G. Haig Bodden (Cayman Islands), Mr. David Prowse (Australian Capital Territory) and Mr. Henry L. Wilson (Turks and Caicos Islands).

The Small Countries' Conference came to an end in the afternoon with the fourth Business Session. Chaired by Hon. Chief Fusitu'a, Speaker of the House of Assembly, Tonga, this Session witnessed a lively discussion amid a bit of rhetoric and reason, while not without an emotional touch that characterises a concluding session. The topic taken up for discussion was "What role do Small States have in Mediating or Hosting the Mediation of International Disputes? To what extent would this role be enhanced by Neutrality?". Drawing from experiences of individual countries, most of the speakers were almost equivocal on the point that small countries in solidarity could have a significant say in international politics. The speakers appealed to the small countries to desist from big power politics. The participants in the deliberations were: Mr. Joe Bossano (Gibraltar), Mrs. Susan Plant and Mr. Michael E. Burbridge (Guernsey), Mr. Robin Rumboll and Mr. D.A. Carter (Jersey), Mr. Samuel Waight (Belize), Mrs. Ruby Ann Darling (The Bahamas), Sen. M.A. Burgess (Bermuda), Mr. T.W. Cain (Isle of Man), Mr. G. Haig Bodden (Cayman Islands) and Mr. Ivan C. Buchanan (St. Christopher & Nevis.)

37th CPA Conference Inaugurated

The 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference was inaugurated by the President of India and Vice-Patron of the CPA, Shri R. Venkataraman at a solemn function in the historic Central Hall of Parliament House on 23 September 1991. The Central Hall, which has been witness to many historic events, was packed to capacity with Delegates, Observers and other dignitaries.

Earlier, welcoming the distinguished gathering, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha and President of the Conference, described the story of the evolution of modern Commonwealth as the saga of the democratic experiments in India and other member States. Referring to the myriad problems faced by the Commonwealth countries and the world at large, he felt that the issues confronting mankind today were gigantic and complicated and would not be solely and effectively solved within an acceptable timeframe by the United Nations alone. In this context, he said that a helping hand from Organisations and Associations like the CPA could go a long way in addressing those problems and arriving at acceptable solutions. Describing the Commonwealth as a family unique in itself, Shri Patil asserted that Conferences of this nature unleashed the forces and revealed strategies to achieve those objectives. If we took a few steps ahead in that direction through this Conference, we would have achieved our objective, he added.

In his thought-provoking inaugural address, President Shri R. Venkataraman described the CPA as a vital link among members of the Parliaments and of the Commonwealth which had forged close bonds by enabling them to interact as parliamentarians and equals, thereby exemplifying the worldwide spirit of democratic unity. Delving deep into the

working of parliamentary democracy, he observed that a system was only as good as the people who operated it and maintained that with all its deficiencies, it was still superior to all other systems that human ingenuity had so far been able to devise. Recalling his association with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences since 1950, he called upon the august gathering to derive inspiration from the glow-worms who shed light without heat. Shri Venkataraman expressed confidence that the deliberations at the Conference would be fruitful and foster better understanding among the parliamentarians from Commonwealth countries of the problems that confront humanity as a whole.

The Prime Minister of India, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, in his address, said that a Commonwealth gathering was always a remarkable event: "It is like a family reunion of diverse nations, cultures and races spread across several continents". Speaking about the profound changes taking place all over the world, he observed that the motive force for these developments lay in the remarkable upsurge of the human spirit which had been demanding and achieving freedom, openness and democracy. "For the Commonwealth family, this is a cause for celebration", he added. Highlighting the wide-ranging issues that confronted us today, Shri Rao emphasised that multilateral fora such as the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences provided opportunities for deliberations on those issues which affected all of us and called for collective responses.

In his thanks-giving address, the Vice-President of the CPA, Mr. Darrell E. Rolle paid homage to the former Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi whom he described as an international spokesman always concerned with global problems. He pointed out that the present Conference was being held in the backdrop of significant global changes which once again affirmed the primacy of a parliamentary democratic system.

Chief Emeka Anyaoku's Address to Commonwealth Parliamentarians

Addressing the Delegates of the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference on 23 September 1991 before the Plenary Sessions began, Chief Emeka Anyaoku, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, said that the present Conference was being held at a very appropriate time when there was a resurgence of democracy the world over. He said that the CPA could play an active role in the promotion of democracy and human rights—the twin ideals of the Association in the changing world. He also recalled the constructive role of the Commonwealth Observer Group sent to Bangladesh to oversee the last general elections there. Dwelling upon the role and relevance of the Commonwealth in the changing international scenario, he said that the Commonwealth had a meaningful role in the economic development of the member countries, particularly those belonging to the South in reducing the burden of external debt.

Chief Anyaoku urged the member countries for greater multilateral and bilateral cooperation in order to make Commonwealth cooperation more

meaningful. He also emphasised the potential of non-governmental Commonwealth organisations for people's participation at the grass-root level. Other areas where Commonwealth cooperation could be utilised were human resource development and ensuring the security of small states, he added. He said that Commonwealth was the microcosm of the world and its consensus approach would help the world to make it a better place to live in. He also paid rich tributes to the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi describing him as an illustrious son of the Commonwealth. He congratulated India for the last successful general elections which took place in the wake of the dastardly assassination of Shri Gandhi. His thought-provoking address evoked a barrage of questions from the Delegates which Chief Anyaoku answered.

Business Sessions

The business of the 37th CP Conference was divided into Plenary Sessions and Panel Discussions. The First Plenary Session was held in the afternoon of 23 September 1991 immediately following Chief Anyaoku's address, on the subject "United Nations Collective Security; Implementation of its Resolutions; The Gulf Crisis, with Special Reference to Commonwealth Countries". The United Nations and collective security came in for close scrutiny by Delegates taking part in the deliberations in the Session. The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and its aftermath that put the collective security system to test were the highlights of the deliberations. Opening the Session, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, the Leader of the Indian Delegation and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, India, lauded the role of the Security Council in the Gulf crisis and said that the Iraqi invasion was unacceptable to the international community. Other participants included: Mr. Girve Fretz (Canada), Mr. Eliades Demetris (Cyprus), Mr. Mark Lennox-Boyd (United Kingdom), Shri Madan Bhatia (India), Mr. Ong Tee-Keat (Malaysia), Mr. G.F. Munyoro (Zimbabwe), Dr. A. Theophanous (Australia), Mrs. Susan Plant (Guernsey), Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha (India), Mr. K.L. Mukindia (Kenya), Shri Thakur Sen Negi (India) Sir Michael Marshall (United Kingdom), Shri Ghulam Sarwar (India), Sir Michael Neubert (United Kingdom), Shri Prabodh Chandra Sinha (India), Shri Roxamlova (India), Mr. Edward Micaloff (Victoria) and Shri Jaswant Singh (India).

CPA Conference Pleads for Reforms in South Africa

At the Second Plenary Session of the Conference held on 24 September 1991, the Delegates deliberated on the "Role of Commonwealth Parliaments in accelerating changes towards Democracy which will allow South Africa to rejoin the Commonwealth". Reiterating the consistent support of the Commonwealth for a non-racial and representative government in South Africa at the earliest, they called for concerted action towards the realisation of that cherished goal. Mr. Bowen Wells (United Kingdom) made a strong plea for extending technical and educational

assistance to the youth of South Africa. He also emphasised that people in South Africa must be trained in political processes. Dr. A. Theophanous (Australia) shared the views expressed by Mr. Wells.

Several Delegates appealed to the leaders of South Africa for ending infighting among the majority community. They also lauded the role of the Commonwealth and the CPA in particular in arousing world public opinion against racial discrimination. Mr. Peter Pike (United Kingdom) said that a negotiated settlement did not mean a sell-out or a surrender. Human rights and dignity of the individual must be maintained, he added. Mr. O.A. Gara (Zimbabwe) appealed to the Commonwealth nations to exert pressure on the U.S.A., U.K., Germany and France for ushering in a just political and social order in South Africa. Mr. Christos Pourgourides (Cyprus) expressed the hope that the message from this Conference would be crystal clear to South Africa. Recalling the assistance rendered by the Commonwealth to Namibia, Dr. Zephania Kameeta (Namibia) called for similar assistance to the South African peace process also. Other participants in the deliberations were: Mr. Donald Anderson (United Kingdom), Mr. Ashwani Kumar and Prof. Brij Mohan Mishra (India), Mrs. T.K. Hungwe (Zimbabwe) Mr. A.N. Matjila (Namibia), Mr. Sase Narain (Guyana), Mr. Stanley Lowe (Bermuda), Mr. Bahiti K. Temane (Botswana), Dr. Hilmi Bin Haji Yahaya (Malaysia) and Mrs. Elizabeth Renner (Gambia). Mr. Clive Griffiths, Chairman of the Executive Committee, concluding the Session, reminded about the onerous responsibility of the world community towards South Africa.

Panel Discussions

In the afternoon Session, on the same day, the Delegates took up for discussion two subjects of topics: concern in two separate Panels. "The Current Global Refugee Problems: Protection of Refugees 'Human Rights'" formed the subject of discussion by Delegates participating in Panel A. The opening Speaker, Mr. R.J. Arculli, Member of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong, threw light on the complex problem drawing his experiences from Hong Kong which had been witnessing the travails of the refugees since early 1950s and currently giving asylum to the Vietnamese boat people. He said the people and government of Hong Kong had taken this problem in their stride with a humanitarian spirit. However, when the influx of refugees reached unmanageable proportions, the government was constrained to introduce a screening system in 1988. Supplementing him, Mr. Michael Marshall (United Kingdom) said that the British government was in active touch with Hong Kong in this regard.

Participating in the deliberations, Prof. Brij Mohan Mishra said that India had been facing this problem ever since independence, when the country was partitioned unleashing an influx of refugees from across the border. Then came the migration of the Tibetan refugees when Dalai Lama settled in India. He also referred to Chakma refugees from Bangladesh and Tamil

refugees from Sri Lanka. The repatriation of Indian nationals from Kuwait and Iraq when the Gulf crisis broke out posed a great threat to Indian economy at a very critical juncture, he added. Shri Madan Bhatia, also from India, said that the causes of refugees' migration were diverse and hence their solutions had to be different. On the issue of Tamil refugees, he said that the Sri Lankan agreement in this regard and the Accord signed between the two countries were testimony to bilateral friendship and cooperation. He pointed out that the Commonwealth could play a major role in reforming and restructuring the U.N. system which was now anachronistic.

Mr. Max Madden (United Kingdom) made a strong plea for giving asylum to refugees. He said asylum was an honourable British tradition and his country had greatly benefited from the experience and expertise of asylum-seekers. Shri Shankar Dayal Singh (India) said that it was under compelling circumstances and not out of choice that one became a refugee and the problem had to be approached from a humanitarian angle.

Mr. O.A. Gara (Zimbabwe) presided over the Panel Discussions. Others who took part included Mr. Fernand Jourdenais (Canada), Dr. A Theophanous (Australia), Mr. Robin Rumboll (Jersey), Mrs. Elizabeth Renner (The Gambia), Mr. Demetris Eliades (Cyprus), Mr. Bowen Wells (United Kingdom), Mr. K.B. Mwamzandi (Kenya) and Mr. Joe Bossano (Gibraltar).

Initiating another Panel Discussion on "The role of Press in a Democracy", Dr. Robert Catley (Australia) said that the Press was the cornerstone on which the edifice of democracy rested. Mr. Michel Bissonet (Canada) was of the view that while a vigilant Press was indispensable for the successful functioning of democracy, monopolistic Press would be detrimental to democracy as it would result in manipulation of opinion in favour of one particular view. Participating in the discussions, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, observed that the Press should highlight the problems of the people and also comment upon the functioning of the government. She described the Press as the best guarantee against the emergence of authoritarianism. "The duty of Press is not only to inform but also to reform", she added. Mr. Haig Bodden (Cayman Islands) said that a free flow of news and views should not be unidirectional but a two-way process. Shri Sripada Rao (India) expressed his support for telecasting the proceedings of Parliament and State Legislatures. Mr. Dereck Carter (Jersey) felt that the Press should be more sensitive to incorrect reportage.

Other participants were Baroness Hollis (United Kingdom), Mr. G.F. Munyoro (Zimbabwe), Mr. Santo Santoro (Australia), Md. Aminul Hoque (Bangladesh), Mr. S.L. Buckwold and Mr. Albert G. Cooper (Canada), Mr. K.L. Mukindia (Kenya), Sir Michael Neubert (UK), Mr. Hilmi Bin Haji Yahaya

(Malaysia), Mr. Trevor Rogers (New Zealand), Dr. David Carter (Canada), Mr. Mian Manzoor Wattoo (Pakistan), Dr. Umeshwar Prasad Varma, Shri Simon Peter D'Souza and Shri S.P. Gupta (India) and Mr. Michael Burbridge (Guernsey).

Ever since the dawn of civilization, our food, fuel and fodder requirements have been met by the constant use of land. But, as days go by, the pressure of population and livestock increases and so do the demands from our natural resources. Besides, an explosive increase in population, inefficient water management, non-judicious exploitation of living and non-living natural resources by industries and unplanned urbanisation are contributing to the deterioration of our environmental conditions. The Commonwealth's concern at this dismal scenario was articulated by the Delegates participating in the morning Session's Panel Discussion on "Environmental Protection in relation to Population Growth, Industrialization and Urbanisation" on 25 September 1991. Opening the discussion, Mr. Tan Kit Sher (Malaysia) observed that environmental problems were a by-product of human efforts to have a better standard of living and called for a comprehensive environmental strategy. Shri Thakur Sen Negi (India) felt that human greed to exploit the environment for short-term benefits without any regard for the eco-system was the major culprit for environmental problems. Mr. Peter Pike (United Kingdom) said that the developed nations were contributing more to environmental pollution, besides producing a large amount of chlorofluoro carbons (CFCs) and other toxic material. He also called for proper development of agriculture and the management of migration of people to urban areas. Mr. O.A. Gara (Zimbabwe) opined that the growth of population must be checked as too many people meant more demands and thus release of more wastes. Shri Bholabhai Patel (India) talked about Indian efforts to check pollution and emphasised the importance of information and appropriate technology to fight the problem of pollution of all kinds. Mr. Nathaniel Waena (Solomon Islands) referred to the problem of disposal of nuclear wastes in the Pacific Islands and urged the CPA to initiate action in this regard. Mr. Carlyle Dougan (St. Vincent and the Grenadines) emphasised the need for environmental impact studies.

Shri Ashwani Kumar (India) called for an end to excessive consumerism and pleaded for treating nature with love and care, as human being were part of the ecological cycle. Mr. R.J. Arculli (Hong Kong) expressed the need for transferring some resources from armaments to fight environmental problems. Mr. Arun Dey (India) emphasised the need for measures to control population growth and providing facilities in rural areas to check migration to cities.

Others who took part in the discussions were: Mr. Michael Marshal (United Kingdom), Mr. G.F. Munyoro (Zimbabwe), Mr. Ibrahim Bin Othman (Singapore), Mr. Surujrattan Rambachan (Trinidad and Tobago), Mr. Edward Micallef (Australia), Mr. Paul Channon (United Kingdom)

Shri Simon Peter D'Souza (India), Mr. Haig Bodden (Cayman Islands) and Mr. Girve Fretz (Canada).

The axiom "Health is Wealth" is relevant in all ages, for it is on the health of the people that the wealth of a nation and the survival of its people depends. In developing countries, health care and social welfare education has to go forward to reach rural areas where, it is said, only a small percentage of the health budget is spent. The theme "Health for all by 2000 A.D.", a call made by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as early as 1977, will be the right goal for developing countries to provide adequate health facilities to the people at large. The other Panel Discussion in the morning Session took up the subject "Enhancing Health Care Systems with special reference to Developing Countries."

Opening the discussion, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha and the Chairman of the Session, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla said that health was not just the absence of disease and health care should cover proper hygiene and cleaner environment. In this context, she specifically referred to the high infant mortality rate in the developing world and attributed this to lack of adequate medical facilities, neglect of women and lack of proper nutrition. Mr. Ralph Clough (Australia) observed that the developed nations should give liberal assistance to developing countries to improve their health status. Mr. Bowen Wells (United Kingdom) pointed out that poor health status was not just the result of lack of high medical technology, it was rather the absence of pure drinking water, sanitation, proper housing, etc.

Prof Brij Mohan Mishra (India) described poor health as a direct offshoot of poverty and felt that despite lack of resources, India had made significant progress in the field, though a lot more remained to be done. Referring to the gap between the developed and developing nations, he emphasised the need for greater cooperation among nations to achieve further progress. Shaikh Hassan Haroon, (India) suggested mutual sharing of information and health technology, creation of a separate fund to finance health care, supply of nutritious food by developed nations, and compulsory check for AIDS. Several Delegates favoured a detailed discussion on this subject in the next CPA Conference.

Dr. Umeshwar Prasad Varma, (India) pointed out that paucity of trained man-power, non-availability of life-saving drugs and population growth were the basic factors behind poor health care system and suggested that greater focus should be laid on preventive measures rather than on curative ones. Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, also of India, recommended greater transfer of funds for primary health care sector. Mr. Gareth Wardell (United Kingdom) said that Commonwealth countries should share their real wealth besides sharing their common concerns.

Others who took part in the Discussions were: Mr. Hilmi Bin Haji Yahaya (Malaysia), Mr. Fuataga Alama (Western Samoa) Mrs. Susan Plant (Guern-

sey), Mrs. Catherine Hopkins (St. Helena), Mr. David Buffett (Norfolk Island), Mr. Sase Narain (Guyana), Shri J.K. Gogoi (India), Mr. Tennyson Wells (The Bahamas), Mr. David Prowse (Australia), and Mr. Max Madden (United Kingdom).

It is an irony that while in some countries, there has been overproduction of food resulting in wastage, in some pockets of the world people die of starvation and malnutrition. The pressing need for furthering food production, marketing and consumption can be hardly over-emphasised. The anxiety and concern of the parliamentarians to redeem the world of **such a lop-sided situation was reflected at the Panel Discussion held in the afternoon on 25 September 1991 on "What Commonwealth Parliaments can do in furthering Food Production, Marketing and Consumption"**, chaired by Mrs. Susan Plant (Guernsey).

Delegates spoke strongly in favour of working towards achieving increased food production, creating marketing facilities and competitive prices for agricultural products, enlargement of crop areas through irrigation, better management of water and also a proper distribution system.

Highlighting the ability of the farmers to produce more, Mr. Bowen Wells (United Kingdom) emphasized the importance of hybrid seeds suitable for different climates. He also called upon the Commonwealth members to learn from the success of USA and Europe in the agricultural sector and find out appropriate strategies for enhancing the production of food crops. He was all praise for India for its achievements in the agricultural sector.

The role of bio-technology research and genetic engineering in increasing food production was emphasised by Mr. Bruce Reid (Australia) who called for exchange of ideas and technology among Commonwealth countries. Shri S.C. Bhatt (India) called for more than a customary and formal treatment of this problem by the CPA. He proposed that a special study group be formed to find out ways and means to create a world opinion for diverting more resources from the defence sector to that of food production. Shri Shankar Dayal Singh, also from India, said that the hard work of the people of the country was behind its self-sufficiency in food production and called upon the CPA to pay attention to increasing food production in the deficit states of the Commonwealth. Stability of government, availability of water and inputs at affordable prices, storage facilities and competitive prices for the agricultural products were emphasised by Mr. O.P. Gara (Zimbabwe). Shri Ram Vilas Paswan (India) said that farmers must be treated with dignity, while Prof. Brij Mohan Mishra, also of India, called for a new approach to the problem of food distribution so that hunger could be eliminated.

Others who participated in the discussions were: Mr. T.T. Phaiya (Malawi), Mr. Stephen Rogers (Canada), Mrs. Catherine Hopkins (St. Helena) and Mr. Samuel Waight (Belize).

Drug addiction, spreading like plague in most parts of the world, was the focus of attention of the participants at the Panel Discussion on "Drug Problems and Attendant Criminal Activity", also held in the afternoon Session of 25 September 1991. Mr. Stanley Lowe (Bermuda) attributed the recent increase in crime rate to drug menace. It was horrendous that people in their prime of life were falling victims to drug addiction, he added. Making an appeal to the people, he said that drug problem was not just the problem of the government alone; people must come forward to help eradicate this scourge. Dr. Kenneth McNeil (Jamaica) appealed for community involvement in combating drug menace. Referring to the role of his government in the matter, he said that Jamaica had established a National Council, a non-partisan and statutory body, to go into the issue. Highlighting the nexus between drug peddlers and anti-social elements Mr. Arbab Saifur Rehman (Pakistan) called for a national legislation to check this tendency. He further said that drug addiction had resulted in attendant crimes such as murder, money-laundering and smuggling. Mr. G.F. Munyoro (Zimbabwe) shared the views expressed by Mr. Rehman and appealed for multilateral cooperation to face the challenge. Intervening in the deliberations, Mr. Joe Bossano (Gibraltar) said that domestic legal instruments should be strengthened to face the challenge of drug addiction. Shri Yudhisthir Das (India) made a concrete suggestion for the Commonwealth to deal with the problems of drug menace. Mr. Bossano appreciated Mr. Das's suggestion and emphasised the imperative need for pooling together the experience and expertise of different countries in this regard. Drawing attention to the adverse effect of advertisement of tobacco and alcohol, Dr. Anselm G. St. George, (Trinidad and Tobago) appealed for confiscating donations by tobacco and alcohol producers. Participating in the discussion, Mr. Joynul Abedin Faruq (Bangladesh) referred to the SAARC Convention dealing with drug menace. Mr. Donald Anderson (United Kingdom) said that his country was a signatory to international conventions on the subjects.

Shri Simon Peter D'Souza (India), referring to the increasing drug addiction cases, pointed out that drug menace had infiltrated among lower and middle income group people in the rural areas. Mr. Trevor Rogers (New Zealand) said that the Interpol had a crucial role to play in controlling drug-trafficking.

Among others who participated in the marathon deliberations were. Mr. Michael Burbridge (Guernsey), Prof. K. Ponnusamy (India), Mr. T.W. Cain (Isle of Man), Mr. Tengku Aziz Bin Tengku Jaafar (Malaysia), Mr. G. Haig Bodden (Cayman Islands), Shri Ishwar Singh (India), Mr. Fernand Jourdenais (Canada), Mr. D.A. Carter (Jersey), Shri Ashwani Kumar (India), Mr. Elodio Aragon (Belize), Sir Michael Neubert (United Kingdom), Mr. R.J. Arculli (Hong Kong), Mr. Mataia Sio (Western Samoa), Mr. Gerald Simons (Bermuda) and Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal (India).

The Business Sessions of the Conference resumed on 27 September

1991, with the Delegates having taken a day off on 26 September 1991 to visit Agra. The vulnerability of small states has been a matter of direct concern to the Commonwealth over the last three decades. It has been consistently alive to the special needs and problems of small countries in view of their high proportion in its membership. On its part, the CPA has made an active contribution to the debate on small states, and through regular deliberations, member states - big and small - have helped to give a genuinely international perspective to this issue of topical concern. A Consultative Group of the CPA was set up in 1984 to study in detail the position of small states in the global society. The CPA's continuing concern in this regard was amply reflected in the third Plenary Session of the Conference held in the morning on 27 September 1991, on "Strengthening Democracy, Security and Economic Development of Small Commonwealth States."

Participating in the deliberations chaired by Mr. Clive E. Griffiths, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the CPA and Mr. Darrel Rolle, Vice-President of the Executive Committee, in which a record number of Delegates shared their ideas and experiences, the opening speaker, Mr. Valentine Grimes (The Bahamas) said that no small state could be secure in the absence of a sound international economic order. The vulnerability and fragility of the small states could be avoided to some extent by effecting regional cooperation, he felt. Referring to the experience of his own country, he said that although the Bahamas had enjoyed uninterrupted parliamentary democracy, yet it was not insulated from turmoil outside. He added that problem like poverty and drug trafficking posed serious threat to the social and political fabric of small states. Recalling the abortive *coup* attempt in Maldives a few years ago, Mr. Tyrone Fernando (Sri Lanka) pointed out that it was a case study of vulnerability of small states. He also impressed upon the imperative need for the enforcement of the SAARC convention and added that the Commonwealth could play a meaningful role in this respect. Mr. Paul Channon (United Kingdom) observed that the GATT talks should be brought to a successful conclusion to strengthen the economic viability of small states. He appreciated the interest shown by the Commonwealth Secretary-General Chief Emeka Anyaoku on the problems of small countries. He said that global warming and rise in the sea level were grave threats to the very existence of small states. Mr. Christos Pourgourides (Cyprus) emphasised the need for the solidarity of small states. He also referred to the recommendation of the Study Group appointed by the CPA for the setting up of a "Commonwealth Defence Force" to ensure the sovereignty and territorial integrity of small states. Mr. Surujrattan Rambachan (Trinidad and Tobago) suggested the creation of Youth Parliaments and urged upon the CPA to convene a Youth Parliament by 1995. These measures would go a long way in inculcating democratic spirit among the youth and strengthening democratic institu-

tions, he felt. Mr. Joe Bossano (Gibraltar) called upon the CPA to play a key role in bringing independence to those peoples who were still under colonial rule. Mr. T.W. Cain (Isle of Man) said that money-laundering and fraud posed a threat to the security of small states. There was a wealth of experience in the Commonwealth which member states could share, he added. Mr. Max Madden (United Kingdom) said that poverty could not be eradicated unless rich countries stopped dumping arms and ammunition in third world countries. Our commitment to human rights, including the rights of children and the aged, must be genuine and not mere rhetoric, he felt. Dr. A. Theophanous (Australia) appealed for collaboration among small states and pleaded for reforming multilateral institutions. Mrs. Winifred Strachan (Grenada) said that the world was becoming a global community and urged for integration of small states. This, however, might result in compromising with national sovereignty, but then one could not eat the cake and have it too, she added. Shri Simon Peter D'Souza (India) said that since tourism and fisheries constituted the main source of earning of most small states, infrastructure for these industries should be developed. Shri Sripada Rao (India) lauded the initiative of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi in averting the attempted *coup* in Maldives. Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, also of India, said democratic institutions should be nourished in small countries to revitalise their economies. Mr. A.N. Matjila (Namibia) pointed out that people should be educated in conducting free and fair elections and in developing respect for the Opposition in the Legislature. The experience and expertise of developed countries in the field of food production, transport and communication and education should be made available to small countries, he added. Referring to the Report of the Consultative Group appointed by the CPA in 1984, Dr. Reginald Valarino (Gibraltar) said that there had been no tangible result of the Report so far. Mr. Haig Bodden (Cayman Islands) observed that small countries should reduce their dependence on multilateral funding agencies such as the international Monetary Fund (IMF). In the context of the recent happenings in the Baltic Republics, Shri Arun Dey (India) said that small states had come to stay. Shri P.B. Gurung, also of India, said that democratic movements in several countries were a pointer to the strengthening of democratic institutions.

Others who participated in the deliberations were: Shri Yudhisthir Das (India), Mr. G.F. Munyoro (Zimbabwe), Mr. Mian Manzoor Wattoo (Pakistan), Mr. Charles Chong You Fook (Singapore), Mr. D.A. Carter (Jersey), Dr. Anselm G. St. George (Trinidad and Tobago), Shri S.C. Bhatt (India), Dr. Umeshwar Prasad Varma (India), Shri R.R. Kondal (India), Mr. Teiraoi Tatabea (Kiribati) and Mr. Nathaniel Waena (Solomon Islands)

Later in the afternoon, the General Assembly of the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference held an in-camera meeting.

Meeting in their fourth and last Plenary Session on the concluding day of the Conference on 28 September 1991, the Delegates discussed a subject of global concern "Violence against Women and Children".

Initiating the discussion, Ms. Marie Hasler (New Zealand) said that the problem was global and involved protection of human rights of an important section of the society. Calling for a change in social attitude through education, she commended the work being done by the Family Violence Prevention Coordination Committee in her country since 1986.

Mr. Arthur Khoza (Swaziland) emphasised the need for an action plan and a monitoring mechanism to meet the challenge. He recommended the implementation of the Charter on Rights of Children which he said should also become part of school syllabus. Baroness Hollis (United Kingdom) lamented the general attitude that regarded crime against men as a crime but crime against women as a matter of social welfare.

Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla of India said that women and children were the most vulnerable sections of society, subjected to violence at home and sex abuse outside their homes. Recalling that women were in the forefront of our freedom struggle, she said that women enjoyed equal rights under our Constitution. A number of legislations had also been enacted for the betterment of our women and children; yet laws alone would not remove all discriminations. She called upon the parliamentarians to use their best endeavours to see that women and children got their rightful place in society.

Mr. Denis Collins (Australia) drew attention to the adverse effects of pornographic films on society resulting in sex-related violence. Shri Ashok Bhatt (India) criticised practices like *Sati* that still came to light in India. Mr. K.B. Mwamzandi (Kenya) observed that the problem was often treated as personal and private affairs and manifested in so many ways such as assault on women at work, at colleges, etc. Mr. Gerald Simons (Bermuda) said that the effects of this kind of violence were long-lasting and the victims re-lived the experiences long after the event leading to their withdrawal from community. Mrs. Margaret Reid (Australia) was of the view that the police could not be blamed because they also reflected the social attitudes which were at the root of the problem. Shri Hari Shankar Bhabhra (India) said that physical assault on women was often the result of a misplaced belief that women were somehow the weaker sex. He bemoaned that the fair sex was getting a foul deal. As for the problem concerning child abuse, the root cause lay in abject poverty, he added. poverty, he added.

Mrs. Ruby Ann Darling (The Bahamas) called upon the silently suffering women to be bold enough to raise their voice and make violent instances public. Mrs. Sybil McLaughlin (Cayman Islands) felt that not only physical but verbal and emotional abuses should be treated as violence. She appealed to the Delegates to prevail upon their respective governments to come forward with viable action schemes. The view was shared by

Mrs. Elizabeth Renner (The Gambia) who called for long-term measures to bring about an attitudinal change.

Mr. T. J. Le Main (Jersey) lamented that the police often took an indifferent view of the problem; in the first place, the victims did not go public but when they did, the police was too slow to interfere, if not altogether reluctant. **Shri Ram Vilas Paswan (India)** maintained that atrocities on women could not be stopped unless there was a social awakening. He called upon women to strive for economic independence which would make men think twice before raising their hand.

Dr.(Smt.) Malini Bhattacharya, also of India, called upon the CPA to devise some mechanism to find solutions to the social problems which gave rise to violence against women and children and also reduced the vulnerability of this class. She also emphasised the need for a monitoring body of the Commonwealth parliamentarians to provide guidelines and help to countries in planning and policy processes. The need for education and employment for women and girl children was emphasised by **Shri D.B. Chandre Gowda (India)**. **Mr. Edzel Thomas (Grenada)** observed that violence against women and girls in a society was the manifestation of alcoholism, poverty, frustration, etc. He called upon the CPA to go into the causes of these problems.

Violence was a part of human nature and was to be dealt with at the level of education, legislation, mass media and process of socialisation, said **Mr. Bowen Wells (United Kingdom)**. **Ms. Viola Effie White Mitole (Malawi)** called for providing equal opportunity to all boys and girls while **Smt. Gaeta Mukherjee (India)** urged equal status for women in social, political and economic fields. She also asked the Delegates to build up movements for women's rights at every level. **Hon. Hilda Lini (Vanuatu)** emphasised the enforcement side of the laws while **Prof Brij Mohan Mishra (India)** called for equal treatment of both boys and girls. Others who participated in the discussions were: **Mr. George Hawkins (New Zealand)**, **Begum Selima Rahman (Bangladesh)**, **Shri Lijum Ronya (India)** and **Mrs. Winifred Strachan (Grenada)**.

Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Meet

A meeting of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Group was held at the Convention Hall of the Ashok Hotel on 25 September 1991. At the Harare Conference in 1990, the Group elected **Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla**, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha as the first Chairperson. **Dr. Heptulla**, presided over the meeting. Welcoming the Delegates from different Commonwealth countries and other participants to the meeting, **Dr. Heptulla** urged them to share their views and experiences. Initiating the discussion, **Dr. Heptulla** brought to the attention of all those present in the meeting, the rightful place accorded to women in India's history. Recalling the attitude of the leaders of the national movement towards women and the programmes and policies undertaken for women in the

post-independence era, she observed that the status of women in India had carved out for itself a strong foundation which was irreversible. Referring to the large influx of Women in the general work force, she made particular reference to the policies adopted for women during the Prime Ministership of Smt. Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Following Dr. (Smt.) Heptulla, Mrs. Ruby Ann Darling from the Bahamas gave an interesting turn to the discussion by narrating the position of women in her own country. In her opinion, any significant change in the position of women in the Bahamas was unthinkable in the absence of economic independence for them. A participant from Tanzania came out with the the characteristic opinion that while in her country women had reserved seats in the Parliament, the very fact that they were not popularly elected affected their having any significant say in decision-making. Divergent views, touching upon a wide-range of issues pertaining to women, were raised during the course of the discussion in like manner. The consensus view was that women in most of the countries were discriminated. To push them up the ladder, the majority pleaded strongly for their education, a substantial degree of economic independence, wider representation in political bodies and associating them with decision-making.

Almost all the Delegates felt that education played an important role in improving the status of women. An educated woman was fully conscious of her rights which were available to her under various laws. It was highlighted at the meeting that violence against women was the result of their subordination. Economic independence was very essential for making women equal with men. An economically independent woman was less of a burden on her family and society. An important recommendation which was made by this group was about the larger participation of women in the decision-making process. By joining higher echelons of bureaucracy, decision-making centres, legislatures and other representative bodies, women would be able to influence governmental policies in a big way which would help in ensuring equality to them. Women did not stand for confrontation; they were only demanding what was due to them and which had hitherto remained denied to them.

Other Delegates who participated included those from Australia, Bangladesh, Cayman Islands, the Gambia, Grenada, Guernsey, Jamaica, Malawi, New Zealand, United Kingdom and Zimbabwe. Some women members of Indian Parliament also participated in the discussions. Besides, social workers and women activists attended the meeting as observers. Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha and President of the Executive Committee of India Branch of CPA, Mr. Clive Griffiths, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the CPA and Dr. David Tonkin, Secretary-General of the CPA, were among the other dignitaries who attended the meeting.

On 28 September 1991, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla presented at the concluding ceremony of the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Confer-

ence a report of the Second Conference of the Women's Group of the CPA. The Group resolved and recommended that more women Delegates should be given opportunities to be in Delegations from the various Commonwealth countries as well as in the Executive Committee of the CPA from various regions. The Chairman of the Women's Group of the CPA should be automatically made a member of the Executive Committee. Women should also have more representation in Parliament, local bodies and decision-making positions in the Commonwealth countries. Besides, more attention should be paid for better education, awareness and economic independence of women.

The Group appreciated the efforts of the **Secretary-General** and the members of the Executive Committee of the CPA for all their endeavours in supporting the women's movement and the cause of women in the Commonwealth and for giving the women parliamentarians an opportunity to form the Women's Group and according it recognition.

Meetings of the Society of Clerks-at-the-Table

The society of the Clerks-at-the-Table held three meetings while the Conference was in Session. The first meeting, held on 24 September 1991, discussed the following subjects: (1) Role and Status of Clerks (Questionnaire); (ii) Relationship between the Society and the CPA (The Society's Administrator); (iii) The Parliament of India: A brief Introduction (India); and (iv) Question Time (Isle of Man). The second meeting, held on 27 September 1991, discussed: (1) Subject Committees in the Commonwealth Parliaments (United Kingdom); (ii) Committee Control of Public Expenditure and the work of the Public Accounts Committee (an African Parliament); and (iii) the Need for followup Action to ensure fulfilment of Assurances given by Government in the Parliament (India). The third meeting of the Society of Clerks-at-the-Table, held on 28 September 1991, took up for discussion the following subjects; (i) Anti-Defection Laws in Commonwealth Countries (India); (ii) Topical Procedural Problems; Questions and Answers; and (iii) Proposals for the draft Agenda for the 29th General Meeting (The Bahamas, 1992).

Concluding Ceremony

The 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference came to a grand finale on 28 September 1991 at a colourful and glittering ceremony held in the Convention Hall of Ashok Hotel packed to capacity. In his thanksgiving address, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha and outgoing President of the CPA, summing up the deliberations of the Conference,

said that as parliamentarians and democrats, the Delegates put forth their points of view with great skill and force and allowed the proceedings to reach their logical conclusions. The discussions shed great light on the philosophical and pragmatic aspects of the subjects which would prove to be a great help, when on appropriate forums the policies on them were formulated, he added.

Referring to the post-Conference tours for which the Delegates were leaving the next day, Shri Patil hoped that these tours would acquaint the Delegates with the people of this country. The first hand knowledge acquired by them would go a long way in helping them to form their views of this sub-continent, besides bringing the Delegates nearer to one another in their thinking and understanding and providing opportunities for forming lasting friendship which was one of the important aims of holding this Conference, he added.

Shri Patil expressed his profound gratitude to Her Majesty the Queen, the Patron of the CPA, and Shri R. Venkataraman, the President of India and Vice-Patron of the CPA for their messages of greetings and goodwill. He also thanked former Speakers of Lok Sabha and Mr. Clive Griffiths, Mr. Ted Garret and Dr. David Tonkin, the Chairman, the Treasurer and the Secretary-General of the CPA, respectively, for their cooperation in making the Conference a success. Mr. Darrell Rolle, the Vice-President of the Executive Committee and the incoming President of the CPA, in his speech, thanked Shri Shivraj V. Patil and the government and people of India for their warm hospitality and the host Branch for the excellent arrangements made for the Conference.

Referring to the tragic demise of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Mr. N.C. Makombe, the Speaker of Zimbabwe, said that the Conference was marked by the conspicuous absence of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Mr. Makombe also joined in extending his heartfelt thanks to the host Branch and all those who contributed in making the Conference a grand success.

At the closing ceremony, Dr. (Smt) Najma Heptulla, Vice-Chairman of Rajya Sabha and the Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee, relinquished the post of Chairperson of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians' Group and Mrs. Ruby Ann Darling of the Bahamas took over from her as the new Chairperson of the Group. Mrs. Darrel Rolle, on behalf of the spouses of the Delegates, in her thanks-giving speech, said that the spouses enjoyed the cultural programmes and the tours. She particularly thanked the lady Liaison Officers who accompanied the spouses in their shopping spree and tours. Mr. Clive Griffiths, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the CPA, in his speech thanked the CPA staff for successfully organising the Conference. He also thanked and complimented Shri Shivraj V. Patil for the success of the Conference. He especially referred to Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Shri C.K. Jain "who headed the team of workers for what they have

done." Mr. Griffiths also acknowledged the contributions of Shri Rabi Ray, former Speaker of Lok Sabha. The closing ceremony was followed by a Press conference jointly addressed by Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Mr. Clive Griffiths and Dr. David Tonkin. Mr. Clive Griffiths took the opportunity to thank the Doordarshan, All India Radio and the Press for the wide coverage which the Conference proceedings received.

Message from Shivraj V. Patil, President, India Branch of the CPA

In a message to the distinguished guests to the Conference, delivered to them at the various points of departure, viz. Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, at the end of the post-Conference tours, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha, and President, India Branch of the CPA, thanked them for having made it possible to visit India and attend the Conference. He observed that their active participation in the deliberations of the Conference had enriched the proceedings. "The post-Conference tours could be lively only because of your enthusiastic response and involvement despite loaded with a crowded programme", he added. Shri Patil expressed the hope that the Delegates, their Spouses and others enjoyed their stay in the country and would "carry back home only happy memories, forgetting any discomfort or inconvenience" they might have encountered during their sojourn.

Special Features of the Conference

Visits and Post-Conference Tours: The host Branch of the Conference had made extensive arrangements to ensure that the distinguished guests were taken to places of tourist attraction and historical importance. On 26 September 1991, they were taken to the historic city of Agra by a Commonwealth Parliamentary Special Rail where they were captivated by the aesthetic excellence and architectural marvel of the Taj Mahal and the Fatehpur Sikri. Arrangements were also made for Delegates and others for post-Conference tours from 29 September to 2 October 1991. For this purpose they were divided into six groups. Group A visited Jaipur and Gurgaon; Group B Aurangabad and Bombay; Group C Bangalore and Mysore; Group D Hyderabad and Madras; Group E Bangalore and Mysore; and Group F Bhubaneswar and Calcutta.

Programmes for Spouses: Special programmes were arranged for the spouses, while the Delegates kept themselves busy in the Conference Sessions. They were taken to places of historical importance in and around Delhi and also to various emporia where they could do shopping. Some of the places they visited included: Jantar Mantar, Gandhi Smriti, National Gallery of Modern Art, Pragati Maidan, Qutub Minar, Humayun's Tomb, National Museum, Raj Ghat, Red Fort, Indira Smriti, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, Nehru Planetarium, Parliamentary Museum and Archives, Baha'i Temple, Suraj Kund and Connaught Place.

Receptions: The Delegates and others were guests of honour at several receptions. The President Shri R. Venkataraman and Smt. Janaki

Venkataraman hosted a reception to all Delegates, observers and their spouses at the Mughal Gardens of the Rashtrapati Bhavan on 25 September 1991. A Banquet was hosted by Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha at the Convention Hall of Ashok Hotel on 24 September 1991. The Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao hosted a Dinner for them at the Hyderabad House on 27 September 1991. They were also guests of honour at receptions/lunches/banquets/dinners hosted by Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptullah, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha and Vice-President of India Branch of CPA, Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar, Minister of Agriculture, Shri S. Mallikarjuniah, Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha and Vice-President of India Branch of CPA, Shri Sontosh Mohan Deb. Minister of State for Steel, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Dr. David Tonkin, Secretary-General, CPA. The members of the Society of Clerks-at-the-Table and their spouses were guests at a lunch hosted by the Secretaries-General of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, Shri Sudarshan Agarwal and Shri K.C. Rastogi, respectively, in honour of the visiting dignitaries.

A Citizens' Reception was hosted in honour of the visiting dignitaries by Shri Markandey Singh, Lt. Governor of Delhi and Shri Purushottam Goyal, Chairman, Delhi Metropolitan Council, at the Delhi Metropolitan Council premises on 24 September 1991.

Shri Ishwar Singh, Speaker, Haryana Vidhan Sabha, treated the Delegates spouses to a lunch at Suraj Kund on 27 September 1991.

Cultural Programmes

Several cultural programmes were organised to the Delegates' delight. On 21 September 1991, Deepti Bhalla Omchery presented a *Mohiniattam* recital followed by a *Bharatanatyam* group dance by Saroja Vaidyanathan and troupe at the Parliament House Annex Auditorium. There was a Musical Ensemble by Partho Das and *Kuchipudi* dance by Raja and Radha Reddy at the Convention Hall of Ashok Hotel on 23 September 1991. At the same venue, the next day, Madhavi Mudgal presented an *Odissi* dance composition and Shovana Narayan performed *Kathak* dance. India's rich and varied folk dance traditions were on view at the Swimming Pool Lawns of the Ashok Hotel on 25 September 1991. The grand finale of the cultural programme was presented by a *Sarod* recital by Ustad Amjad Ali Khan at the Ashok Hotel on 28 September 1991.

Media Coverage

The Conference and the various functions associated with it were given extensive coverage, both by the electronic and the print media. Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha held two Press conferences—on 18 September 1991 and 28 September 1991. The inaugural function of the Small Countries Conference at the Convention Hall of Ashok Hotel on 21 September 1991, the inauguration of the 37th Commonwealth Parliamen-

tary Conference in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 23 September 1991 and the concluding ceremony at the Convention Hall of Ashok Hotel on 28 September 1991 were broadcast and telecast live by the All India Radio (AIR) and *Doordarshan*. The *Doordarshan* and the AIR also gave extensive coverage to the proceedings of the Conference on a day to day basis.

Besides, on the eve of the inauguration of the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, on 22 September 1991, the *Doordarshan* telecast a discussion under their *Focus Programme*, highlighting the aims and objectives of the CPA and the importance of the Conference. The Participants included Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha, and the President of the Conference, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla, Deputy-Chairman, Rajya Sabha and Vice-President of the India Branch of the CPA, Mr. Darrell Rolle, Minister for National Security, the Bahamas and the Vice-President of the CPA, Mr. Clive Griffiths, President of the Legislative Council, Western Australia and the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the CPA, Dr. David Tonkin, Secretary-General, CPA, Mr. Ted Garret, Treasurer, CPA and Dr. Surujrattan Rambachan, Senator, Trinidad and Tobago. Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla was the moderator.

The print media also gave wide coverage of the main functions as well at the proceedings daily. The host Branch Secretariat issued daily Press Releases on the various activities of the Conference, including the proceedings of the Business Sessions.

The Chairman of the Executive Committee of the CPA, Mr. Clive Griffiths, at his joint Press conference with Shri Shivraj V. Patil and Dr. David Tonkin, on 28 September 1991, thanked the *Doordarshan*, AIR and the print media for the wide coverage given to the Conference. He was particularly happy that the *Doordarshan* and AIR had broadcast and telecast live not only the opening of the Small Countries' Conference and the inaugural function of the 37th Conference but also the closing ceremony.

Special Publications/Souvenirs

The Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma released an impressive publication, *Commonwealth Parliaments: A Commemorative Souvenir* at the inauguration of the Small Countries' Conference on 21 September 1991. Compiled by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat to mark the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, it carries messages from Heads of State/Government of many Commonwealth countries, including the Patron of the Commonwealth, Her Majesty the Queen and President Shri R. Venkataraman. The Vice-President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma has contributed an Introduction and the Foreword is by Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao. The Volume contains over 85 articles from Presiding Officers and Clerks of Commonwealth Countries. A special

feature of the Volume is reproduction of as many as 40 beautiful paintings of India's art and culture. All Delegates were presented with a copy each of the Commemorative Souvenir.

At the inauguration of the Small Countries Conference, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma also released a Commemorative Postal Stamp in the denomination of Rs. 6.50 and three Commemorative Coins in the denominations of Re.1, Rs. 5 and Rs. 10.

Besides the Commemorative Souvenir, the Host Branch Secretariat also brought out several other publications. The *Biographies Handbook* containing bio-data of Delegates and other guests prepared from the information made available by them was found to be immensely useful and informative. A Special Number of the *Journal of Parliamentary Information* (Vol. XXXVII, No. 3, September 1991) with the focal theme "Parliamentary Democracy at Work in India" was released by Vice-President of the CPA, Mr. Darrell Rolle at the concluding ceremony on 28 September 1991. The Special Number, carrying articles from eminent Parliamentarians and Presiding Officers of various State Legislatures in India, distinguished academics and renowned journalists and other experts on varied aspects of the focal theme, was made available to all Delegates. The List of Delegates to the Conference, the Conference Handbook, Diary of Events and India, the Commonwealth and the CPA—A Fact Sheet, were all of utmost informative value. The work on the briefs, backgrounders and other research material on the Agenda items of the Conference was also undertaken by the Host Branch Secretariat.

Daily Bulletins

The Bulletin Desk of the Conference Secretariat, housed at Ashok Hotel, also issued nine Daily Bulletins during the Conference. The illustrated Daily Bulletins, covering all activities of the Conference, the socio-cultural engagements for the day and other sidelights were delivered to the Delegates in their Hotel rooms every morning. One of the issues carried the new CPA flag in colour. The Delegates were pleasantly surprised when they received copies of the Daily Bulletin of 26 September 1991 aboard the Commonwealth Parliamentary Special Train which was to take them to Agra. The copies of the last issue of the Daily Bulletin dated 29 September 1991 were delivered to the Delegates at the Delhi Airport where they had gathered to board their flights for post-Conference tours.

Exhibition on 'India and the Commonwealth'

On 23 September 1991, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha, inaugurated an Exhibition on 'India and the Commonwealth' organised by the Parliamentary Museum and Archives at the Parliament House Annexe to mark the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference. Among other things, photographs on various activities of the Commonwealth and the CPA as also India's varied relations with the Commonwealth were on display at the Exhibition.

Computerised Information Service

Parliament Library Information Service (PARLIS) and the National Informatics Centre (NIC) had set up a full-fledged Computer Centre at the Conference venue in Ashok Hotel to provide a variety of on-line information to Delegates. The Computer Centre, making use of state of the art computer and communication technology for storage and retrieval of information, was linked to the Indira Gandhi International Airport, Parliament Library and the Satellite-based NICNET. The host computer stored information on the countries represented, bio-data of Delegates, their arrival and departure details, tour programmes, Conference schedules, spouses programmes and information about Indian economy, census, tourist information and air and railway timetables.

Library and Reference Counter

A Library and Reference Counter functioned at the venue of the Conference to attend to on-the-spot information requirements of Delegates. Select newspapers and magazines were also available for consultation at the Counter.

Other Special Features/Facilities

A Reception and Information Counter operated round the clock at Ashok Hotel to receive Delegates and cater to all their information needs.

A Sales Counter also functioned in the Lobby of the Ashok Hotel to sell parliamentary publications and Souvenirs.

Banking Service

All banking and foreign exchange services of the Delegates were taken care of by the Central Bank of India Branch at the Ashok Hotel which worked round the clock during the Conference. A special counter "May I Help You" was also installed at the venue for the benefit of Delegates.

Postal Facilities/Telecom Services

The Postal Pavilion in the Lobby of Ashok Hotel provided speed post and other postal services for Delegates. For the benefit of those Delegates who had philatelic interests, this Pavilion also displayed wide-ranging philatelic material.

The Ashok Business Centre in the Hotel provided facilities of FAX, Telex, Telegrams, Photocopiers, Word Processor and electronic typing to Delegates.

Medical Centre

Expert medical attention was available round the clock to the Delegates from 19 to 29 September 1991. One mini-Hospital with all modern facilities and manned by experts functioned at the Conference venue. Two CATS ambulances, attached to this Unit, were stationed at the Ashok Hotel for emergency requirements. Besides, the prestigious Dr. Rammanohar Lohia

Hospital was geared up specifically for the Conference to take care of any emergency situation. A team of eminent doctors also accompanied the Delegates on their trip to Agra.

Conclusion

The 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference was yet another milestone in the history of the CPA as also of the Commonwealth. It was one of the largest CPA Conferences ever held. As many as 448 Delegates, spouses, observers, special invitees and senior parliamentary and government officials attended the Conference from 107 CPA Branches. The Agenda for the Conference was very thoughtfully laid out by the CPA. The discussions, whether at the Plenary or on the Panels, were conducted throughout in an atmosphere of extreme cordiality, understanding and mutual appreciation. It was a matter of great satisfaction that the New Delhi Conference had very fruitful deliberations on various issues of topical concern.

Conferences of this nature go a long way in promoting better understanding among peoples and nations. The 37th Conference, besides further strengthening inter-parliamentary cooperation, also brought to the fore several useful ideas which could serve the cause of parliamentary democracy. What was more significant was that it provided yet another opportunity to promote the twin Commonwealth ideals of consultation and co-operation.

Parliamentarians, as opinion builders, opinion moulders and opinion leaders, can contribute substantially towards promoting commonality of views where differing perceptions persist. The deliberations at the New Delhi Conference have further underlined the efficacy of the CPA which was once described by Sir Bernard Braine as "a power house of ideas rather an anvil upon which policies are hammered out". To recall the words of Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha in his welcome Address at the inaugural function of the Conference on 23 September 1991:

The annual Conferences of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association provide a unique opportunity to parliamentarians to discuss and share their experiences on subjects of parliamentary interest, as also exchange views on major political issues of topical concern. These Conferences also enable parliamentarians to discuss and better understand the diversity in the nature and content of the parliamentary democratic polity prevalent amongst them. The modifications and differences in the systems can be discussed and adopted by countries in which they would produce results thus creating greater harmony and strength.

The 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, without doubt, has definitely contributed towards promoting these noble ideals.

DISTRIBUTION OF POWERS IN FEDERAL STRUCTURE

—Sardar Surjit Singh Minhas

A balanced distribution of administrative, legislative and financial powers between the Union and the States of a Federal Government makes the federal structure a great success. Whenever there is imbalance in their powers, the federal system cracks under its own weight.

Strictly speaking, ours is not a federal set-up in the real sense of the term. Indian Constitution is quasi-federal in nature and the legislative, administrative and financial powers of the Union and the States have been demarcated in it. The guiding principles of division of powers in Indian federalism are the same which have been rightly described by Prof. Dicey in his book "Introduction to the Study of the Law of the Constitution." He says, "Whatever concerns the nation as a whole should be placed under the control of the national government. All matters which are not primarily of common interest should remain in the hands of several States."

Part XI, Chapter I of the Constitution of India relates to the distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the States; while Chapter II relates to administrative relations. Part XII of the Constitution deals with financial powers. Article 245 empowers the Parliament to legislate for the whole or any part of the territory of India, and the State Legislatures to make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of the State. Article 246 demarcates the fields of legislation of the Union and the State Legislatures. Powers of the Union and States have been divided into three Lists in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. List I is called the Union List and the Parliament has exclusive power to make laws with respect to subjects contained therein. List II, known as the State List, enumerates matters on which State Legislatures may make laws exclusively for their States. List III, known as Concurrent List, enumerates matters with respect to which both the Parliament and the State Legislatures have powers to make laws. A clear distinction is drawn by the Constitution between matters involving common concern for the whole country, that is matters of national importance, and matters which have only local significance. Like the United States, Australia and Switzerland, such powers have been elaborately specified in the Constitution of India. The powers concerning the nation as a whole have been vested with the Union Government, powers concerning State matters are vested with the

States and concurrent powers represent a common territory where both the national Government and the State Governments can operate. The Government of India Act, 1935, too provided for the distribution of powers. The Joint Committee on the Indian Constitutional Reforms (1934) had aptly pointed out the general principles behind the concurrent powers. However, there are certain matters which cannot be allotted exclusively either to the Union or to the provincial legislatures. Sometimes it becomes necessary that the central legislature should also have legislative jurisdiction in unison with the provincial legislatures so that uniformity, in the main principles of law is secured throughout the country. Sometimes the Union Government may deem it fit to guide and encourage provincial efforts so as to seek remedies for irritants in a State which may cause trouble in other States. Similarly in several other fields of governmental activity a strict division of powers between the Union and the States becomes untenable because an efficient national administration requires coordination between the local administration and national planning. Thus, the Concurrent List is just like a shock-absorber which has been designed by our Constitution-makers to enable both the Union and the States to go beyond their legislative spheres, as and when necessity arises, to meet exigencies without transgressing the boundaries of each other.

However, there are certain areas where Union Government can initiate legislation over the subjects included in the State List. Article 249 provides that if the Council of States has declared by resolution supported by not less than two-thirds of members present and voting that it is necessary or expedient in national interest that Parliament should make laws with respect to any matter enumerated in the State List specified in the resolution, it shall be lawful for Parliament to make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India with respect to that matter for a period not exceeding one year as may be specified therein. The Rajya Sabha, however, can extend it for a further period of one year from the date on which it would otherwise have ceased to be in force, by passing a resolution approving its continuance.

Article 250 empowers the Parliament to make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India, including on matters enumerated in the State List while a proclamation of emergency is in operation. Any law made under this Article can remain in force during the period of emergency and for six months beyond that period.

Article 252 provide that if two or more States agree by their consent to request the Union Government to legislate on any matter with respect to which the Parliament has no power to make laws for the States except as provided in Articles 249 and 250 and if resolutions to that effect are passed by all the Houses of the concerned State Legislatures, it shall be lawful for Parliament to pass an Act for regulating that matter accordingly. Similarly, Article 253 empowers the Parliament to make any law for the whole or any part of the territory of India for implementing any treaty,

agreement or convention with any other country or countries or any decision made at any international conference, association or other body.

Further, Articles 356 and 357 give emergency powers to the Union that establish predominance of Parliament. If the President is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the Government of a State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, he may dissolve the State Legislature or put it under suspended animation and the administration of the State comes under the Union rule and powers of the Legislature of that State are exercised by or under the authority of Parliament.

The administrative powers of the Union and the States have been demarcated in Chapter II of Part XI of the Constitution. Here the Union has been given a superior position of coordination and supervision throughout the country. Article 256 provides that the executive powers of every State shall be so exercised as to ensure compliance with the laws made by Parliament and any other existing laws which apply in that State, and the executive powers of the Union shall extend to the giving of such directions to a State as may appear to the Government of India to be necessary for that purpose. Article 257 speaks of control of the Union over the States in certain cases. The Union is empowered to give directions to a State as to the construction and maintenance of means of communications declared to be of national and military importance, to take measures for the protection of Railways within a State, etc.

Article 258 empowers the Union to confer powers, either conditionally or unconditionally, on a State Government with its consent or to its officers, functions in relation to any matter to which the executive powers of the Union extend. Article 258-A is *vice versa* of the above said provision.

Part XII of the Constitution deals with the financial powers. In some cases, duties are levied by the Union but collected and appropriated by the States (Article 268). In some other cases, taxes are collected and levied by the Union, but assigned to the States (Article 269). In yet other cases, taxes are levied and collected by the Union and distributed between the Union and States. For instance, taxes on income, other than agricultural income, are levied and collected by the Government of India and distributed between the Union and the States in a certain prescribed proportion. Article 275 provides for grants from the Union to the States which are in need of assistance. The Article says that such sums as Parliament may by law provide shall be charged on the Consolidated Fund of India in each year as grants in aid of the revenues of such States, as Parliament may determine to be in need of assistance, and different sums may be fixed for different States. This means that States have to look towards the Union for getting assistance and sometimes have to face frustration when assistance is denied.

Keeping in view the distribution of legislative, administrative and financial powers, a number of States like Punjab, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have been demanding political non-interference by the Union in the affairs of the State Government and for more financial autonomy.

The Tamil Nadu State Government appointed a Committee, popularly known as the Rajamannar Committee, on Union-State relations in 1969. This Committee which examined the question of Union-State relations in a federal setup, recommended major amendments in the Constitution, including omission of Articles 356 and 357, giving residuary powers to the States and making the States less dependent on the Union.

The West Bengal Cabinet passed a Resolution on Union-State relations on 1 December 1977. Like the Rajamannar Committee, the West Bengal Resolution recommended that the residuary powers should be entrusted to the States. It also recommended insertion of the word "Federal" in the Preamble to the Constitution and omission of certain provisions from the Constitution which weaken the federal base of the Constitution.

In Punjab, the Shiromani Akali Dal also passed a resolution in its 18th All-India Conference, held at Ludhiana in October, 1978 seeking more political, economic and fiscal powers for the States in the light of the Anandpur Sahib Resolution.

Since there was a strong demand from the States, especially those governed by the regional parties, the Union Government set up a Commission headed by Justice R.S. Sarkaria in 1983 to go into the Union-State relations and suggest remedial measures. The Commission submitted its report in October, 1987. The Governments of Karnataka and West Bengal, in their memoranda submitted to the Commission, had demanded abolition of or amendment of Articles 249 to 252 and of Article 254 so that no State could be deprived of any legislative power which belongs to it, without its prior consent. Some State Governments had complained that the scheme of distribution of powers in our Constitution was not fair because it was too much biased in favour of the Union and hence requires revision. The Shiromani Akali Dal, through a memorandum had demanded that in order to save the fundamental rights of the religious and linguistic minorities, to fulfil the demands of democratic traditions and to pave the way for economic progress, it had become imperative that Indian constitutional infrastructure should be given a real federal shape by redefining the relationship between the Union and the States on the aforesaid objective.

* Some of the State Governments had suggested that residuary powers should be vested in the States. Two State Governments and their supporting parties had suggested abolition of the Concurrent List and transfer of all its items to the State List. The Commission did not agree with the suggestion and recommended "that ordinarily the Union should

occupy only that much field of a concurrent subject on which uniformity of policy and action is essential in the larger interest of the nation, leaving the rest and the details for State action with a broad framework of the policy laid down in the Union Law. Further, whenever the Union proposes to undertake legislation with respect to a matter in the Concurrent List, there should be prior consultations not only with the Governments individually, but also collectively, with the Inter-Governmental Council, which as we have recommended, should be established under Article 263".

The Shiromani Akali Dal, in its memorandum submitted to the Sarkaria Commission, had pointed out that the Congress Party, right from its inception and throughout the struggle for national independence, had been pleading for a federal set-up for free India. The Congress leaders, including Pandit Motilal Nehru, Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, on different occasions had interpreted *Swaraj* as connoting grass-root powers for the people with greater authority vested with the States. On the basis of the above views, the Shiromani Akali Dal, in its 'Anandpur Sahib Resolution', demanded decentralisation of powers, with the Union retaining the federal functions in respect of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Communications, Currency and Railways. It is in consonance with what Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and other national leaders had been urging for before independence. The Shiromani Akali Dal suggested a number of measures on the Union-State relations, the important ones being as under:—

1. The Preamble to the Constitution should be amended so as to incorporate the expression 'federal' to characterize the Republic of India as such. This is essential to underline that the Indian system is basically federal in nature; this would halt the gradual drift towards a unitarian set-up;

2. There should be re-distribution of subjects among the Union List, the Concurrent List and the State List on the basis of federal principles, as sought by Shiromani Akali Dal in its Anandpur Sahib Resolution;

3. The residual powers should vest with the States;

4. The Union should not have the power or competence to destroy or dilute the ethnic, cultural and linguistic self identity of a federating constituent unit;

5. The members of the Rajya Sabha should be elected on the principle of equality of the States as autonomous units, with equal representation. In other words the Rajya Sabha should become representative of the States. The diversity of nationalities and religious, linguistic, cultural and ethnic minorities should be adequately reflected in the composition of the Rajya Sabha;

6. While restricting the imposition of emergency only in the event of exceptional circumstances (external aggression), it should be constitution-

ally ensured that during the proclamation of emergency, the federal set-up remains intact;

7. The legislature of a State should have exclusive power and competence to legislate over matters given in the re-drawn State List;

8. Executive power in respect of matters included in the Concurrent List, irrespective of the fact as to whether legislation is by the Union or by the State, should vest with the States;

9. The institution of Governor, his powers, functions and duties should be brought in line with a federal polity so that the Governor does not remain an executive agent of the Union but becomes a true constitutional Head of the State; and

10. Constitutional provisions which empower the Union to dissolve a State Government and/or its Assembly should have no place in a federal framework. In the event of constitutional breakdown in a State, there should be provision for immediate holding of elections and installation of a new democratic Government. When there is no provision of the President to take over the Union Government in the event of failure of constitutional process, then there is no justification for the Presidential powers when a similar contingency arises in a State.

The terms of reference of the Ninth Finance Commission, set up by the Union Government, makes a significant departure from those of all previous Finance Commissions in the sense that they are heavily tilted in favour of the Union Government and against the rights and claims of the States in respect of their financial relations with the Union. By its terms of reference, the Union Government is assuming the right and the prerogative of control and inspection which do not belong to it in the scheme of the Constitution. Under the constitutional provision, the Finance Commission is a statutory body to judge the question of devolution of finances from the Union to the States. The Union is one of the parties to the Commission and cannot issue directives to it. Therefore, the West Bengal Chief Minister has rightly taken the initiative to question the terms of reference of the Ninth Finance Commission.

Recently, the Orissa Chief Minister, Shri Biju Patnaik, has also come out in support of more fiscal autonomy to the States and to empower the States to directly establish commercial ties with other countries. He has warned the Union Government that if it failed to understand the feelings of the States and grasp the meaning of the winds of change sweeping across the globe, the results may be disastrous. He has suggested that the Union-State relations should be re-drawn on the following lines:—

- 1. Defence and currency should remain within the exclusive domain of the Union.
- 2. Framing of foreign policy should not remain the exclusive right of the Union Government. The Union and the States should collec-

- tively decide on foreign relations and on policies relating to war and peace.
3. Entering into treaties with foreign countries should involve the collective effort of the Union and the States.
 4. The Union and the States should have joint control over issuance of passports. The citizenship will be Indian but the power to issue passports should vest with the States.
 5. States must have the power to have trade and commerce with other countries, to attract foreign investments and to directly deal with the money centres of the world.
 6. States should have the right to develop ports and infrastructure like railways.
 7. Industrial development, regulation and development of mines and exploitation of mineral resources should be left to the States.
 8. Broadcasting should no longer be the exclusive privilege of the Union. The control of the second TV channel should be given to the States.

From the deliberations of the Sub-Committee of the Inter-State Council held on 26 September, 1991, it appears that the Union Government is reflecting a spirit of accommodation which was missing in New Delhi's approach to federal matters during the Prime Ministership of Rajiv Gandhi and Indira Gandhi. The Union Home Minister, who is also the convener of the Sub-Committee of the Inter-State Council, agreed with the Chief Ministers' suggestion to make Union-State relations more balanced at the earliest through mutual consultation and cooperation. The Sub-Committee decided that detailed consultations with States individually and collectively should precede before initiating legislation on Concurrent List subjects. The Sub-Committee also resolved that all the 247 odd recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission should be considered in the shortest possible time and the new culture of forging mutual consultation and cooperation between the Union and the States be strengthened.

The Home Minister Shri S.B. Chavan has also conceded the request of Chief Ministers that a paper reviewing the Concurrent List in the Constitution should be prepared and be taken up in the Sub-Committee in due course. It is yet to be seen as to what extent the Sub-Committee of the Inter-State Council succeeds in creating a proper balance in the relationship between the union and the States.

In a recent interview to the New York-based *India Abroad*, Shri Madhavrao Scindia, the Union Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism, has said that he finds no harm in having a second look at the Constitution to see "whether our federal system is federal enough. There are aspirations which need to be satisfied within the Union."

Before I conclude, I would like to quote Deshbandhu Chitta Ranjan Das, a great freedom fighter, who, long back in 1924, perceived that free India must be a Federation of the Provinces. Interviewed by a Press representative on the situation following the suspension of the Reforms in Bengal, C.R. Das said:

"The future constitution of India must be a Federation of the provinces with a Central Government having residuary powers. Any settlement between England and India must proceed towards this first step—must be autonomy in all provinces with some control in Central Government which at present might consist of a British Viceroy and a mixed British and Indian Council".

Now, it is not only in India that restlessness prevails in the States for getting more powers and autonomy but it is a universal phenomenon that States are feeling suffocation in the unitary system of Government. Wherever the unitary system exists, the States struggle to turn it into a federal and liberal structure. It is the result of this trend that a number of States of Soviet Union have declared themselves as independent and sovereign. The Soviet Union had accepted the sovereignty of its three Baltic States, namely, Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia. Similarly, in Yugoslavia, Croatia has also declared independence. It is high time that the people at the helm of affairs realise the grave danger from the present trend and confer more fiscal and economic powers on the States so that India may be able to keep its unity and integrity intact. Ours being a pluralistic society, it needs a balanced federal structure so that ethno-political development of all communities is ensured and democracy develops from within the grass-roots which is essential for ensuring a strong, prosperous and united India.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE TENTH LOK SABHA

—LARRDIS

The procedure for holding election to the office of the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha is the same as that of the Speaker, Lok Sabha with the exception that in the case of the Speaker, the date for the election is fixed by the President whereas the date for election of Deputy Speaker is fixed by the Speaker himself as per provisions of Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. The Deputy Speaker is elected by Lok Sabha from amongst its members by a simple majority of members present and voting in the House.

The Speaker, Shri Shivraj V. Patil fixed 13 August 1991 as the date for holding election to the office of the Deputy Speaker. The members were accordingly informed of the procedure and programme thereof through Lok Sabha Bulletin Part II on 6 August 1991 and again on 9 August 1991. Members were required to give notices of motions for the election in the prescribed form before noon on 12 August 1991.

In all, four motions (three proposing the name of Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah and one proposing the name of Shri Rasheed Masood) were received by the prescribed time. All the motions were found to be in order and were included in the List of Business for 13 August 1991 in the order in which they were received in point of time.

On 13 August 1991, when the item was taken up, the Speaker, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, who was in the Chair, called upon Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar to move the motion standing in his name proposing the name of Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah. The motion, however, was not moved as the member was not present.

The second and third motions, proposing the name of Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah were then moved by Shri L.K. Advani and Smt. Vijaya Raje Scindia, respectively. The fourth motion, proposing the name of Shri Rasheed Masood, was then moved by Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh.

The motion moved by Shri L.K. Advani was put to vote of the House and adopted by a division, with 278 members voting in favour and 104 against it.

The Speaker, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, then declared Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah elected as the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha. Having been chosen as the Deputy Speaker, Shri Mallikarjunaiah was then conducted to his seat by Shri Arjun Singh, Leader of the House and Shri L.K. Advani, Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha. Shri Mallikarjunaiah was warmly felicitated on his election by the Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition and Leaders of Parties/Groups in the House.

Congratulating Shri Mallikarjunaiah, Shri Arjun Singh, Leader of the House, said: "The Hon. Deputy Speaker has a wealth of experience behind him about the legislative business and we all know that his tenure, as the Deputy Speaker of this House, will be to the satisfaction of all sections of this House." While wishing Shri Mallikarjunaiah all success, Shri Singh pointed out that the Congress Party has upheld the best traditions of the House by electing the Deputy Speaker from the principal Opposition party of the House.

Offering felicitations, Shri L.K. Advani, Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, expressed his happiness on the election of Shri Mallikarjunaiah. Shri Advani pointed out that the new incumbent had a long experience of Deputy Speakership of Karnataka Legislature. He added: "While proposing his name, I had in my mind that in case he is elected as the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, he will be able to do justice with all sections of this House". He also expressed his confidence that Shri Mallikarjunaiah would successfully conduct the proceedings of the House.

Congratulating Shri Mallikarjunaiah on behalf of his party and on his own behalf, Shri Rasheed Masood (Janata Dal) assured him that they would extend their full cooperation to him in conducting the proceedings of the House.

Extending his congratulations, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh (Janata Dal) said that the elected candidate would get cooperation from all sections of the House and added: "We have full faith in the verdict of the House and we will give full cooperation".

Offering his felicitations, Shri Somnath Chatterjee (CPI-M), offered the Deputy Speaker his party's cooperation in the discharge of his duty. He observed that Shri Mallikarjunaiah's long experience as Presiding Officer of the Karnataka Legislature would help him in conducting the business of the Lok Sabha.

Extending his party's full-fledged cooperation to the new Deputy Speaker, Shri Indrajit Gupta (CPI) said that he would cooperate in the running of the House according to the norms and procedures and keeping in view the dignity and decorum of the House.

Congratulating Shri Mallikarjunaiah, Shri Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait (Muslim League) hoped that he would be able to run the House very well

with his vast experience in the Karnataka Legislative Council and as its Presiding Officer and do justice to all sections of the House.

Felicitating Shri Mallikarjunaiah. Shri B Vijay Kumar Raju (Telugu Desam Party) said that the new Deputy Speaker was a senior legislator in Karnataka and was well-experienced.

Congratulating the new Deputy Speaker, Shri Chitta Basu (Forward Bloc) said: "I believe, hope and trust that he will run this House smoothly, will maintain the dignity, the decorum and traditions of this House. I hope he will also preserve the rights and privileges of the Members of this House and, if possible, will create new convention". He expressed his confidence that Shri Mallikarjunaiah would prove himself to be a successful Deputy Speaker of the House.

Shri Pius tirkey (RSP) also congratulated Shri Mallikarjunaiah and hoped that he would take proper care even of the small political groups in the House.

Extending his hearty congratulations, Shri P.G. Narayanan (AIADMK) expressed the hope that Shri Mallikarjunaiah would rise above party lines, do justice to all sections of the House and give an opportunity to all the new members to express their views in the House.

Shri P. C. Thomas (Kerala Congress) congratulated Shri Mallikarjunaiah on behalf of his party and requested him to give all opportunities to members of small parties to voice their grievances.

Congratulating Shri Mallikarjunaiah, Shri H.D. Devegowda (Janata Party) referred to his proven ability and capacity as the Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council of Karnataka.

Shri Inder Jit (Congress-I) expressed his happiness at the election of Shri Mallikarjunaiah and also congratulated him.

Felicitating Shri Mallikarjunaiah, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha said: "He has functioned as the Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council in Karnataka.... His experience would go a long way in helping him to do his duties to this House. Presiding Officers need a particular kind of nature and character to perform their duties. He appears to be endowed with the requisite kind of nature and character which are going to be of great help to him and the House". Emphasising the importance of the time of the House, he said that the success of the Presiding Officer depends upon making available time in proportion to the real and just demands of the members and the issues. "it is in this that the members and the Presiding Officers have to cooperate and produce the best possible results". Shri Patil added.

Responding to the felicitations, the Deputy Speaker, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah expressed his gratitude to all members of the House for electing him to the high office. He said: "I am aware of different perceptions of the various political parties represented in this House. However, I expect full

cooperation from hon. members in resolving the various issues that may come before us". He expressed confidence that with the cooperation of all section of the House, he should be able to do justice to the tasks entrusted to him. He assured members that he would discharge his duties "with a sense of justice and responsibility in the best traditions of this House and with a view to strengthening the democratic institution of Parliament".

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNAIAH — A LIFE SKETCH

Son of Shri S. Siddananjappa, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah born on 20 June, 1930 at Tumkur Village in Karnataka. He was educated at Mysore University, Mysore. He first did his Post Graduation and then obtained a Degree in Law.

Shri Mallikarjunaiah, who is an advocate and agriculturist, started his political career as the President of the Karnataka unit of Jansangh in 1971 and remained in that post till 1977. He was Vice-President of the Karnataka unit of the Janata Party from 1977-80 and Vice-President of the Karnataka unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party from 1980-86 and 1990-91.

Shri Mallikarjunaiah's legislative and parliamentary career began in 1971 with his election to the Karnataka Legislative Council. During his membership of the State Legislative Council, he was the Chairman, Petitions Committee from 1972 to 1991. He was Deputy Chairman of the State Legislative Council from 1986 to 1991.

Shri Mallikarjunaiah was elected to Lok Sabha for the first time in 1991 from the Tumkur parliamentary constituency.

His special interest is social reforms. During his pastime and recreation, he keeps himself occupied in gardening and playing badminton.

PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference: The 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference was held at New Delhi from 23 to 28 September 1991.

Birth Centenary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar: On the occasion of the Birth Centenary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the chief architect of our Constitution, a meeting was held on 26 July 1991 in Parliament House Annexe under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG). The meeting was presided over by Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha. Shri Sitaram Kesri, Minister of Welfare, Kumari Girija Vyas, Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Shri P. Shiv Shanker, Shri Sudarshan Ray Chaudhuri, Shri S.P. Gautam, Shri Satya Narayan Jatiya, Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury (all Members of Parliament) and Shri Yogendra Makwana, former Member of Parliament, spoke on the occasion and paid rich tributes to Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

A monograph on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, (both in Hindi and English), brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, under the "Eminent Parliamentarians Monograph Series", was released on the occasion by the Speaker, Lok Sabha.

Birth Anniversary of Shri Rajiv Gandhi: On the occasion of the Birth Anniversary of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India, a meeting of members of Parliament was held on 20 August 1991 in Parliament House Annexe under the auspices of the IPG.

The meeting was presided over by Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha. Dr. (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Arjun Singh, Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Jaswant Singh, Shri Mohan Singh, Shri Saifuddin Choudhury, Shri Kadambur M.R. Janardhanan, Shri Inderjit, Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde, Shrimati-Geeta Mukherjee (all Members of Parliament) and Shri Piyare Lal Handoo, former Member of Parliament, spoke on the occasion and paid rich tributes to Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

For details, see Article "The 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference: An Overview"

INDIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS GOING ABROAD

Ulan Bator: A three-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, Member of Parliament, attended an International Conference on "Mongolia's Transition to Democracy—the Role of the new Constitution" held in Ulan Bator from 9 to 13 September 1991. Other members of the Delegation were Sarvashri Rūp Chand Pal and Ish Dutt Yadav.

Strasbourg: A three-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by Shri L.K. Advani, Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, attended the third Strasbourg Conference on "Parliamentary Democracy" from 16 to 18 September 1991. The other member of the Delegation was Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, Member of Parliament, Shri T.S. Ahluwalia, Director, Lok Sabha, Secretariat, was the Secretary to the Delegation.

BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING

During the period 1 April to 30 September 1991, the following Programmes/Courses were organised by the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training:

Orientation Programme for New Members of Tenth Lok Sabha: An Orientation Programme for new Members of Tenth Lok Sabha was organised on 13 and 14 July 1991 at Parliament House Annexe to provide them opportunities to discuss and analyse various aspects of parliamentary processes and procedures and familiarise themselves more closely with the operational mechanics of the parliamentary institutions. In all, 92 members of the Tenth Lok Sabha participated in the programme.

Shri Rabi Ray, former Speaker, Lok Sabha inaugurated the programme. Senior Members of Parliament also addressed the members. Discussion sessions were arranged where the Members evinced keen interest in the deliberations of the Programme.

The Orientation Programme was followed by two Orientation Meetings held on 18 and 19 July 1991 and 9 to 12 August 1991. The topics included: (i) Preparation of budget, budget papers and budget in Parliament; and (ii) Parliamentary Questions and Procedures for raising matters of urgent public importance in the House. Shri Om Mehta, Hony. Advisor, (BPST) presided over the meeting.

Hindi Classes for Non-Hindi knowing Members of Parliament: Hindi classes were organised by the BPST for non-Hindi knowing Members of Parliament from 22 August to 13 September 1991. It was attended by 12 non-Hindi knowing Members of Parliament.

Orientation Programme for New Members of State Legislatures: An Orientation Programme each for new Members of Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha and Orissa Legislative Assembly was organised by the BPST in collaboration with the respective State Legislature Assembly Secretariat at

Lucknow and Bhubaneshwar from 27 to 28 July and 13 to 14 September 1991, respectively.

Shri Hari Krishan, Speaker, Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha inaugurated the programme for the new Members of Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha. Shri Biju Patnaik, Chief Minister, Orissa inaugurated the programme for Members of Orissa Legislative Assembly. 124 new Members of Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha and 111 Members of Orissa Legislative Assembly attended the Programmes. Senior Ministers, parliamentarians and legislators addressed the participating Members.

Programme for Foreign Parliamentary Officers: In the series of programmes organised by the BPST for foreign parliamentary officers, the Seventh Parliamentary Internship Programme for Foreign Parliamentary Officers commenced on 26 September 1991 and concluded on 13 November 1991. The programme was attended by 17 officers from various foreign Parliaments of Afro-Asian countries.

The programme was designed to meet the needs of the officers of foreign Parliaments to study the processes and procedures and working of parliamentary institutions in India. The programmes aim at providing the foreign parliamentary officers an opportunity to exchange ideas in the context of their own experiences in their legislatures and to acquaint themselves with the environment, culture, traditions and working of parliamentary institutions in India. The participants in the programme were drawn from countries covered under the Colombo and Special Commonwealth African Assistance Plan.

Besides the regular programmes, at the request of the Government of Nigeria, two specialised programmes for Editors and Librarians from Nigeria's Federal and Legislative Assembly Secretariat were organised by the BPST. The programme for Librarians was organised from 26 July to 9 September 1991 and for Editors from 19 August to 30 September 1991. The first programme was attended by 10 Librarians and the second programme was attended by 13 Editors.

Appreciation Course in Parliamentary Processes and Procedures for all-India/Central Services and Officers of Government of India: The following Appreciation Courses were also organised by the BPST (i) Indian Audit and Accounts and Indian Civil Accounts Service from 1 to 5 April 1991; (ii) Officers of the rank of Section/Desk Officers in the Ministries/Departments of Government of India from 24 to 28 June 1991; (iii) Youth Coordinators of Nehru Yuvak Kendras from 15 to 19 July 1991; (iv) Professors/Lecturers of Universities/Colleges from 22 to 26 July 1991; (v) Indian Revenue Service Probationers from 12 to 16 August 1991; (vi) Indian Foreign Service Probationers from 19 to 23 August 1991; (vii) Audit Officers sponsored by the Office of the C&AG of India from 19 to 23 August 1991; and (viii) Indian Audit and Accounts Service Probationers from 28 to 30 August 1991.

In-service Courses for Officers/Staff of Parliament and State Legislature Secretariats: The following in-service courses were organised by the BPST (i) Foundational Course for newly promoted/recruited Sr./Jr. Clerks of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariats from 27 March to 5 April 1991; (ii) Foundational Course for Sr. Asstts./Asstts. of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariats from 11 to 19 April 1991; (iii) Training Course for Printing Asstts./Copy Holders and Proof Readers of Lok Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats from 29 April to 3 May, 1991; (iv) Training Course for newly recruited/promoted Research/Reference Assistants of Lok Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats from 16 to 21 May 1991; (v) Training Course for officers of Lok Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats in the working of Financial Committees from 23 May to 4 June 1991; and (vi) Training Course for Senior/Junior Library Assistants of Lok Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats from 29 May to 7 June 1991.

Study Visits: At the request of various training and educational institutions, seven study visits were organised during the period by the BPST.

RELINQUISHMENT OF OFFICE OF SECRETARY-GENERAL, LOK SABHA, BY SHRI K.C. RASTOGI

On 20 December 1991, the Speaker, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, informed the Lok Sabha about the relinquishment of the office of the Secretary-General by Shri K.C. Rastogi with effect from 31 December 1991.

Referring to the services rendered by Shri Rastogi, the Speaker said that he had worked very unobtrusively, conscientiously and justly. The Speaker added "He has worked without any bias against anybody or any party. He has never tried to impose his views on others. We express our great appreciation for the splendid service he has rendered to the Lok Sabha". The Speaker also announced that Shri K.C. Rastogi will be the Honorary Officer of the House.

Earlier, offering felicitations and good wishes to the retiring Secretary-General, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri L.K. Advani said that Shri Rastogi had rendered valuable services as the Secretary-General. He had worked with devotion and dedication and had won the hearts of the members by his unobtrusiveness and affectionate nature. Shri Advani wished him a happy and prosperous life.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Law, Justice and Company Affairs, Shri Rangarajan Kumaramangalam, also placed on record the deep appreciation of the services rendered by Shri Rastogi as Secretary-General. He also wished him a happy healthy and successful life ahead.

THE NEW SECRETARY-GENERAL, LOK SABHA

Consequent on the retirement of Shri K.C. Rastogi, Shri C.K. Jain, Additional Secretary in the Lok Sabha Secretariat, took over as Secretary-General, Lok Sabha and Lok Sabha Secretariat, with effect from 1 January 1992.

Shri C.K. Jain—A Life Sketch

Born on 3 May 1935, Shri C.K. Jain had a distinguished academic career. After completing his B.Com. and LL.B, he practised law for some time in District Courts.

Shri Jain joined Lok Sabha Secretariat in 1955 and has worked in various capacities with distinction. He has a deep insight into the functioning of every limb of the Lok Sabha having held, at various points of time the charge of almost every Division and Service of the Secretariat. As an Officer at the Table of the House, he has looked after the legislative and non-legislative business of the House. He has also held with distinction the charge of Parliamentary Committees, Questions, General Administration and Establishment, Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS), Parliamentary Museum and Archives (PMA), Editorial and Translation Service and Reporters, and Interpreters Service, besides the Conference and Protocol Division.

Shri Jain was closely associated with the framing of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha and Directions by the Speaker and the editing of the Manuals on Constitution (pertaining to the provisions relating to Parliament), Rules of Procedure and Directions, besides making substantial and meaningful contribution towards the Secretariat's Treatise on "Practice and Procedure of Parliament" by M.N. Kaul and S.L. Shakdher.

Shri Jain was actively associated with holding of elections of the President/Vice-President of India in 1962, 1967, 1969, 1982 and 1987.

As officer in charge of Conference and Protocol, Shri Jain has been handling the work of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) which functions as the National Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the India Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA). His contribution to the successful organisation of the several Conferences of Presiding Officers/Secretaries of Legislative Bodies in India and Seminars and Symposia held under the auspices of the IPG and the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST) has been widely acknowledged. When India had the proud privilege of hosting the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in New Delhi in September 1991, Shri Jain rendered yeoman's services as head of the Conference Secretariat which won him encomiums from far and wide.

Besides the 37th CP Conference, Shri Jain successfully, organised. Regional CPA Parliamentary Seminars for the CPA Branches in Asia, South East Asia and Africa Regions and the Conferences of Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers, hosted by the India Branch of the CPA in the previous years.

In 1990, Shri Jain was appointed Additional Secretary in the Lok Sabha Secretariat. Shri Jain took over as Secretary-General, Lok Sabha and Lok Sabha Secretariat on 1 January 1992. As Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri Jain is also the Secretary-General of the IPG.

Shri Jain has been the faculty member of the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST) and the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies (ICPS) and has delivered over hundred lectures on various aspects of parliamentary political science. Shri Jain has also attended an Attachment Programme for studying the British Parliamentary Procedure in the House of Commons at Westminster, London.

Widely travelled in India and abroad, Shri Jain has attended several Inter-Parliamentary Conferences, Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences and Conferences of Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers.

An avid reader with keen interest in parliamentary institutions, Shri Jain has authored several articles and research papers on various aspects of parliamentary practice and procedure and evolution of parliamentary institutions.

Besides reading, Shri Jain takes an active interest in touring and gardening.

PRIVILEGE ISSUES

RAJYA SABHA

Alleged casting of reflections on the President of India by a newspaper. On 27 April 1987, Sarvashri Dipen Ghosh and L.K. Advani, members, raised in the House a question on privilege regarding alleged casting of reflections on the person of the then President of India, Giani Zail Singh, by one Shri Jagmit Singh Brar which were reported by *The Indian Express* in its issue dated 26 April 1987 under the caption "Youth Congress (I) General-Secretary says..... 'ZAIL PART OF PLOT TO DESTABILISE GOVT'

While raising the matter in the House the members, *inter-alia* laid stress on the provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of India which states that "There shall be a Parliament for the Union which shall consist of the President and two Houses to be known respectively as the Council of States and the House of the People" and on this analogy they contended that by casting reflections on the President of India, Shri Jagmit Singh Brar had committed breach of privilege of the House.

On 30 April 1987, while referring the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report, the Chairman, *inter-alia*, referred again to Article 79 of the Constitution. The Chairman stated he had not been able to find a precedent to support the contention that in Britain, reflections cast on the Sovereign could be taken cognizance of by the House of Commons under its privilege jurisdiction. In India also, there was no precedent to support the same contention. In that sense, therefore, the matter raised by Shri Dipen Ghose and others was the first of its kind and required thorough investigation.

The Committee of Privileges, after considering the opinion of the Attorney-General of India in that regard and also after analysing the information received from Parliaments of some of the Commonwealth countries, in their Twenty-Seventh Report presented to the House on 26 July, 1991, *inter-alia* reported that the Committee thought it appropriate to ascertain the position obtaining in some Commonwealth countries like the United Kingdom, Canada and Australia. The Committee understood that there had not arisen any situation whereby the House had to consider such a question in the United Kingdom. Even in U.K., although the privileges of Parliament were attached to Parliament as a whole (including

the Queen) each House was, however, only concerned in enforcing its privileges in respect of its own body and members, since privileges were considered as rights which were absolutely necessary for the exercise of the powers of the body concerned and they could not, therefore, be claimed by one body in respect of another. In Canada also privilege was attached to each House and its members and no principles of parliamentary privilege with respect to the Sovereign had ever been invoked despite the provision contained in the Constitution making the Queen a constituent part of the Parliament of Canada. It was because the Sovereign, i.e. the Queen, in her capacity as Head of State enjoys executive privilege. In Australia also, the position was akin to the one obtaining in the United Kingdom and Canada. However, the traditional offence of defamatory contempt had been abolished there by an enactment. The Parliamentary Privileges Act, 1987, provided that words or actions should not be taken to be an offence against a House by reason only that those words or acts were defamatory or critical of the Parliament, a House, a Committee or a Member. Unless the reflections interfered with the free exercise by a House, or Committee or a Member of its or his functions, the question of contempt, as per provision of the Act, did not arise. Thus, reflections on the Queen as such could not involve a question of contempt.

Besides the information in respect of the three Commonwealth countries, the Committee also sought the opinion of the Attorney-General on the following three points:

- (a) The precise scope of Article 79 of the Constitution;
- (b) Whether aspersions cast on the President could be termed as derogatory to the institution of Parliament, thereby attracting its privilege jurisdiction; and
- (c) Adequacy of the existing law to punish derogatory and undignified writings against the person of the President.

The Attorney-General, on the first point, stated that the President had been made a component part of Parliament only for the limited purpose of exercising certain legislative powers. So far as the second point was concerned, the view of the Attorney-General was that in terms of Article 105(3) of the Constitution, privileges were conferred not on the Parliament as such but only on each House of Parliament and on Members and on Committees of each House. No powers, privileges or immunities as such had been conferred on the President as a component part of Parliament. So far as the adequacy or otherwise of the existing law to punish derogatory and undignified remarks and writing against the person of the President was concerned, the Attorney-General observed that it was a question for a policy decision.

The Committee did not feel it necessary to express its views on the interpretation or scope of Article 79 of the Constitution. About four years had elapsed since the matter was referred to the Committee by the Chairman and in view of the change of circumstances which had occurred

since then, the Committee recommended that the matter might be treated as closed and be allowed to rest there.

No further action was taken by the House in the matter.

Alleged assault on a member by the police and alleged premature publication of the proceedings of the Committee by some newspapers: On 1 February 1991, Shri T.R. Balu, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege against the Commissioner of Police, Madras, Shri K.K. Rajasekharan Nair, and Sub-Inspectors Shri Sivaprakasam and Shri Thiyagarajan for allegedly assaulting him on 31 January 1991 in Madras.

On 22 February 1991, while raising the matter in the House, Shri Balu stated that on 31 January 1991 some women volunteers of the DMK party gathered near the party office in Madras agitating against the dismissal of the DMK Government. The police tried to clear the mob. When he requested police not to lathi-charge the women as their demonstration was peaceful, some five or six policemen suddenly pounced upon him and charged him brutally with lathis and rifle-butts causing severe and serious injuries on his back, neck and spinal cord. Even though he had shown his identity card, the police did not stop the charge on him. Shri Balu further stated that the whole episode occurred in the very presence of the Commissioner of Police, Madras who gave him neither any protection from the lathi-charge nor proper medical aid.

On 26 February 1991, the Chairman *inter alia* informed the House that he had received a report of the Tamil Nadu Government through the Union Ministry of Home Affairs on 25 February 1991 which denied that Shri Balu was assaulted in the presence of the Police Commissioner, Madras or that medical aid was denied to him. Since there were conflicting versions of the incident, the Chairman remitted the matter to the Committee of Privileges, for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges, after examining in person Shri K.K. Rajasekharan Nair, Commissioner of Police, Madras and Shri Thiyagarajan, Sub-Inspector and considering all the relevant documents, in their Twenty-ninth Report presented to the House on 26 July 1991 *inter alia* reported that the Police Commissioner had *suo motu* ordered an enquiry into the incident and transferred the police officials, accused of the assault, the same day. The Committee also noted that the Police Commissioner had expressed regrets for the incident. In view thereof, the Committee recommended that no further action be taken by the House in the matter.

Subsequent to the evidence tendered by the Commissioner of Police, Madras, before the Committee on 8 April 1991, Shri M. Vincent, Member, Rajya Sabha brought to the notice of the Committee that the fact of the Police Commissioner having apologised to the Committee was published in the Madras edition of the *Indian Express* and three Tamil dailies.

namely, *Dinakaran*, *Murasoli* and *Malai Murasu* on 9 and 10 April 1991. Shri Vincent contended that by publishing prematurely the proceedings of the Committee before they were reported to the House, the newspapers concerned had committed breach of privilege as also breach of secrecy and faith. The Police Commissioner, Madras, in a separate communication, also invited attention to such publication in the *Indian Express*. Notices were, therefore, issued to these newspapers asking for their explanation in the matter.

In their explanations, the Tamil dailies mentioned above stated that the news about the apology of the Commissioner of Police published in their newspapers was merely a reproduction of what had already appeared in the *Indian Express* of 9 April 1991. The editors pleaded ignorance about the implication of their conduct, but stated that it was not their intention to commit breach of privilege of the House or its Committees. They expressed unqualified apology and prayed for dropping further action against them. The editor of the *Indian Express*, in his letter, stated that the news was published in good faith and in public interest without any intention to cause any breach of privilege. The editor had, however, expressed unqualified regret.

The Committee were of the opinion that the publication of its proceedings of 8 April 1991 in the above-mentioned newspaper did constitute a breach of privilege and contempt of the House. Taking into consideration the regret expressed and apology offered by the newspapers concerned, the Committee recommended that no further action be taken in the instant case. However, the Committee wished to caution all concerned that any premature publication or disclosure of the proceedings of the Committee would be dealt with seriously.

No further action was taken by the House in the matter.

Alleged casting of reflections on a member by a newspaper: On 10 January 1991, Shri A.G. Kulkarni, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege against the *Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)* and the *Business and Political Observer*, an English daily, for allegedly casting reflections on him in a press release issued by the *Reliance Industries Limited* and published in the said newspaper in its issue dated 10 January 1991. Some of the relevant portions of the press release, to which objection was taken by the member, read that "Mr. Kulkarni's longstanding dubious connections with our business rivals, *Bombay Dyeing* are well known". The impugned press release was issued by the *Reliance Industries Limited* after Shri A.G. Kulkarni made a Special Mention in the Rajya Sabha on 7 January 1991 regarding financial irregularities and mismanagement in some Nationalised Banks, including UCO Bank and also stated that the *Reliance Industries* had been advanced a loan of, Rs. 60 crore. Shri Kulkarni contended that the said press release, instead of clarifying its position and denying the allegations, attributed malafides and improper

motives to him which clearly impinged upon his right to speech in Parliament and thus constituted a breach of privilege.

On 26 February 1991, the Chairman referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges, after examining in person Shri B.N. Uniyal, editor-in-Chief, Shri Baljit Kapoor Printer and Publisher of the *Business and Political Observer* and Shri Tony Jesudasan, Group Adviser Corporate Communications *Reliance Industries Limited*, and considering all the relevant documents, in their Twenty-eighth Report presented to the House on 26 July 1991, *inter alia* reported that the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of RIL in his letter dated 26 March 1991, expressed his inability to appear before the Committee due to indifferent health. The Chairman, *inter alia*, stated that he held both the august House, its members as well as the members of the Committee of Privileges in the highest regard. On his part, there had never been any intention to show any disrespect to Parliament or its working.

Shri B.N. Uniyal, Editor-in-Chief, and Shri Baljit Kapoor, Printer and Publisher of the *Business and Political Observer*, appeared before the Committee. Shri Uniyal, on his own and on behalf of Shri Kapoor, stated that the report was published in the paper in good faith on the basis of the press release issued by the RIL. He felt that possibly it could have been treated with more caution and submitted that it was inadvertent and was not intended to malign the House or Shri Kulkarni. He, however, tendered an unconditional apology and expressed regret for the same.

Shri Tony Jesudasan, the Group Adviser Corporate Communications, RIL made a submission before the Committee that on 7 January, during a special mention on the crippling sickness in nationalized banks, Shri A.G. Kulkarni made an unsubstantiated allegation stating that the company was a threat to democracy. The said statement was widely quoted in the *Indian Express*. Shri Kulkarni's charge, in effect, alleged that the company was not only unpatriotic but that its actions were undemocratic. Consequently, provoked by the gravity of Shri Kulkarni's charge, he reacted in an emotional manner and issued a press statement alleging that Shri Kulkarni's consistent attacks since 1985 in Parliament against RIL were the result of his association with business rivals, *Bombay Dyeing*. He further added that it was never his intention to malign the House or Shri Kulkarni and tendered his sincere and unconditional apology to the House.

In view of the regrets expressed and unconditional apology tendered by all concerned, the Committee recommended that no further action be taken by the House in the matter.

No further action was taken by the House in the matter.

STATE LEGISLATURES

HARYANA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Alleged use of derogatory, insulting and contemptuous language against a member and the House by a police officer: On 14 September 1987, Shri D.D. Attri, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege against Shri Hazari Lal, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Jind for his alleged misbehaviour with the member on telephone on 12 September 1987.

Shri Attri stated in his notice that on 12 September 1987, the Headmistress of the Government Girls High School, Jind, sent her peon requesting Shri Attri to make arrangement for some police official to help the School authorities in checking any untoward incident as some of the male students were disturbing the district level games for the girls being organised in that Girls High School. On the same day, Shri Attri contacted the city Police station at 1330 hrs. on telephone to request the Station House Officer to make necessary arrangements for the same. When Shri Attri requested for help in making the said arrangement, Shri Hazari Lal, who attended the telephone, instead of assuring some help to the member, allegedly made derogatory, insulting and contemptuous remarks against him and the House.

On 4 December 1987, the Speaker referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges, after hearing in person Shri D.D. Attri and after considering the written statement of Shri Hazari Lal, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Jind, in their Report presented to the House on 4 March 1991, *inter alia* reported that Shri Hazari Lal had categorically denied the use of derogatory, insulting and contemptuous language against Shri Attri and the House. He had stated in his written statement that there was disturbance in the telephone and due to the faulty functioning of the telephone, misunderstanding had taken place and he had no intention whatsoever to cast any aspersion on the member and the House. Shri Hazari Lal had stated that if the member had any misunderstanding, he respectfully requested the Privileges Committee to pardon him.

In view of the fact, as admitted by the contemnor, Shri Hazari Lal, Deputy Superintendent of Police, that he had no intention whatsoever to cast any aspersion on the member and the House and also the request made by him to pardon him for any misunderstanding that might had been caused due to the disturbance and faulty functioning of the telephone, the Committee felt that no further action in the matter was required to be taken, and therefore, recommended that it be dropped.

The Committee, however, desired that the Government should issue strict instructions that the police officers/officials should extend due

regard and courtesy to the legislators whenever they approach them in the discharge of their duties.

The Report of the Committee was adopted by the House on 4 March 1991.

WEST BENGAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Alleged misleading of the House by a member: On 6 May 1988, Shri Manabendra Mukherjee, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege against Shri Saugata Roy, another member, for allegedly misleading the House while making mention on the floor of the House on 28 April 1988 on the subject of payment of electricity bill by the Superintendent of the Hostel of Ashutosh College, Calcutta. On 10 May 1988, the House referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

On 21 February 1989, Shri Saugata Roy appealed to the Speaker to reconsider his ruling dated 10 May 1988 and to give him an opportunity to answer the allegations made against him on the floor of the House. But his request could not be acceded to as the decision of the House to refer the matter to the Committee of Privileges had already been taken on 10 May 1988 in the presence of Shri Roy in the House and he did not raise any objection at the time.

The Committee of Privileges, after hearing in person Sarvashri Manabendra Mukherjee and Saugata Roy, members, in their Seventh Report presented to the House on 28 August 1990, *inter alia* reported that taking into consideration the whole matter as well as the oral evidence of both members, the Committee found that the impugned statement of Shri Saugata Roy made in the House on 28 April 1988 during Zero Hour was based on a news item published in the *Kalantar* dated 11 April 1988 and not on his personal source of knowledge. He tried to discharge his functions as a member by bringing to the notice of the House an incident of alleged corruption in an educational institution in order to facilitate an enquiry into that matter by the Government. The deliberateness on the part of Shri Roy to mislead the House by the news could not be proved and as such he did not come under the mischief of any rule of breach of privilege of the House.

The Committee recommended that no action be taken in the matter and it might be dropped.

The Report of the Committee was adopted by the House.

Alleged misreporting of the proceedings of the House by a newspaper: On 4 May 1988, Shri Madhabendu Mohanta, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege against the editor, printer and publisher, and reporter of the *Aajkaal*, a Bengali daily, for allegedly misreporting his speech made during discussion on Jail Budget in the House on 3 May 1988, in the said daily in its issue the next day.

Shri Mohanta, in his notice of question of privilege, stated that he was described by the reporter of the daily as a member of Forward Bloc which was not correct. He further stated that he wholeheartedly supported the Jail Budget in the House and did not state that the same condition as in the British regime was prevailing in the Jail, as reported in the said daily. He, therefore, requested that the matter be referred to the Committee of Privileges.

On 11 May 1988, the Speaker referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges, after considering all the relevant documents, in their Eighth Report presented to the House on 26 March 1991 *inter alia* reported that such misreporting and distortion of the proceedings of the House did constitute a breach of privilege. But in the present case, it did not want to proceed with the matter after consideration of the fact that the editor of *Aajkaal* had tendered an unqualified apology for the same and had published the necessary corrigendum in that respect in its subsequent issue. The Committee, however, pointed out that though the aforesaid misreporting/distortion of the proceedings of the House was made in the newspaper dated 4 May 1988, the same was not corrected till 20 October 1990. Such delayed correction of any reporting in the newspaper, particularly those relating to the proceedings of the House, could hardly achieve the desired result. The Committee were, therefore, of the opinion that the newspaper authorities should remain ever vigilant over the matter of reporting of the proceedings of the House so that no error or misrepresentation of the facts might creep into the published news.

The Committee recommended that in view of the unqualified apology tendered by the editor of the newspaper, no further action be taken in the matter and it may be dropped.

No further action was taken by the House in the matter:

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

LOK SABHA

Instances where the Prime Minister who was not a member of Lok Sabha was introduced to the House by the Speaker: Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi who was a member of Rajya Sabha was introduced to the House by the Speaker on 14 February 1966 Prime Minister (Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao) who was not a member of either House of Parliament was introduced to the House by the Speaker on 10 July 1991.

Sitting of the House on a closed holiday: Saturdays are being observed as closed holidays since June 1985, consequent upon the Government's decision to observe five-day week in Central Government offices. Saturday, 20 July 1991, was a closed holiday. However, on 11 July 1991, at a meeting of the Speaker with Leaders of Parties/Groups, it was decided that in order to facilitate early discussion of financial and other business, the sitting of the House fixed for Monday, 22 July 1991, might be cancelled and in lieu thereof the House might sit on Saturday, 20 July 1991. On 12 July 1991, the Chairman informed the House of the decision of Leaders to which the House agreed. Information to that regard was published in Bulletin Part II. All Ministries/Departments and others concerned were also informed.

No point of order can be raised during Zero Hour: On 18 July 1991, after the Question Hour, when members were raising matters not listed in the agenda, a member sought to raise a point of order. The Speaker thereupon observed:

Let the members know that they cannot raise points of order at this point of time because whatever we are doing is not provided in the rules and so you cannot raise a point of order when you are discussing like this....

The Speaker reiterated the above observation on 26 July 1991, when a member Shri M.V. Chandrashekara Murthy sought to raise a point of order immediately after Question Hour, when members were raising matters not listed in the agenda.

Resolution on the conclusion of the Treaty on Strategic Arms Reduction between United States of America and Soviet Union: On 2 August 1991, at about 1301 hrs., the Speaker placed the following Resolution before the House:

This House:

Recognises the historic importance of the Treaty on Strategic Arms Reduction (START) signed in Moscow on the 31 July 1991, which provides for the first ever reduction in the strategic nuclear arsenals of the United States and the Soviet Union.

Welcomes the conclusion of the Treaty and congratulates the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union on this accomplishment.

Expresses the hope that there would be no interruption in the process of negotiations for nuclear disarmament so that START is followed by even more far-reaching measures for nuclear arms reduction, not only between the United States and the Soviet Union but also including other nuclear weapon States.

Appeals for the earliest possible initiation of multilateral negotiations, under the aegis of the United Nations for a new Treaty eliminating all nuclear and other weapons within a time-bound framework.

Endorses the position of the Government of India on the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and calls upon the Government to pursue the various proposals and initiatives for ushering in a nuclear weapon-free world.

The Resolution was adopted by the House unanimously.

Expunction of derogatory remarks made by a Minister against a political party: On 6 August 1991, the Leader of the Opposition Shri L.K. Advani and some members of the BJP alleged that the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism Shri Madhavrao Scindia in a Press interview in Lucknow, branded BJP as 'traitor'. On 7 August 1991 the Minister, while making a personal explanation clarifying the matter, used the word 'Deshdrohi' with reference to BJP. The Leader of the Opposition and members of BJP took objection to it and boycotted the proceedings of the House on 8 and 9 August 1991. Subsequently, the Speaker expunged from records the word, 'Deshdrohi' and references to BJP wherever occurring in the Minister's personal explanation.

Expunction of derogatory remarks by a member: The expression 'Mafia' used by Shri Gumanmal Lodha in relation to former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, was expunged by the Speaker on 28 August 1991.

The expression 'amicable frauds' used by Shri Sudhir Sawant, member, in relation to some senior Army officers was also expunged by the Chair on 9 September 1991.

Withdrawal of derogatory references: On 12 September 1991, after the Question Hour, when some Opposition members were raising matter regarding Supreme Court's directive on the Bofors case and the alleged

move of the Government to settle the issue, a member, Shri Chandul Chandrakar, ridiculing the members' concern on the Bofors case, wanted to know what action had been taken by the V.P. Singh Government in the matter. Shri V.P. Singh then detailed the steps which were taken by his Government. Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Shri M. L. Fotedar, thereupon said that Shri V.P. Singh had tremendous capacity of misleading public opinion and he had defected from the Congress Party in 1989. Shri V.P. Singh countered that he did not defect from the party but was expelled. Another member, Shri Thangkabalu alleged that Shri V.P. Singh was expelled because he was 'antinational'.

Several members belonging to Janata Dal got agitated over the remark and came to the pit of the House. The Speaker then adjourned the House at 1240 hrs till 1300 hrs. When the House re-assembled, Shri Thangkabalu withdrew his remarks saying that it was a slip of the tongue and apologised for the same. The words did not form part of the proceedings of the House.

STATE LEGISLATURES

BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

House can summon a District Magistrate held guilty of misbehaviour with a Member: On 4 July 1991, a special committee of the Bihar Vidhan Sabha was set up when Shri Premnath Jaiswal, a member, complained during Zero Hour that the District Magistrate of Katihar had misbehaved with him on 29 June 1991. The Committee went to Katihar to know about the incident. The Committee maintained that the District Magistrate Shrimati Rashmi Verma did not deny the charges made against her but remained silent when asked by the special Committee to clarify. Hence the Committee came to the conclusion that the charges levelled by Shri Jaiswal against the District Magistrate were true.

On 25 July 1991, the Bihar Vidhan Sabha adopted the recommendation of the special Committee which found the District Magistrate of Katihar Shrimati Rashmi Verma, guilty of misbehaving with Shri Jaiswal.

On 26 July 1991, the House, on a resolution of a member, authorised the Speaker to call the District Magistrate and deal with the matter in his official chamber of the Bihar Vidhan Sabha.

Accordingly, on 31 July 1991 the District Magistrate came to the Speaker's Chamber, and tendered an unqualified apology. The matter was finally dropped.

*Material contributed by Bihar Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

PARLIAMENTARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

(1 April to 30 September 1991)

Events covered in this Feature are based primarily on reports appearing in the daily newspapers and, as such, Lok Sabha Secretariat does not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, authenticity or veracity.

—Editor

INDIA

DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNION*

Resignation of Ministers: On 8 April, Minister of State for Tourism, Shrimati Usha Singh submitted her resignation to President Shri R. Venkataraman following her decision to quit the ruling party and join Congress(I).

Subsequently on 23 April, Deputy Minister of Commerce, Shri Shantilal Patel resigned from the Union Council of Ministers following his decision to quit the ruling party and join the newly floated regional party, Janata Dal (Gujarat).

On 24 April, Minister of State for Agriculture, Shri Jayantilal V. Shah resigned from the Union Council of Ministers.

Panel of Chairmen for Lok Sabha: On 12 July, Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Shivraj V. Patil announced the new panel of Chairmen for conducting the business of the House. The five members on the panel were: Col. Ram Singh, Shri Sharad Dighe, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah, Shri Rashid Masood and (Smt.) Malini Bhattacharya. On 18 July, the Speaker nominated Shri P.M. Sayeed to be a member of the Panel.

Following his election as Deputy Speaker on 13 August, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah ceased to be a member of the Panel of Chairmen. On 20 August, Shri Ram Naik was nominated as a member of the Panel of Chairmen.

* Information on the general elections to Lok Sabha, assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, constitution of the Tenth Lok Sabha, formation of the Union Council of Ministers, and the election of the Speaker have already been covered in the *Journal*, Vol. XXXVII, No. 2, June 1991.

Resignation of Minister: On 29 July, Minister of State for Labour, Shri K. Ramamurthy resigned from the Union Cabinet.

By-elections to Rajya Sabha: On 8 August, Shri Raghavji of the BJP was declared elected to Rajya Sabha from the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly Constituency in a by-election caused by Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee's resignation following his election to the Lok Sabha.

Shri Satchidananda of the Congress(I) was declared elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha in a by-election from the Karnataka Legislative Assembly Constituency on 2 September. On 26 September, the Union Finance Minister Dr. Mammohan Singh was elected unopposed to Rajya Sabha from the Assam Legislative Assembly Constituency.

Punjab poll postponement upheld by SC: On 9 August, the Supreme Court upheld the Election Commission's decision to postpone the elections in Punjab.

Deputy Speaker elected: On 13 August, BJP nominee Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah was elected Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha when a motion proposing his name was passed by the House with 278 members voting in favour and 104 members against it.

Adjournment/Prorogation of Parliament: Both Houses of Parliament adjourned *sine die* on 18 September and were subsequently prorogued by the President on 26 September.

Resignation of MP: Shri Ajit Anantrao Pawar, Congress(I) member of Lok Sabha from Maharashtra, resigned on 18 September 1991.

Ministry renamed: The Government, on 25 September, renamed the Ministry of Civil Supplies and Public Distribution as the Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution.

AROUND THE STATES

ANDHRA PRADESH

Expansion of Cabinet: On 5 August, the State Cabinet was expanded with the induction of 12 Ministers of Cabinet rank and 5 Ministers of State. Besides, 6 Ministers of State were promoted as Cabinet Ministers.

The six Ministers of State who were elevated to the Cabinet rank were: Sarvashri K. Bhim Rao: *Tribal Welfare*; J. Chitharanjan Das: *Backward Classes Welfare*; Mohammed Jani: *Sugar Industry, Commerce and-Export Promotion*; M. Chandrasekhar: *Forests*; P. Padmanabhan: *Endowment*; and J. Prasad Rao: *Panchayati Raj*;

The newly inducted Cabinet Ministers were: Sarvashri K. Bapi Raju: *Commercial Taxes*; R. Changa Reddy: *Small Scale Industries*; R. Demodhar Reddy: *Court, Ground Water and Irrigation Development*;

^{*}For details, see feature on the Election of Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha.

P. Krishna Murthy: *Major Irrigation, Khadi and Village Administration*; **M.V. Mysoora Reddy:** *Home*; **M. Narasimha Reddy:** *Municipal Administration and Urban Development*; **P. Rajan:** *Medium Irrigation*; **C. Ramachandra Reddy:** *Minor Irrigation*; **V. Ramagopal Chowdhary:** *Cooperation*; **K. Rama Reddy:** *Marketing and Warehousing*; **K. Rosaiah:** *Medical and Health*; **D.K. Samarasimha Reddy:** *Law*; and **Smt. S. Uma Venkat Reddy:** *Rural Development and Rural Water Supply*;

The new Ministers of State were: **Sarvashri P.V. Ranga Rao:** *Primary Education, Secondary Education, Museum, Archaeology and Archives*; **M. Janaki Ram:** *Mines and Geology*; **P. Laxmaiah:** *Fisheries*; **K. Laxminarayana:** *Sports and Youth Services*; **D. Prasad Rao:** *Textiles and Handloom*; and **D. Srinivas:** *Self-Employment Programme*.

Election of Speaker: Shri D. Sripada Rao of Congress-I was unanimously elected Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly on 19 August.

ASSAM

Election results: Elections to the 126-member State Assembly were held on 6 and 8 June. The Congress(I) gained a clear majority by winning 65 out of the 125 seats for which elections were held. The position of other parties was as under:

AGP: 19; BJP: 10; NAJP: 5; CPI: 4; CPI(M): 1; Janata Dal: 1; UMF: 1; Others: 19.

Following the elections, Shri Hiteswar Saikia of Congress(I) was sworn in as Chief Minister by the Governor, Shri Lok Nath Mishra on 30 June. The Governor also administered the oath of office and secrecy to 20 Cabinet Ministers and 15 Ministers of State the same day. Following is the list of Ministers and their portfolios:

Cabinet Ministers: Sarvashri Keshab Chandra Gogoi: *Planning and Development*; Syeda Anwara Taimur: *Agriculture and Tourism*; Golak Raybangshi: *PWD and Parliamentary Affairs*; Mukut Sharma: *Revenue and Land Reforms*; Gobinda Chandra Langthasa: *Hill Areas Development, Hill Plan, Registration and Stamps, Health and Family Welfare*; Zeherul Islam: *Irrigation*; Bijit Saikia: *Industries*; Afjalur Rehman: *Panchayat, Community Development*; S.S. Ojha: *Transport, Khadi and Village Industries*; Dileswar Tanti: *Labour*; Bargarem Deory: *Welfare of Plain Tribes, Scheduled Castes, other Backward Communities, Sericulture and Weaving*; Nakul Das: *Veterinary*; Nagen Neogi: *Cooperation and Border Areas Development*; Kulbahadur Chetsi: *Social Welfare*; Silvous Condopan: *Employment and Fisheries*; Haren Bhumiji: *Flood Control, Science and Technology and Environment*; Devananda Konwar: *Law and Municipal Administration*; Dinesh Prasad Guwala: *Power*; Dr. Bhumidhar Barman: *Education*; and Dr. Ardhendu Dey: *Food and Civil Supplies, Relief and Rehabilitation*.

Ministers of State: Sarvashri Momeswar Pegu: *Revenue*; Ismail Hussain: *Agriculture*; Boloram Nag: *Labour*; Indra Gogoi: *Flood Control, Youth and*

Sports; Gautam Roy: Panchayat, Community Development and Rural Development; Jagat Patgiri: Welfare of Plain Tribals, Sericulture and Weaving; Anwar Hussain: Planning, Development and Finance; Debesh Chakravarti: Relief, Rehabilitation and Social Welfare; Mohibul Haque: Border Area, Power and Rural Electrification; Sarat Barkataki: PWD, Printing and Secondary Education; Gopi Das: Forests and Fisheries; Chittaranjan Patwari: Transport; Nurul Hussein: Cooperation; Gautam Bora: Health and Family Welfare; and Rashidul Haq: Minority Affairs and Veterinary.

Election of Speaker/Deputy Speaker: Congress (I) nominee, Shri Jibakanta Gogoi was unanimously elected Speaker of the State Assembly on 29 July. Congress(I) nominee, Shri Debesh Chakraborty who resigned from the State Cabinet as Minister of State for Relief, Rehabilitation and Social Welfare on 31 July was elected unopposed Deputy Speaker of the State Assembly on 1 August.

BIHAR

Declaration of MLAs as unattached: Eight MLAs who were elected to the Legislative Assembly on Janata Dal tickets and had subsequently split with the party in November 1990 were declared as being permanently 'Unattached' by the Speaker, Shri Ghulam Sarwar on 19 April. They were Sarvashri Raghunath Jha, Prabhunath Singh, Uma Shanker Singh, Suraj Deo Singh, Anand Mohan Singh, Krishna Chander Singh, Gouri Shankar Nagdansha and Rajiv Pratap Singh Roorhee.

Disqualification of MLA: On 19 April, the Speaker announced disqualification of Shri Mahtab Lal Singh from the State Legislative Assembly for defying the party whip by failing to attend the House when it took up the 'Vote of Confidence' motion on 22 November, 1990. Another ruling given by Speaker on the same day was the ratification of a split by 13 BJP members from the 39-member BJP Legislature Party, constituting one-third of the needed quorum to form a separate faction which 'shall be deemed to be a new political party'.

Resignation of MLA: On 12 August Shri Suraj Singh Besra of the All-Jharkhand Students Union (AJSU) resigned from the State Assembly in protest against the State Government's move to set up the Jharkhand Regional Development Council.

GOA

Expansion of Cabinet: On 1 June, three new Ministers were inducted into the State Cabinet. On 19 June, 4 more Ministers were inducted into the Cabinet thus raising its strength to 14. Following is the list of new Ministers and their portfolios:

Cabinet Ministers: Sarvashri Wilfred D'Souza: Deputy Chief Minister; Luizmho Fallero: Law; Francisco Sardinha: Agriculture; Subhash Shriodkar: Education, Art and Culture, Information and Publication;

Carmo Pegado: Urban Development; Suresh Parulekar: Industries; Vasu Paica Gadkar: Panchayati Raj and Public Assistance.

Election of Speaker: On 26 July, Congress(I) nominee Shri Sheikh Hassan was elected Speaker of the State Assembly, defeating Dr. Kashinath Jhalmi of the Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party by 27 votes to 11.

GUJARAT

Resignation of Minister: The Governor, Dr. Sarup Singh accepted the resignation of the Minister of State for Civil Supplies and Water Supply, Shri C.K. Raolji on 1 May. He had submitted his resignation on the previous day over the proposal of Chief Minister Shri Chimanbhai Patel for forming an alliance with Congress(I).

Disqualification of MLA: On 26 June, the Speaker Shri Himatlal Mulani, in exercise of powers vested in him under the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution, disqualified Shri Jaspal Singh of Janata Dal from being a member of the Legislative Assembly in terms of paragraph 2(1)(b) of the said Schedule.

No-Confidence Motion defeated: The no-Confidence motion against the Council of Ministers headed by Chief Minister, Shri Chimanbhai Patel was defeated by a voice vote on 5 September in the State Legislative Assembly.

HARYANA

President's rule imposed: On 2 April, the Governor Shri Dhanik Lal Mandal, in his report to the President, recommended dissolution of the State Assembly and imposition of President's rule in the State on the ground that the Administration could no longer be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. Subsequently, on 5 April, the recommendation of the Governor was accepted by the Union Cabinet and on 6 April, a Presidential Proclamation was issued under article 356 of the Constitution to bring the State under President's rule. The State Assembly was consequently dissolved and the Election Commission announced its decision of holding the Assembly elections in the State along with the Lok Sabha polls. Subsequently, on 4 June Rajya Sabha approved the imposition of the President's rule in the State.

Resignation of Speaker: On 8 April, the Speaker, Shri H.S. Chatha submitted his resignation from the post.

Election results: The Elections to the State Assembly took place simultaneously with the Lok Sabha polls on 20 May. Results of all the 90 seats were declared by 19 June. Congress(I) gained a clear majority by winning 51 seats. The position of other political parties was: SJP: 16; HVP: 12; Janata Dal: 3; BJP: 2; Independents: 5; and Others: 1.

Following the elections, Shri Bhajan Lal of Congress(I) was sworn in as

the Chief Minister by Governor Shri Dhanik Lal Mandal on 23 June. The Governor also administered the oath of office and secrecy to seven Ministers of Cabinet rank on the same day. Subsequently, on 15 July, Chief Minister, Shri Bhajan Lal inducted another seven Cabinet Ministers and eighteen Ministers of State into the State Cabinet. The following is the complete list of Ministers and their portfolios: Shri Bhajan Lal (Chief Minister): *General Administration, Home, CID, Vigilance, Personnel, Administrative Reforms and Training, Legislative Administration, Justice, Public Works Department (Buildings and Roads), Architecture, Town and Country Planning and Urban Estates.*

Cabinet Ministers: Shri Shamsher Singh Surjewala: *Irrigation and Power, Parliamentary Affairs;* Shri Birender Singh: *Revenue, Rehabilitation, Consolidation and Planning;* Shri A.C. Chaudhary: *Excise and Taxation;* Shri Rao Bansi Singh: *Development and Panchayats;* Shri Mahender Pratap Singh: *Food and Supplies;* Shri Harpal Singh: *Agriculture;* Shrimati Shakuntala Bhagwaria: *Cooperation;* Shri Lachhman Das Arora: *Industries, Mines and Geology;* Shri Jagdish Nehra: *Public Health;* Rao Inderjit Singh: *Forest, Wildlife and Environment* Shrimati Shanti Devi Rathi: *Education and Languages;* Shri Nirmal Singh: *Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development;* *Ministers of State (Independent charge):* Shri Rajesh Kumar Sharma: *Sports, Cultural Affairs, Archaeology, Museums;* Shri Balbir Pal Shah: *Transport;* Shri Tejinder Pal Mann: *Industrial Training and Vocational Training;* Shri Surinder Kumar Madan: *Public Relations and Civil Aviation;* Shri Hukam Singh: *Social Welfare;* Mr. Dharmvir Guba: *Local Self Government;* Shri Dharm Pal: *Housing and Elections;* Capt. Ajay Singh: *Jails, Printing and Stationery;* Shri Lila Krishan: *Tourism;* Shri Joginder Singh: *Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes;* Shri Shakrullah Khan: *Waqf and Fisheries;* Shri Krishan Murthi Hooda: *Labour and Employment;* Shri Chhattar Pal Singh: *Technical Education;* **Dr. Ram Prakash; Electronics, Science and Technology.**

Minister of State: Shri Bachan Singh Arya: *Agriculture;* Shrimati Santosh Chauhan Sarwan: *Development and Panchayats;* Shri Sham Dass Mukheja: *Food and Supplies;* Shri Mohammed Iliyas: *Irrigation and Power.*

Election of Speaker/Deputy Speaker: On 9 July, Shri Ishwar Singh and Shri Sumer Chand Bhatt, both of Congress(I) were unanimously elected respectively Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the State Assembly.

Leader of Opposition: The Speaker of Haryana Vidhan Sabha, Shri Ishwar Singh recognised BJP leader Shri Sampat Singh as Leader of the Opposition in the House on 19 July.

BJP MLA joins Congress: On 29 July, BJP MLA Shri K.L. Sharma joined the Congress-I.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Extension of President's rule: On 26 August, Lok Sabha passed a statutory resolution approving the extension of President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir by another six months from 4 September. A similar resolution was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 27 August.

KARNATAKA

Expansion of Cabinet: On 27 July, Chief Minister Shri S. Bangarappa expanded his Cabinet by inducting five Ministers of Cabinet rank and eight Ministers of State, thus raising the strength of the State Cabinet to 33.

The new Ministers and their portfolios are as under: *Cabinet Ministers:* Shri Mallari Gowda S. Patil: *Irrigation Medium and Major;* Shri G.H. Aswath Reddy: *PWD;* Shri N. Chikke Gowda: *Agriculture;* Shri Blasius D'Souza: *Law;* and Shrimati Manorama Madhavaraj: *Industries;*

Ministers of State: Shri Basavraj Patil: *Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Sciences;* Shri M.S. Atmanand: *Horticulture;* Shri P.M. Manjunath: *Small Savings;* Shri D.K. Shivkumar: *Prisons and Home Guard;* Shri Raja Amaresh Naik: *Religious and Charitable Endowment;* Shri M. Ramappa: *Energy;* Shri S.R. More: *Cooperation;* and Shri V. Muniyappa: *Sericulture;*

Hegde disqualified: On 6 August, Governor Shri Khurshid Alam Khan disqualified Janata Dal MLA Shri Ramakrishna Hegde from the State Assembly with effect from 5 December 1989 by reason of his holding an office of profit under the Government of India within the meaning of Article 191(1)(A) of the Constitution of India.

On 23 August the Karnataka High Court granted a conditional stay on the State Governor's order disqualifying Shri Ramakrishna Hegde from the State Assembly. Accordingly, Shri Hegde can participate in the proceedings of the House but cannot exercise his vote. He cannot also draw the emoluments and allowances permissible for legislators.

No-Confidence motion defeated: The Leader of the Opposition Shri D.B. Chandragowda moved a no-Confidence motion in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly against the Council of Ministers headed by Shri S. Bangarappa on 2 September. The motion, however, was defeated by a voice vote on 5 September.

KERALA

Dissolution of State Assembly: On 5 April, Governor Shri B. Rachaiah dissolved the state Legislative Assembly following the recommendation of the Cabinet to go in for elections to the Assembly along with the Lok Sabha polls.

Election results: Elections to the 140-member State Assembly were held on 12 June. The Congress(I)—led UDF gained an absolute majority. The party position is as under: Congress(I) : 55; (P)(M) : 29; CPI : 12; Janata Dal : 3; Independents : 2 and Others : 38.

Following the elections, Shri K. Karunakaran was sworn in as the Chief Minister by Governor, Shri B. Rachaiah on 24 June.

The following is the list of Ministers and their portfolios:

Shri K. Karunakaran (Chief Minister): *General Administration, All India Services, Science and Technology, Environment, Tourism and Information*; Shri Oommen Chandy: *Finance, Lottery, Chitty and Insurance*; Shri P.K. Kunhalikutty: *Industries, Social Welfare*; Shri C.V. Padmarajan: *Electricity, Coir*; Shri P.P. George: *Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Dairy*; Shri Pandalam Sudhakaran: *Sports, Youth Affairs, SC and ST Development*; Shri T.H. Mustafa: *Food and Civil Supplies*; Shrimati M.T. Padma: *Fisheries, Rural Development, Registration*; Shri M.R. Raghuchandra Bal: *Excise, Printing, Stationery*; Shri N. Ramakrishnan: *Labour, Employment, Training*; Shri K.P. Vishwanathan: *Forests, Wild Life Conservation*; Shri E.T. Muhammad Basheer: *Education*; Shri C.T. Ahmed Ali: *Local Administration*; Shri P.K.K. Bawa: *PWD*; Shri K.M. Mani: *Revenue, Housing, Law*; Shri T.M. Jacob: *Irrigation, Culture*; Shri M.V. Raghavan: *Cooperation, Port*; Shri R. Balakrishna Pillai: *Transport*; and Shri R. Ramachandran Nair: *Health, Dewasworn*.

Élection of Speaker/Deputy Speaker: Shri P.P. Thankachan of Congress(I) was elected Speaker of the Ninth Kerala Assembly defeating Shri V.J. Thankappan of LDF on 1 July. Shri K. Narayana Kurup of Kerala Congress(Mani) was elected Deputy Speaker.

MADHYA PRADESH

Disqualification of members: On 1 May, the Speaker Prof. Brij Mohan Mishra announced the disqualification from the State Assembly of six members—Sarvashri Laxman Satpathy, Shiv Kumar Singh, Arun Mishra, Ashok Rao, Kamal Parag and Santosh Agarwal—under the *Anti-Defection Act*, following their joining the Congress(I).

On 10 August, the Speaker, disqualified Shri Dilip Bhatele, from the State Assembly under the *Anti-Defection Act*. Shri Bhatele was elected as an Independent candidate from Lanji constituency and later joined the Sunderlal Patwa Ministry as a Parliamentary Secretary when the Ministry was expanded.

MAHARASHTRA

Resignation of Chief Minister: Chief Minister Shri Sharad Pawar resigned from office on 25 June following his induction into the Union Cabinet.

The newly elected leader of the Congress Legislature Party, Shri Sudhakar Rao Naik was sworn in as the new Chief Minister on the same day. Seven Ministers of Cabinet rank were also sworn in along with Shri Naik. Subsequently, on 28 June, the State Cabinet was expanded with the

induction of eight more Cabinet Ministers and 21 Ministers of State. Following is the list of Ministers and their portfolios:

Shri Sudhakar Rao Naik (Chief Minister): *Tourism and Urban Land Ceiling, General Administration, Information and Public relations and Home (including Jails);*

Cabinet Ministers : *Shri Ramrao Wamanrao Adik: Finance and Planning; Dr. Padamsinh Bajirao Patil : Irrigation ; Command Area Development and Energy; Shri Sushilkumar Sambhajirao Shinde: Urban Development, Law and Judiciary; Shri Vilasrao Dagdoji Rao Deshmukh: Industries; Shri Shivajirao Bapusaheb Deshmukh: Cooperation, Ex-servicemen's Welfare, Parliamentary Affairs, Transport; Shri Vijaysinh Shankarrao Mohite-Patil: Public Works, Excise, Cultural Affairs ; Shri Ramdas Athvale : Social Welfare, Prohibition Propaganda, Employment Guarantee Scheme; Shri Jawaharlal Amolakchand Darda: Food and Civil Supplies, Textiles, Environment; Shri Anantrao Narayan Thopte: Education, Technical Education, Rehabilitation; Prof. Javed Iqbal Khan: Housing, Slum Improvement, House Repairs and Reconstruction; Shrimati Pushpatai Vyankatrao Hirey: Public Health, Family welfare, Medical Education and Drugs; Shri Shankarrao Genuji Kolhe: Revenue; Shri Rohidas Chudaman Patil : Agriculture, Horticulture, Labour and Employment; Shri Madhukarrao Kashinath Pichad: Tribal Development, Forests and Social Forestry; Shri Vilasrao Balkrishna Patil: Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries.*

Ministers of State: *Shri Laxmanrao Rangnath Hatnkar: Public Works, Fisheries; Shri Ranjeet Arvindbabu Deshmukh: Irrigation, Command Area Development; Shri Shyam alias Jarardan Balkrishna Ashtekar: Sports and Youth Welfare (Independent charge), Industry, Tourism; Shri Madan Harakchand Bafna: Finance, Parliamentary Affairs; Shri Arunlal Govardhandas Gujarathi: General Administration. (including Protocols) Urban Development, Information and Public Relations and Urban Land Ceiling; Shri Arun Dattatraya Mehta: Home (including Jails); Labour, Parliamentary Affairs, Cultural Affairs; Shri Shivajirao Krishnaji Shendge: Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, Transport; Shri Ramesh Matapasrad Dube: Housing, Slum Improvement and House Repairs and Reconstruction; Shri Digvijay Bhausaheb Khanvlikar: Public Health, Family Welfare, Medical Education and Drugs, Ex-servicemen's Welfare; Shri Bhaskarrao Bapura Patil Khatgoanekar: Cooperation, Rehabilitation; Shri Dharmarrao Baba Atram: Tribal Development, Forests and Social Forestry; Dr. Patangrao Shripati Kadam: Education, Technical Education; Shri Kazi Abdul Khalik Abdul Kadar: Law and Judiciary, Textiles, Wakf; Shri Chhatrapal Anandrao alias Babasaheb Kedar: Rural Development, Special Assistance (independent charge).*

Leader of Opposition: *Shri Pramod Navalkar (Shivsena) was appointed Leader of the Opposition in the Maharashtra Legislative Council on 17 July in succession to Shri R.S. Gavai of R.P.I.*

Election of Deputy Speaker: On 19 July, Shri Moreshwar Temurde of Janata Dal was elected Deputy Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly.

Election to Legislative Council: On 22 July, Congress (I) candidate Shri Sudhakar Deshmukh was declared elected unopposed to the Legislative Council from the State Assembly constituency.

Recognition of new Group: On 26 July, Speaker Shri Madhukarrao Chaudhary recognised a new Group 'Maharashtra Congress Dal' in the State Assembly with nine members who had left their parent party, Janta Dal.

Disqualified MLA allowed in House: On 7 August, the Supreme Court, in an amended order, directed that the Shiv Sena MLA, Shri Surya Kant Mahadik, who was disqualified 'for securing votes on the Hindutva appeal' by the Bombay High Court, could attend the State Assembly, but would not be entitled to participate in the discussion on the floor of the House. He was also debarred from voting until his appeal was disposed of by the apex court.

Portfolio changed: On 21 August, Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde was divested of the Law and Judiciary portfolio by the Chief Minister, Shri Sudhakarrao Naik.

MANIPUR

Resignation of Minister: Minister of State for Medical Affairs, Shri Hidam Bidur Singh resigned on 10 July following allegation of irregularities in the selection of candidates for the MBBS Course.

MEGHALAYA

State Assembly adjourned sine die: On 7 August, Speaker Shri P.R. Kyndiah adjourned the one-day special Session of the State Assembly sine die before the motion of confidence in the B.B. Lyngdoh Ministry could be taken up for the voting. Earlier, the Speaker suspended the voting rights of five independent MLAs belonging to the ruling Meghalaya United Parliamentary Party. They were: Shri Donkupar Roy: Minister of Health; Shri Simon Siangshai: Minister of Public Works; Smt. Miriam Shira: Minister for Industries and Transport; Shri Munendra Agitok: Minister for Agriculture; and Shri Chamberlin Marak, MLA.

On 17 August, the Speaker disqualified these five independent MLAs.

Cancellation of Session: The State Governor, Shri Madhukar Dighe cancelled the special Session of the State Assembly scheduled for 9 September in which the Chief Minister, Shri B. B. Lyngdoh was to seek the confidence of the House.

MIZORAM

By-election results: Congress(I) nominees Shri T.C. Pachhunga and Shri B. Tevoare were elected to the State Assembly in the by-elections held on 12 June.

PONDICHERRY

Election results: The elections to the 30-member State Assembly were held on 15 June. Congress(I) gained a lead by winning 15 out of 30 seats. The position of the other parties was as under:

AIADMK: 6; Janata Dal: 1; CPI: 1; DMK: 4; Independents: 2; Others: 1.

New Chief Minister: Shri V. Vaithilingam was sworn in as Chief Minister of Pondicherry by the Lt. Governor Shri Har Swarup Singh on 4 July 1991 along with five other Ministers. They were: Sarvashri C.M. Ashraff; Industry and PWD; M. Chandrakasu: Local Administration; P. Ananda Baskaran: Health and Family Welfare; A. Gandhiraj: Education and N. Rangaswami: Agriculture and Cooperation.

Election of Speaker/Deputy Speaker: Shri P. Kannan, of Congress(I) was unanimously elected Speaker of the Pondicherry Assembly on 26 July. Later, on 31 July, Shri A.V. Subramanian, also of the Congress(I), was unanimously elected Deputy Speaker.

PUNJAB

New Governor: Shri Surendra Nath was sworn in as Governor of Punjab on 5 August in succession to Gen. O.P. Malhotra (Retd.) who submitted his resignation on 22 June.

RAJASTHAN

Resignation of Governor: On 8 August, Governor Dr. D.P. Chopadhyay submitted his resignation to the President. Later on 26 August, Dr. Sarup Singh was sworn in as Governor of Rajasthan in addition to his duties as Governor of Gujarat.

Resignation of Minister: The Minister of State for Animal Husbandry, Shri Devi Bhati, resigned from the State Cabinet on 5 September.

TAMIL NADU

Election results: The elections to the 234-member Tamil Nadu Assembly were held on 15 June. The AIADMK-Congress(I) alliance secured an absolute majority by winning 224 of the 234 seats for which elections were held. The elections for 2 seats were countermanded. The position of different political parties was as under:

AIADMK : 163; Congress(I) : 61; DMK : 1; CPI : 1; JD : 1; CPI(M) : 1; Independents : 1; others : 3;

Following the elections, Kumari Jayalalitha of AIADMK was sworn in as the Chief Minister by Governor Shri Bhisma Narain Singh on 24 June. The

Governor also administered the oath of office and secrecy to 16 Ministers, all of Cabinet rank. Following is the list of Ministers and their portfolios:

Shri V.R. Nedunchchezian: *Finance, Planning and Electronics*; Shri K.A. Krishnaswamy: *Law*; Shri S.D. Somasundaram: *Revenue*; Shri R.M. Veerappan: *Education*; Shri K. Rajaram: *Food, Civil supplies and Price Control*; Shri C. Aranganayagam: *Labour*; Shri S. Muthuswamy: *Health and Medical Education*; Shri K.A. Sengottaiyan: *Transport*; Shri E. Madhusudan: *Handlooms*; Shri S. Kannappan: *Public Works, Irrigation, Electricity*; Shri A. Thirunavukkarasu: *Local Administration*; Shri K.P. Krishnan: *Agriculture*; Shri P.M. Selvaganapathy: *Housing and Slum Clearance*; Mohammad Asif: *Small Industries*; Shri M. Anandan: *Welfare*; Shri D. Jayakumar: *Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries*; and Smt. R. Indira Kumari: *Social Welfare, including Women and Child Welfare*.

Resignation of member: DMK President and former Chief Minister, Shri M. Karunanidhi who was the lone member from his party to win the State Assembly poll, resigned from the membership of the House on 22 June owning responsibility for the debacle of his party in the elections.

Election of Speaker/Deputy Speaker: Shri Sedapatti R. Muthiah was unanimously elected Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly on 3 July 1991. Prof. K. Ponnusamy was elected Deputy Speaker.

By-election results: On 25 August, the following were declared elected to the State Assembly in by-elections held on 24 August.

Harbour Constituency: Shri A. Selvarajan (DMK); *Egmore Constituency*: Shri Puruthi Ilam Vazhuthi (DMK); *Kangeyam Constituency*: Shri R.M. Veerapan (AIADMK); and *Musiri Constituency*: Shri M. Thangavel (AIADMK).

TRIPURA

Resignation of Minister: Revenue Minister Maharani Bibhu Kumari Devi resigned from the State Cabinet on 27 July.

✓ *No-Confidence motion defeated*: The Opposition Left-Front-sponsored no-confidence motion against the Congress(I)-TUJS coalition Ministry in Tripura was defeated in the State Legislative Assembly by 27 to 31 votes on 27 August.

UTTAR PRADESH

Election results: The elections to the 425-member State Assembly were held on 20 May and on 15 June.

The BJP gained a clear majority by winning 211 out of 404 seats for which elections were held. Elections for 21 seats were countermanded. The position of the other political parties was as under:

Jarjata Dal: 91; Congress(I):46; SJP:30; CPI(M):1; CPI:4; Independents:8; and Others: 13.

Following the elections, Shri Kalyan Singh of BJP was sworn in as Chief

Minister on 24 June by the Governor Shri B. Satyanarayan Reddy. The Governor also administered the oath of office and secrecy to 10 Cabinet Ministers and seven Ministers of State. Following is the list of Minister and their portfolios:

Cabinet Ministers: Sarvashri Rajendra Kumar Gupta: *Finance Institutional Finance and Parliamentary Affairs*; Lalji Tandon: *Power*; Ganga Bhakt Singh: *Agriculture*; Brahm Dutt Dwivedi: *Revenue*; Dinesh Johari: *Health*; Ramapati Shastri: *Harijan and Social Welfare*; Ejaz Rizvi: *Food and Civil Supplies and Muslim Waqfs*; Sudhir Kumar Baliyan: *Cooperatives*; Kedar Nath Singh: *Tourism, Cultural Affairs, Youth Welfare and Sports*; and Smt. Premiata Katyar: *Urban Development*.

Ministers of State: Sarvashri Uma Nath Singh: *Political Pension*; Krishna Swarup Vaishya: *Panchayati Raj*; Shiv Pratap Shukla: *Basic and Adult Education*; Surya Pratap Shahi: *Home*; Dhanraj Yadav: *Horticulture*; Ram Kumar Verma: *Public Works Department*; and Mast Ram: *Civil Supplies*;

Election of Speaker: BJP nominee Shri Kesari Nath Tripathi was unanimously elected Speaker of the State Assembly on 30 July.

Government defeated in Vidhan Parishad: On 14 August, the Government suffered a defeat in the Vidhan Parishad when a motion of thanks to the Governor for his address was passed incorporating all the amendments tabled by the Opposition.

WEST BENGAL

Election results: Elections to the 294-member State Legislative Assembly was held on 20 May. The CPI(M)-led Left Front gained an absolute majority by winning 188 seats. The position of other political parties was as under:

Congress(I):43; CPI:6 JP:1; Others:56.

Following the elections, Shri Jyoti Basu was sworn in as the Chief Minister for a fourth term on 25 June by Governor Prof. Nurul Hasan. Along with Shri Basu, 11 Ministers of Cabinet-rank were sworn in on the same day.

Subsequently, on 29 June, 19 more Cabinet Ministers and 13 Ministers of State were sworn in.

The Ministers and their portfolios were as under:

Cabinet Ministers: Sarvashri Bengy Chowdhuri: *Land and Land Revenue, Development and Planning*; Buddhadev Bhattacharya: *Information and Cultural Affairs, Urban Development, Municipal Affairs*; Asim Dasgupta: *Finance and Excise*; Shyamal Chhkraborty: *Transport*; Prasanta Sur: *Health and Refugee Rehabilitation*; Shanti Ghatak: *Labour*; Prabir Sengupta: *Cottage and Small Scale Industries*; Subhash Chakraborty: *Sports, Youth Services and Tourism*; Shankar Sen: *Power, Science and Technology and Non-Conventional Energy Resources*;

Kironmoy Nanda: Fisheries; **Mehboob Zahedi:** Minority Affairs, Animal Resources, Dairy Development, Wakf; **Suryananta Mishra:** Panchayat and Rural Development; **Gautam Deb:** Housing and Public Health Engineering; **Achintya Roy:** Primary and Secondary School Education; **Satyasadhan Chakraborty:** Higher Education; **Ambarish Mukherjee:** Environment and Forests; **Patit Paban Pathak:** Public Undertakings and Industrial Reconstruction; **Dinesh Dakua:** Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Welfare; **Abdul Kayum Molla:** Law; **Abdul Rezak Molla :** ~~Sundarban~~ **Sundarban** Development and Food Processing; **Nihar Bose:** Agriculture; **Kalimuddin Shams:** Agricultural Marketing; **Saral Deb:** Cooperative Department; **Naren De:** Food and Supplies; **Debabrata Bandopadhyay:** Irrigation and Waterways; **Motis Roy:** Public Works Department; **Biswanath Chowdhury:** Jails and Social Welfare; **Prabodh Sinha:** Parliamentary Affairs; and **Smt. Chhaya Ghosh:** Relief.

Ministers of State: **Sarvashri Banamali Roy:** Environment and Forests; **Maheshwar Murmu:** Jhargam Development; **Bidyut Ganguly:** Commerce and Industry; **Ashok Bhattacharya:** Urban Development and Municipal Affairs; **Subodh Chowdhury:** Animal Resources and Dairy Development; **Anisur Rahman:** Primary and Secondary Education, Madrasa and Minority Affairs; **Bangsagopal Chowdhury:** Vocational Training Independent Charge; **Khagen Singh :** Housing and Public Health Engineering; **Tapan Roy:** Library Services (Independent Charge); **Upen Kishku:** Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Welfare); **Smt. Anju Kar:** Adult Education (Independent Charge); and **Smt. Chhaya Bera:** Family Welfare (Independent charge);

Election of Speaker/Deputy Speaker: **Shri Hashim Abdul Halim** was elected Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly without contest for a third successive term on 18 July. **Shri Anil Mukherjee** was elected Deputy Speaker.

Swearing-in of Governor: Prof. S. Nurul Hasan, who was given another term as Governor, was sworn in on 12 August.

DEVELOPMENTS ABROAD

AFGHANISTAN

Removal of Senior Vice-President: The Senior Vice-President, Mr. Sultan Ali Kishmand, was removed from office and was replaced by Vice-President Mr. Abdul Wahid Sarobi on 9 April.

ALBANIA

Election Results: The first post-War multi-party elections to the 250-member People's Assembly were held on 31 March and 7 April. In the first round, the ruling Communist Party—Albanian Party of Labour (PLA)—gained a clear majority by winning 140 out of 250 seats. The Opposition Democrats (DP) won 65 seats. In the second

round. PLA further consolidated its position by gaining 168 out of 250 seats in the Universal Parliament.

Resignation of Prime Minister: On 4 June, Prime Minister Mr. Fatos Nano announced the resignation of his one-month-old Government under an all-party deal to hold fresh general elections next year and also to end a 19-day-old general strike crippling the country.

Subsequently, the President Mr. Ramiz Alia appointed Mr. Yeli Bufi as Prime Minister on 5 June to head a multi-party non-Communist caretaker Government.

ALGERIA

Resignation of Prime Minister: On 5 June, Prime Minister Mr. Mouloud Hamrouche resigned following a 12-day-long demonstration by the Islamic Salvation Front for the establishment of an Islamic state in the country.

On 6 June, President Chadli Benjedid declared a state of emergency and appointed Mr. Sidi Ahmed Ghazali as the new Prime Minister.

BANGLADESH

Election of Speaker/Deputy Speaker: On 5 April, Mr. Abdur Rahman Biswas and Sheikh Razzaq Ali of the ruling Bangladesh National Party (BNP) were elected Speaker and Deputy Speaker, respectively.

Parliamentary democracy restored: On 6 August, the Parliament unanimously passed a constitutional amendment bill paving the way for restoration of parliamentary democracy in the country. It also passed another constitutional amendment bill reverting President Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed to his previous post of the Chief Justice of the country.

Subsequently, on 15 September, a nation-wide referendum was held to decide on the parliamentary form of Government. The result of the referendum showed an overwhelming support for the parliamentary form with all but one of the 64 districts voting for it.

CONGO

New Prime Minister: On 8 June, Mr. Andre Milougo was elected the country's new Prime Minister by the National Conference.

CHINA

New Vice-Premiers: On 8 April, the National People's Congress, the country's Parliament, appointed Foreign Minister Mr. Qian Qichen as the State Counsellor. On the same day, Premier Mr. Li Peng expanded his Cabinet by inducting Mr. Zhu Rongji and Mr. Zou Jiahua as Vice-Premiers.

ETHIOPIA

Fall of Government: Following the long-running civil war and under pressure from the Northern rebel group, President Mr. Mengistu Haile Mariam fled from the country on 21 May leaving the Vice-President Mr. Tesfaye Gafre Kidan to take over as the acting head of state.

FIJI

New Deputy Prime Minister: The former military Commander, Mr. Sitiveni Rabuka was appointed Deputy Prime Minister with effect from 1 June.

FINLAND

New Government: On 5 April, the coalition Government headed by Prime Minister Mr. Harri Holkeri and comprising National Coalition Party, Social Democratic Party and Swedish People's Party, submitted its resignation to President Mr. Mauno Koivisto following defeat in the general election held on 17 March.

A four-party centre-right coalition formed the new Government. Mr. Esko Aho was sworn in as the new Prime Minister on 26 April.

FRANCE

New Prime Minister: On 16 May, Ms. Edith Cresson was sworn in as Prime Minister replacing Mr. Michel Rocard who had resigned on 15 May.

GERMANY

Results of state elections: On 21 April, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's ruling coalition Government lost its razor-thin majority of two votes in the Bundesrat, the Upper House of the Federal Parliament. Kohl's party, the Christian Democratic Union, was defeated by the Social Democratic Party in the state elections.

HONG KONG

Election results: On 15 September, elections were held for the Legislative Council in nine two-member constituencies. The elections came 149 years after Hong Kong became a British Colony and six years before it returns to Chinese sovereignty in 1997. The United Democrats of Hong Kong (UDHK) led by Mr. Martin Lee, won 12 of the 18 seats.

IRAQ

New Defence Minister: Mr. Hussein Kamal Hassan was appointed Defence Minister following the removal of Mr. Saadit Oma Abbas on 6 April.

PM removed: President Mr. Saddam Hussein removed Prime Minister Mr. Sadoun Hammadi on 14 September.

ITALY

Prime Minister appointed: On 5 April, Mr. Giuli Andreotti was appointed Prime Minister by President Mr. Francesco Cossiga following the fall of the previous five-party coalition Government. The President also appointed 29 Ministers of Cabinet rank. Following is the list of Ministers and their portfolios:

Cabinet Ministers: Mr. Claudio Martelli: (*Deputy Prime Minister*); *Justice*; Mr. Ginni De Michelis: *Foreign Affairs*; Mr. Vincenyo Scotti: *Interior*; Mr. Guido Carli: *Treasury*; Mr. Paolo Crrino Pomicino: *Budget*; Mr. Salvatore (Rino) Formica: *Finance*; Mr. Virginio Rognoui: *Defence*; Mr. Ricardo Misasi: *Education*; Mr. Giovanni Prandini: *Public Works*; Mr. Giovanni Gorla: *Agriculture*; Mr. Carlo Berhini: *Transport*; Mr. Carlo Vizzini: *Post and Telecommunications*; Mr. Guido Bodrats: *Industry*; Mr. Franco Lattanzio: *Foreign Trade*; Mr. Ferdinando Facchiano: *Merchant Marine*; Mr. Francesco De Lorenzo: *Health*; Mr. Carlo Tongnoli: *Tourism*; Mr. Giorgio Ruffolo: *Environment*; Mr. Calogero Mannino: without portfolio; Mr. Nicolo Caprin: *Civil Protection*; Mr. Antonio Ruberti: *Research*; Mr. Egidio Sterpa: *Relations with Parliament*; Mr. Mino Marlinazzali: *International Reforms*; Mr. Pierhigi Pomita: *Co-ordination of EC Policy*; Mr. Carmelo Conte: *Urban Affairs*; Mr. Rosa Runo Jervolino: *Social Affairs*; Mr. Remo Gaspari: *Public Administration*; Margherita Boniver: *Immigrations*.

KUWAIT

New Ministry: On 20 April, the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jabir al-Ahmad al Jabir al Sabah, announced a new Cabinet headed by the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mr. Shaikh saad al Abdullah following the resignation of the caretaker Government. Following is the list of new Ministers and their portfolios:

Sheikh Salam al Sabah al Salim al Sabah: *Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Affairs*; Sheikh Ahmad Homond al Jabir al Sabah: *Interior*; Sheikh Ali Sabah al Salim al Sabah: *Defence*; Mr. Hammed Abdullah al Raqaba: *Oil*; Mr. Nasir Abdel Allah al Rawden: *Finance*; Mr. Ahmed Mohammad Saleh al Adasani: *Electricity and Water*; Sheikh Nawaf al Ahmad al Jabir al Sabah: *Labour and Social Affairs*; Mr. Ahmad Ali al Jassar: *Planning*; Mr. Badr Jasim al Yaqub: *Information*; Mr. Habib Jawhar Hayat: *Communications*; Abdullah Yousuf al Qatani: *Public Works*; Abdullah Hassan Jaralla: *Commerce and Industry*; Mr. Abdel al Wahab Sulayman al Fawzen: *Public Health*; Mr. Sylime Saadown Badr: *Education*; Mr. Ali Abdullah al Shamlan: *Higher Education*; Mr. Ghazi Obeid al Sammar: *Justice and Legal Affairs*; Mr. Mohammad Saqr al Moushourgi: *Waqfs and Islamic Affairs*.

Ministers of State: Mr. Ibrhim Majeed al Shaheen: *Municipal Affairs*; Mr. Dhari Abdullah al Othman: *Cabinet Affairs*; Mr. Mohammad Abdul—Mohsin al Astour: *Housing Affairs*.

Extension of Martial Law: On 28 May Government announced the extension of martial law imposed in the country in February for three months by one more month.

MALI

New Prime Minister: On 2 April, former Finance Minister Mr. Souman Sacko was appointed the new Prime Minister following the overthrow of President Mr. Moussa Traore on 26 March.

MAURITIUS

Election results: On 15 September, Mauritius went to general elections in which the ruling coalition headed by Prime Minister Mr. Anerood Jugnauth swept to victory. The ruling coalition won 57 of the 70 seats while the Opposition secured just three. The remaining seats are filled by the Government in a way designed to ensure ethnic balance.

NEPAL

Election Results: The first multi-party general elections since 1959 was held on 12 May. The elections to the new 205—member House of Representatives (Pratinidhi Sabha) resulted in a victory for the Nepali Congress which formed the Government on 26 May.

The Nepali Congress won a clear majority of 110 seats, with the second largest party, the United Nepal Communist Party (UNCP), winning 69 seats. The position of other parties was as under; United People's Front: 9; Nepal Sadbhavna Party: 6; National Democratic Party (Chand): 3; Nepal Mazdoor Kisan Party: 2; Communist Party of Nepal (Democratic Manddhar): 2; National Democratic Party (Thapa): 1; Independents: 3; Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala, General Secretary of Nepali Congress, was appointed Prime Minister by King Birendra on 26 May. The King also appointed a 15-member Ministry, all of Cabinet rank.

Following is the list of Ministers and their portfolios:

Cabinet Ministers: Mr. Gopal Man Shrestha: *Commerce*; Mr. Sher Bahadur Deupan: *Home Affairs*; Mr. Dhundi Raj Shastri: *Industry*; Mr. Tara Nath Bhatt: *Law and Justice, Parliamentary Affairs*; Mr. Basu Dev Risal: *Water Resources, Communications*; Mr. Jagan Nath Acharya: *Land Reforms Management*; Mr. Sheikh Idris: *Social Welfare, Labour and Cooperation*; Mr. Bal Bahadur Rai: *Housing and Physical Planning*; Ms. Sailja Acharya: *Forests, Soil Conservation and Agriculture*; Mr. Ram Hari Joshi: *Education and Culture*; Mr. Ram Chandra Pandey: *Local Development*; Mr. Chiranjibi Wagle: *Local Supply*; Mr. Maheshwore Prasad Singh: *General Administration*; Mr. Khum Bahadur Khadka: *Public Works and Transport*.

On 5 July, Prime Minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala inducted two members from the newly-elected 'Rashtriya Sabha' (Upper House) to his Council of Ministers increasing its strength to 17. The new members in the

rank of Ministers of State were Shri Mahesh Acharya (Finance) and Dr. Ram Baran Yadav (Health).

Election of Speaker: On 23 June, Mr. Daman Dugana of the Nepali Congress was unanimously elected Speaker of the country's new House of Representatives (Pratinidhi Sabha).

Elections to Upper House: The ruling Nepali Congress gained a clear majority by winning 31 out of 60 seats in the Upper House of Parliament (Rashtriya Sabha) in the election results declared on 27 June.

PAKISTAN

Expansion of Cabinet: On 10 September, Prime Minister, Mr. Nawaz Sharif expanded his Ministry with the induction of 29 Ministers. Some of the new Ministers and their portfolios were: *Federal Ministers:* Sheikh Rashid **Ahmed:** *Industry:* Mr. Abdune Sattar Lalikam: *Information and Broadcasting;* Syed Ghous Ali, Shah: *Deference.*

Minister of State: Mohammad Siddiq Khan Kanjo: *Foreign Affairs.*

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

New Prime Minister: On 24 May, Mr. Chung Won Shin was appointed the new Prime Minister following the resignation of Mr. Ro Jai Bong.

Cabinet reshuffle: On 26 May, President Mr. Roh Tae Woo reshuffled his Cabinet by appointing former Chief Prosecutor Mr. Kim Ki Choon the new *Minister of Justice.* Mr. Lie Long Man was given the *Finance portfolio* and Mr. Abu Bil' Joon, *Health.*

ROMANIA

Resignation of P.M: Under pressure from violent protests against his economic reforms, Prime Minister Mr. Pêtre Roman submitted his resignation to President. Mr. Ion Iliescu on 27 September.

SOUTH AFRICA

Repeal of Law: On 18 June, the much despised apartheid law Population Registration Act, was scrapped by the white-dominated tricameral Parliament.

SRI LANKA

Parliament prorogued: On 30 August, President. Mr. R. Premadasa prorogued the Parliament which was to meet on 3 September.

Meanwhile, Education Minister Mr. Lalith Athulath Mudali, and Labour Minister, Mr. G.M. Premachandra resigned from the Premadasa Government. Later, they said the Government had lost its majority in Parliament with over 40 ruling party members backing the Opposition move to impeach President Premadasa. Meantime, three UNP members who had originally signed the impeachment motion retracted say-

ing that their signatures were obtained by misrepresentation of facts. On 1 September, Shri Chandra Gaukanda Minister for Handloom Industries, resigned from the Cabinet.

SWEDEN

Resignation of PM: Prime Minister, Mr. Ingvar Carlsson of the Social Democratic Party resigned on 16 September following his Party's defeat in the general elections. Mr. Carlsson's Social Democratic Party which ruled in coalition with other leftist groupings won 137 seats in the 349-member Riksdag.

On 17 September, the Conservative Moderate Party leader Mr. Carl Bildt was officially asked to try to form a new Government.

USSR

Developments in Soviet Union: On 1 April, Georgia voted for independence from the Soviet Union with over 90 per cent Georgians voting in its favour. Thereafter, on 9 April, Georgia declared itself independent after holding an emergency session of its Supreme Soviet. On 14 April, Soviet Georgia elected Mr. Zviad Gamsakhurdia as the Republic's first President.

Meanwhile, on 17 April, the Parliament of Ukraine suspended President Gorbachev's decree of 12 April, seeking to put an end to impediments in the path of better economic and trade ties between the Soviet republics.

On 23 April, President Gorbachev signed an agreement with the heads of 9 of the 15 Soviet republics, setting a time-frame for major political changes, starting with the signing of a new Union Treaty.

Strikes broke out in Byelorussia on 24 April. In May, USSR was convulsed with another spate of violence and bloodshed as clashes broke out between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Violent clashes also broke out between troops of the Soviet Union and Lithuanian Government forces. Within Boris Yeltsin's Russian Federation, a separate Russian KGB was set up and Soviet monopoly over television broadcasting was broken through the launching on 13 May of the Federation's independent TV Channel.

Georgia went through local elections and laws were passed to regulate KGB and police activity. Among the most significant events, however, was the passing on 20 May of the emigration law which gave permission to Soviet citizens to travel freely or to emigrate from the Soviet union.

Moldavian Prime Minister Mr. Mircea Druk was removed from office following the passing of a no-confidence motion by the Moldavian Supreme Soviet on 22 May. His deputy, Mr. Valery Muravsky, took over as Prime Minister on 28 May.

On 3 June, the nine republics that had decided to stay together met under the chairmanship of President Gorbachev and agreed to drop the

word Socialist from the country's name. The elections for Russian Presidency, held on 12 June, resulted in the victory of Mr. Boris Yeltsin over Soviet Prime Minister Mr. Nikolai Ryzkov. Mr. Yeltsin won an absolute majority with over 55 per cent votes.

The USSR also introduced economic legislation aimed at liberalisation. Wages were indexed to prices to account for price rise, income tax rates were lowered, wholly foreign owned companies were given permission to operate in Soviet Union and compensation was paid to the farmers. Meanwhile, Ukraine, Byelorussia and Armenia decided to have directly elected Presidents and the first all-Union Congress of Crimean Tartars began in Simferopol, Ukraine on 26 June.

On 10 July, Mr. Boris Yeltsin took oath as the first popularly elected President of the Russian Federation.

On 12 July, the Soviet Parliament approved in principle the draft of a new Union Treaty but told the Central leadership to revise it before signing.

On 19 August, an eight-member State Emergency Committee led by Vice-President Mr. Gennady Yanayev removed President Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev from power and imposed emergency for six months with a ban on demonstrations, restriction on mass media and suspension of political parties. The Committee said that Mr. Gorbachev was unable to function as President for "health reasons" and was "vacationing and undergoing treatment in the Crimea."

Meanwhile, Russian Federation President, Mr. Boris Yeltsin described the removal of Mr. Gorbachev as a "rightist *coup*" and declared that the decisions of the Emergency Committee would have no validity on the Russian territory. He also called for a general strike to bring Mr. Gorbachev back to power.

On 20 August, the demand for the reinstatement of Mr. Gorbachev snowballed into a civil unrest in the form of rallies and strikes across the country.

Meanwhile, thousands of people continued their vigil outside the Russian Legislature building against any attempt to take it over even as troops were prepared to storm the House.

Meantime, First Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Vitaly Doguzhyev was appointed caretaker Prime Minister in place of Prime Minister Mr. Valentin Pavlov who was reported ill.

On 20 August, the Parliament of the Baltic Republic of Estonia declared immediate full independence and announced that parliamentary elections would be held in 1992 on the basis of a new Constitution.

The *coup* against Mr. Gorbachev collapsed on 21 August with the Soviet Parliament formally reinstating him as President. In a message

read out on television, he said that he was in full control and had ordered the Chief of General Staff to order all troops back into the barracks. The Soviet Prosecutor, meantime, announced that his office had started criminal proceedings against the members of the Emergency Committee. The ban on the non-Communist Parties was lifted and all decrees issued by the Emergency Committee were annulled. The swift developments of the day followed clashes outside the Russian Parliament building on 20 August night in which four persons were killed.

On 22 August, President Gorbachev returned to Moscow. Later, he appointed Chief of Staff of the Soviet armed forces, Gen. Mikhail Moiseyev as acting Defence Minister, Gen. Boris Pankov as Deputy Defence Minister, Mr. Leonid V. Shebarshin as acting Chairman of the KGB and Mr. Vasily P. Trushin as acting Interior Minister.

Earlier, Mr. Boris Yeltsin informed the Russian Parliament of the arrest by the forces under his control of Mr. Gennady Yanayev and four other members of the Emergency Committee.

Meanwhile, Soviet Interior Minister and one of the *coup* leaders, Mr. Boris Pugo, Committed suicide.

Lithuania, meanwhile, approved laws banning the Communist Party and demanded that it surrender its documents and assets.

On 23 August, President Gorbachev dismissed his entire Cabinet. Mr. Vadim Bakatin was named the new KGB Chief, Mr. Viktor Baranikov the new Interior Minister and Col. Gen. Yevgeny Shaposhnikov the new Defence Minister. Meanwhile, the Soviet Communist Party came under an onslaught in the Baltics, Central Asian Republics and Moscow. Several leaders also resigned from the Party's Politburo protesting against its failure to condemn the *coup* against Mr. Gorbachev.

Meantime, Latvia voted to outlaw the Communist Party and decided to confiscate its property.

On 24 August, President Gorbachev resigned as the Communist Party Chief, disbanded the Party's Central Committee, confiscated Party property and banned Party cells from the army, the KGB and the Interior Ministry. He appointed Russian Prime Minister Mr. Ivan Silayev as the head of a new government and also nominated a Committee to run the country in place of his disbanded Cabinet.

Meanwhile, Russian President Mr. Boris Yeltsin recognised the independence of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

Meantime, Ukrainian Parliament declared their Republic independent from Moscow. However, this would not go into effect until after 1 December when a referendum is scheduled to be held.

On 25 August, Byelorussia declared independence. Meanwhile, Presi-

dent Gorbachev's senior military advisor Marshall Sergei Akhromeyev committed suicide.

Addressing an emergency session of the Supreme Soviet on 26 August, President Gorbachev announced an action plan proposing sweeping reforms in the military and the KGB and full development of market economy and said that independence seeking republics should be free to settle issues like the future of Soviet military facilities on their territory.

Earlier, just before the Supreme Soviet met, the Soviet Parliament Chairman Mr. Anatoly Lukyanov resigned from the post.

Meanwhile, Lithuania took control of its borders and started issuing visas and Moldavia announced that it had recognised the independence of the three Baltic Republics.

On 27 August, President Gorbachev cautioned that he would resign from the post if efforts to maintain the Soviet Union as a single state failed even as another Republic, Moldavia, declared its independence.

Meanwhile, Mr. Gorbachev announced that he and the Presidents of Russia, Kazakhstan and Kirghistan had agreed that all the 15 Republics should sign an economic agreement that would be mutually beneficial.

On 28 August, President Gorbachev asked the Soviet Parliament to dissolve the Cabinet saying that he had no confidence in its members. The legislators later passed a no-confidence vote with 402 voting in favour, 16 against it and 26 abstaining.

On 29 August, the Supreme Soviet banned all activities of the Communist Party and ordered the Prosecutor-General's office to investigate the Party's activities during the *coup* and pass any evidence of guilt to the Supreme Court. It also stripped former Chairman Mr. Anatoly Lukyanov of his immunity from prosecution so that he could stand trial. Besides, it voted overwhelmingly to dissolve itself and asked the Congress of Deputies, the Country's full Parliament, to elect a new House.

Meanwhile, Russia and Ukraine announced the formation of a military and economic alliance.

Meantime, Mr. Boris Pankin was appointed the new Soviet Foreign Minister in place of Mr. Alexander Bessmertnykh who was dismissed by President Gorbachev.

A seven-point plan envisaging an inter-Republican Council as repository of all powers and giving independence to the Republics to determine the form of their links with a new Union of sovereign States was approved by President Gorbachev and the leaders of 10 Republics on 2 September.

On 4 September, the Soviet Parliament gave preliminary approval to

transfer most central powers to the Republics retaining the Soviet Union as a loose confederation of sovereign states.

Meanwhile, President Gorbachev agreed on 4 September to grant independence to the Baltic Republics.

On 5 September, President Gorbachev and leaders of ten Republics signed to formally put an end to seven decades of centralised rule in Soviet Union and invested the Republics with unrivalled political supremacy. The treaty abolished the Vice-President's post and disbanded the Supreme Soviet and the Congress of People's Deputies.

On 18 September, Mr. Ivan Silayev, the former Russian Premier, was appointed Chairman of the Inter-Republican Economic Council set up by the Council of States, the Soviets' new interim ruling body. On his appointment to the new post, Mr. Silayev resigned from premiership.

VENEZUELA

Cabinet Reshuffle: President Mr. Carlos Andres Perez reshuffled his Cabinet on 13 July replacing the Ministers of Justice, Labour, Tourism and Central Information Office. Mr. Alfredo Ducharne was named Minister of Justice while Mr. Victor Gamboa became the Minister of Tourism.

VIETNAM

Resignation of Foreign Minister: On 27 June, Foreign Minister Mr. Nguyen Co Thach resigned from the post of Foreign Minister as well as from the 12-member Politburo. He, however, agreed to remain in his post formally until the next meeting of the National Assembly session to appoint new Ministers.

New Prime Minister: On 9 August, the National Assembly elected Mr. Vo Van Kiet, the new Prime Minister in place of Mr. Do Musi who was appointed the new Communist Party Chief.

YUGOSLAVIA

Crisis in Yugoslavia: Crisis continued unabated in Yugoslavia with the presidents of the six republics deciding on 11 April to hold a referendum on the future structure of the State. The voting was to be confined to two models—a community of independent and sovereign states and a united federal set up. Serbia and Montenegro supported the second model while the rest, including Bosnia, Herecegovina and Macedonia, supported the first albeit with modifications. Slovenia had already declared independence on 16 March. The Presidents failed to fix a common date for the separate referendums.

Meanwhile, the Serb-dominated autonomous region of Krajina decided to become a part of Serbia on 1 April and civil war broke out between Croatian armed forces on the one hand and the Yugoslav

National Army on the other. On 16 April, over 700,000 workers of Serbia's textiles, leather and metallurgical industries stopped work in the nation's biggest post-war strike.

The Croatian crisis worsened considerably and the Defence Minister General Veljko Kadijevic announced on 6 May that civil war had broken out. On 13 May, the Serbs of Krajina voted for unification of Krajina with the Republic of Serbia. The eight-member presidency of the country failed to elect a President on 15 May as the Croatian antecedents of the Vice-President were looked upon with suspicion. Croatia declared independence with 94 percent Croatians voting in favour of secession from Yugoslavia. The formal declaration of independence came on 29 May.

Following Croatia, Slovenia formally notified the federal Parliament of its intention of seceding by 26 June. In view of the fresh crisis, another meeting of the leaders of the six Republics was held on 7 June. The agreement reached, promised sovereignty to all the republics.

Slovenia and Croatia finally decided on their secession on 25 June with their Assemblies passing resolutions to that effect. This prompted the Yugoslavian National Army to move into Slovenia and Croatia and a fresh bout of civil war broke out. Slovenia was forced to accept a ceasefire on 27 June. The same day, European Community leaders voted in favour of freezing Yugoslav accounts and sent a 3-member delegation to Belgrade. Slovenia and Croatia were obliged to suspend the Independence Movement on 29 June.

Several efforts, including initiatives by the European Community and the United Nations, continued through July to September to bring the different factions together and arrive at an amicable solution. These efforts, however, did not have the desired impact and the crisis persisted, with violence prevailing unabated.

DOCUMENTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST

The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1991 which sought further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951 to discourage non-serious candidates from contesting elections by making it compulsory for candidates not belonging to a recognised political party to purchase at least one copy of the electoral roll of the concerned parliamentary constituency, was passed by Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha on 16 July, 1991 and 9 August 1991, respectively, and received President's assent on 14 August 1991.

The life of the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act of 1987 was to expire on 23 May 1991. Since the terrorist violence continued unabated, it was decided to further extend the said Act by two years. As the Lok Sabha had been dissolved and the Rajya Sabha was not in session and circumstances existed which rendered it necessary to take immediate action, the President promulgated the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Amendment Ordinance, 1991 on 2 May 1991. Subsequently, the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill, 1991 seeking to replace the aforesaid Ordinance was passed by Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha on 6 and 12 August 1991, respectively, and received President's assent on 16 August 1991.

The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1991, sought to replace an Ordinance promulgated on 2 May 1991 which with a view to providing more adequate safeguards and protection to public servants employed in connection with the affairs of a State against frivolous or vexatious prosecution for acts done in the discharge of their official duty during the period when a proclamation issued under article 356 of the Constitution was in force in that state, made it necessary to provide for the previous sanction of the Union Government instead of that of the State Government. The Bill was passed by Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha on 4 and 17 September 1991, respectively, and received President's assent on 19 September 1991.

The Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Bill, 1991, which sought to prohibit conversion of any place of worship and provide for the maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship as it existed on 15 August 1947, and for matters connected therewith, was passed by Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 10 and 12 September 1991, respectively, and received President's assent on 18 September 1991.

The Cancellation of General Elections in Punjab Bill, 1991, which sought to cancel certain notifications calling for general elections in the state of Punjab, keeping in view the prevailing terrorist activities which made it difficult to hold elections in that State, was passed by Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 16 and 17

September 1991, respectively, and received President's assent on 17 September 1991.

We reproduce here the text of the above Acts.

—Editor

THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1991

An Act further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Forty-second Year of the Republic of India as follows:

1. *Short title:* This Act may be called the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 1991.

2. Amendment of section 36 in the Representation of the People Act, 1951, in section 36, in sub-section (2), after clause (c), the following clause and *Explanation* thereto shall be addeed, namely:—

“(d) that the candidate has not attached receipt of purchase of one copy of the electoral roll of the parliamentary constituency from where the nomination papers have been filed.

Explanation—For the purposes of clause (d), candidate means and includes any person who has delivered nomination papers, as per the provisions of section 33, for election to the House of the People but does not include a candidate belonging to a political party recognised by the Election Commission.”

THE TERRORIST AND DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES (PREVENTION) AMENDMENT ACT, 1991

An Act further to amend the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1987.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Forty-second Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement:* (1) This Act may be called the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 1991.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 2nd day of May, 1991.

2. *Amendment of section 1 of Act, 28 of 1987:* In the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1987 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 1, in sub-section (4), for the words “four years”, the words “six years” shall be substituted.

3. *Repeal and savings:* (1) The Terrorists and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Amendment Ordinance, 1991, is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the principal Act, as amended by the said Ordinance, shall be

deemed to have been done or taken under the principal Act, as amended by this Act.

**THE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) ACT,
1991**

An Act further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Forty-second Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement:* (1) this Act may be called the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1991.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 2nd day of May, 1991.

2. *Amendment of section 197:* In section 197 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (hereinafter referred to as the Code of Criminal Procedure):—

(a) in sub-section (1), to clause (b), the following proviso shall be added, namely:—

'Provided that where the alleged offence was committed by a person referred to in clause (b) during the period while a Proclamation issued under clause (1) of article 350 of the Constitution was in force in a State, clause (b) will apply as if for the expression "State Government" occurring there, the expression "Central Government" were substituted.'

(b) after sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

"(3A) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (3), no court shall take cognizance of any offence, alleged to have been committed by any member of the Forces charged with the maintenance of public order in a State while acting or purporting to act in the discharge of his official duty during the period while a Proclamation issued under clause (1) of article 356 of the Constitution was in force therein, except with the previous sanction of the Central Government."

3. *Repeal and saving:* (1) the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991 is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by the said Ordinance, shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by this Act.

THE PLACES OF WORSHIP (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1991

An Act to prohibit conversion of any place of worship and to provide for the maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship as it existed on the 15th day of August, 1947, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Forty-second Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

(1) *Short title, extent and commencement:* (1) This Act may be called the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991.

(2) It extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

(3) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 11th day of July, 1991.

2. *Definitions:* In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) "conversion", with its grammatical variations, includes alteration or change of whatever nature;

(b) "place of worship" means a temple, mosque, gurudwara, church, monastery or any other place of public religious worship of any religious denomination or any section thereof, by whatever name called.

3. *Bar of conversion of places of worship:* No person shall convert any place of worship of any religious denomination or any section thereof into a place of worship of a different section of the same religious denomination or of a different religious denomination or any section thereof.

4. *Declaration as to the religious character of certain places of worship and bar of jurisdiction of courts etc:* (1) It is hereby declared that the religious character of a place of worship existing on the 15th day of August, 1947 shall continue to be the same as it existed on that day.

(2) If, on the commencement of this Act, any suit, appeal or other proceeding with respect to the conversion of the religious character of any place of worship, existing on the 15th day of August, 1947 is pending before any court, tribunal or other authority, the same shall abate, and no suit, appeal or other proceeding with respect to any such matter shall lie on or after such commencement in any court, tribunal or other authority:

Provided that if any suit, appeal or other proceeding instituted or filed on the ground that conversion has taken place in the religious character of any such place after the 15th day of August, 1947, is pending on the commencement of this Act, such suit, appeal or other proceeding shall not so abate and every such suit, appeal or other proceeding shall be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (1).

(3) Nothing contained in sub-section (1) and sub-section (2) shall apply to,—

(a) any place of worship referred to in the said sub-section which is an ancient and historical monument or an archaeological site or remains covered by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 or any other law for the time being in force;

(b) any suit, appeal or other proceeding, with respect to any matter referred to in sub-section (2), finally decided, settled or disposed of by a court, tribunal or other authority before the commencement of this Act;

(c) any dispute with respect to any such matter settled by the parties amongst themselves before such commencement;

(d) any conversion of any such place effected before such commencement by acquiescence;

(e) any conversion of any such place effected before, such commencement which is not liable to be challenged in any court, tribunal or other authority being barred by limitation under any law for the time being in force.

5. *Act not to apply to Ram Janma Bhumi-Babri Masjid:* Nothing contained in this Act shall apply to the place or place of worship commonly known as Ram Janma Bhumi-Babri Masjid situated in Ayodhya in the State of Uttar Pradesh and to any suit, appeal or other proceeding relating to the said place or place of worship.

6. *Punishment for contravention of section:* (1) Whoever contravenes the provisions of section 3 shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine.

(2) Whoever attempts to commit any offence punishable under sub-section (1) or to cause such offence to be committed and in such attempt does any act towards the commission of the offence shall be punishable with the punishment provided of the offence.

(3) Whoever abets, or is a party to a criminal conspiracy to commit, an offence punishable under sub-section (1) shall, whether such offence be or be not committed in consequence of such abetment or in pursuance of such criminal conspiracy, and notwithstanding anything contained in section 116 of the Indian Penal Code, be punishable with the punishment provided for the offence.

7. *Act to override other enactments:* The provisions of this Act shall have effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other law for the time being in force or any instrument having effect by virtue of any law other than this act.

8. *Amendment of Act 43 of 1951*: In section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, in sub-section (1),—

(a) in clause (i), the word “or” shall be inserted at the end;

(b) after clause (i), as so amended, the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(i) section 6 (offence of conversion of a place of worship) of the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991.”.

THE CANCELLATION OF GENERAL ELECTIONS IN PUNJAB ACT, 1991

An Act to cancel certain notifications calling for general elections in relation to the State of Punjab.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Forty-second Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title*: (1) This Act may be called the Cancellation of General Elections in Punjab Act, 1991.

2. *Cancellation of certain notifications in relation to Punjab*: The notification No. S.O. 268 (E), dated the 19th April, 1991 issued by the President under sub-section (2) of section 14 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 in so far as it relates to the State of Punjab and the notification No. Elec-91-R: 4100, dated the 19th April, 1991 issued by the Governor of the State of Punjab under sub-section (2) of section 15 of the said Act shall, on the commencement of this Act, stand cancelled and upon such cancellation—

(a) every deposit made under section 34 of the said Act in relation to general elections called by the said notifications shall be returned to the person making it or his legal representative; and

(b) all the proceedings with reference to the said elections shall be commenced a new in all respects as if for new elections under the said Act.

SESSIONAL REVIEW

TENTH LOK SABHA

FIRST SESSION

The first Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha, which was constituted after the general elections held on 20 May and 12 and 15 June 1991, commenced on 20 June 1991. Since in terms of the second proviso to article 94, the Speaker of the previous House was to vacate his office immediately before the first sitting of the new House, the President appointed Shri Indrajit Gupta, the member with the longest service in the House, as Speaker *pro tem* and he presided over the sittings of the House on 9 and 10 July 1991 till the Speaker of Tenth Lok Sabha was elected.

On the opening day, *i.e.* 9 July, the Speaker *pro tem* Shri Indrajit Gupta, who made and subscribed oath before the President at Rashtrapati Bhawan on the same day, signed the Roll of Members soon after taking the Chair, in token of having taken his seat in the House. Before the business of the House commenced, in accordance with a long standing practice, the members stood in silence for a short while to mark the solemn occasion of the commencement of a new House. A book containing the list of members elected to the Lok Sabha at the general elections of 1991, presented to the Speaker by the Chief Election Commissioner, was then laid by the Secretary-General on the Table of the House. Thereafter, the members made and subscribed to oath or affirmation in the following order: Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition, members of the Council of Ministers, members of the Panel of Chairmen, and then other members alphabetically, statewide and constituency-wise, as listed in the list furnished by the Chief Election Commissioner.

The House was adjourned *sine die* on 18 September 1991. A brief resume of important discussions held and other business transacted during the Session is given below:

A. DISCUSSIONS/STATEMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

President's Address: On 11 July 1991, the President Shri R. Venkataraman addressed the members of the two Houses of Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament at the commencement of the first Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha and outlined the

policies of the Government on various issues and the legislative programmes for the Session*

The President's Address was discussed for four days, *i.e.*, 16 to 19 July 1991, on a Motion of Thanks moved by Sardar Buta Singh. Initiating the discussion, Sardar Buta Singh said that the Government would fulfil its responsibilities and the new Lok Sabha would take concrete measures for maintaining peace and prosperity in the country. Shri Ramesh Chennithala, who seconded the motion, suggested that radical changes should be brought in the economy so that the poor and the down-trodden would be benefited.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Somnath Chatterjee said that in the President's Address one did not find any awareness on the part of the Government of the complex issues that were facing the people.

Intervening in the discussion, the Minister of state in the Ministry of Communications, Shri Rajesh Pilot said that it had been the key point of the policy of the Government to ameliorate the conditions of the rural poor. The Government would see that the real benefits of the reservation accrued to the poorest of the poor among the backward classes, he added.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh said that the people had given a verdict to run the House by consensus. Regarding economy, he emphasised that there was a need for a conscious approach because once the country got into a debt, then it would take more than a decade to come out of it. It should be kept in mind that India would not reach its fulfilment unless its two-thirds population which had been deprived for millions of years did find a place in the governance. Shri Chandra Shekhar felt that devaluation of rupee was not necessary. Not only were we compromising economic freedom, we were playing with political freedom as well, he added.

Winding up the discussion on 19 July 1991,** the Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao asserted that he would like to go by consensus and said we should concentrate on the problems facing the country. The Government had already tried to juxtapose the problems in the totality of the situation existing in the country. Dealing with elections in Punjab,

* For the text of the President's Address, see the feature on President's Address to Parliament.

** Other Members who took part in the discussion were: Sarveshri Jaswant Singh, Rabi Ray, Digvijaya Singh, Vijay Kumar Yadav, P.M. Sayeed, V. Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde, Manabendra Shah, R. Prabhu, M.R. Janarthanan, Syed Shahabuddin, H. D. Devegowda, Sribellav Panigrahi, Dattatraya Banderu, P.C. Chacko, Chitta Basu, Pawan Kumar Bansal, Suraj Mandal, Sunil Dutt, Pratap Singh, Chandulal Chandrakar, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, E. Ahmed, Mani Shankar Iyer, A. Charles, Plus Turkey, Mangal Ram Premi, Yaima Singh Yumnam, R. Jeevarathinam, Imchalemba, K.P. Reddalah, Shrimati Saroj Dubey, Shrimati Sussela Gopalan, Maharani Bibhu Kumari Devi and Shrimati Dii Kumari Bhandari.

Shri Rao said that if they were interpreted as a referendum for a separate country, the Government would like to set it right before going in for elections. Regarding Kashmir, he observed that there was a big chasm between the people of Kashmir on the one hand and the Union Government or the administration on the other, and these activities were being fuelled from outside. He informed the House that India had been pleading with Pakistan not to allow this to happen. The Government would bring a law about places of religious worship barring the Ram Janambhoomi issue. About implementation of Mandal Commission Report, on economic criteria also, some reservation was needed, he added.

The Motion of Thanks was adopted.

Motion of Confidence: On 12 July 1991, the Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao moved the motion that "this House expresses its confidence in the Council of Ministers" which was also discussed on 15 July.

Opposing the motion, the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Shri L.K. Advani accused that in the brief fortnight or three weeks that had passed since the Government assumed office it had not been able to instil confidence on the political level as well as on the economic level.

Participating in the discussion, on 15 July 1991, Shri Indrajit Gupta said that a minority Government had to function on the basis of consultations and consensus and taking the Opposition into confidence. Shri Nani Bhattacharya said that the Government was absolutely dependent on the mercy of the Left parties.

Intervening in the discussion, the Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Arjun Singh said that the people had posed a challenge to the sagacity and wisdom of every single political party and whatever they had chosen to decide in their wisdom would have to be taken as it was.

Winding up the discussion, Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao said that his style of functioning would be one of consensus. Shri Rao added that the Government would give final touches to Industrial Policy reforms and also to the public distribution system. About general amnesty in Assam, he observed that the Chief Minister of Assam had given a commitment to the people that those against whom no cases or only minor cases were pending, would be released.

On the motion, the House divided: Ayes 241; Noes 111. Accordingly, the motion was adopted.

* Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvasbri George Fernandes, Sharad Dighe, Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait, A. Asokraj Saifuddin Choudhury, Chitta Basu, Ummareddy Venkateswarlu, Suraj Mandal, Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi, Jaswant Singh, Ram Vilas Paswan, Frank Anthony and Dr. Jayanta Rongpi.

Railway Budget: Presenting the Railway Budget for 1991-92 on 16 July 1991, the Minister of Railways, Shri C.K. Jaffer Shariet said that the railwaymen re-dedicated themselves in the service of the nation to ensure stability, peace and progress by keeping the wheel moving. In 1990-91, the target of revenue earning freight traffic scaled down in the revised estimates by 9 million tonnes, but by record loading of more than a million tonnes a day in the last quarter, it was reduced to 7 million tonnes. There was an impressive growth of 5.17 per cent in the number of passengers originating and 6.34 per cent in passenger kilometres. Pressure on working expenses due to increase in cost of fuel and general escalation in cost of inputs and the anticipated shortfall in freight loading enforced reduction in estimate of surplus from Rs. 186 crore to Rs. 155 crore. However, improvement in Gross Traffic Receipts and stringent control over expenditure restored the surplus to Rs. 186 crore as per unaudited figures. Besides, it had been possible to augment the contribution to the Pension Fund by Rs. 70 crore.

The Gross Traffic Receipts for the year 1991-92 at the existing level of freight rates and fares were estimated at Rs.12,735 crore which was higher by Rs. 70 crore than the interim Budget of 1991-92. The total Working Expenses, comprising Ordinary Working Expenses and the Appropriations to the Pension Fund and Depreciation Reserve Fund would amount to Rs. 12,330 crore leaving Net Traffic Receipts of Rs. 505 crore. A sum of Rs. 183 crore was estimated by way of Net Revenue Receipts, as compared to Rs. 180 crore in the interim Budget, and thus the Net Revenue would amount to Rs. 688 crore.

The estimate of Dividend payable to General Revenues was Rs. 1037 crore as in the interim Budget. Thus, at the current level of fares and freight rates, there would be a shortfall of Rs. 349 crore. Further, a loan of Rs. 125 crore from the General Revenues would be needed for execution of works chargeable to the Development Fund. Some adjustments proposed in rates of freight, parcels and luggage and passenger fares would yield an additional revenue of Rs. 584 crore in the current year.

The Railway Budget was discussed in the House on 20, 24 and 25 July 1991. Initiating the discussion on 20 July 1991, Shri Anna Joshi said that the Railway Budget had concentrated more on revenue assets and not on capital assets, forgetting that capital assets themselves in the long run generated revenue and saved expenditure.

On 24 July 1991, intervening in the discussion, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways, Shri M. Mallikarjun said that the railways had to play a pivotal role in the nation's life, both in terms of transportation of goods as also in the movement of passengers. Government was very keen to ensure the safety, security and comfort of the railway passengers, he added.

On 25 July 1991, participating in the discussion, Shri Somnath Chatterjee asked for doubling the railway line from Khana to Sainthia Junction.

Shri Moreshwar Save asked for reconsideration of increase in fare of season tickets.

Winding up the discussion,* Railway Minister Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief said that he would make every possible efforts to see that the Eighth Plan allocation for Railways was so determined that the Railways were able to meet their obligations to the travelling public and the economy. With the improvement in financial position, the Government would take up projects for developing areas. Overall constraint of resources in recent years had resulted in lesser budgetary support in the Seventh Plan as compared to previous plan periods, the Minister said. Higher budgetary support would be extended in the Eighth Plan with due regard to the needs of the Railways for providing adequate transport effort for the economy, he added.

All the demands for grants in respect of the Ministry of Railways for the year 1991-92 were voted in full.

General Budget: On 24 July 1991, presenting the General Budget for the year 1991-92, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that the new Government had inherited an economy in deep crisis. Despite large borrowings from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in July 1990 and January 1991, there was a sharp reduction in the foreign exchange reserves. The fiscal deficit of the Union Government, which measured the difference between revenue receipts and total expenditure, was estimated at more than 8 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 1990-91 as compared to 6 per cent at the beginning of 1980s and 4 per cent in the mid-1970s. The fiscal deficit had to be met by borrowings. As a result, internal public debt of the Union Government had accumulated to about 55 per cent of the GDP. The current account deficit which was about 2 per cent of GDP for several years was estimated to be more than 2.5 per cent of GDP in 1990-91.

The Minister informed that for improving the management of the economy, the strategy would be credible fiscal adjustment and macro-economic stabilisation during the current financial year, to be followed by

* Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Dharam Pal Singh Malik, George Fernandes, Mukul Balkrishna Wasnik, Amal Datta, Ayub Khan, Surya Narayan Singh, Dau Dayal Joshi, Harish Narayan Prabhu Zantye, B.B. Ramaiah, Ram Naik, B. Sridharan, Palas Barman, G. Devraya Naik, Imchalemba, Yaima Singh Yumnun, Sivaji Patnaik, Ram Kapse, V. Krishna Rao, K.M. Madhukar, Sharad Dighe, Maheendra Kumar Singh Thakur, Oscar Fernandes, Syed Shahabuddin, Arvind Netam, Suraj Mandal, E. Ahamed, Vilas Muttemvar, Kalka Das, Chhedi Paswan, Mohan Vishnu Rawle, Udaysingrao Gaikwad, Kashiram Rana, Sunil Dutt, Vishwanath Sharma, Nandi Yellaiah, N. Dennis, Rajnath Sonkar Shastri, Basudeb Acharia, D.D. Khanoria, Palai K.M. Mathew, Chiranji Lal Sharma, H.D. Devegowda, Amar Roy Pradhan, Era Anbarasu, Kabindra Purkayastha, Sudhir Sewant, Ankushrao Tope, Sripal Singh Yadav, Ramashray Prasad Singh, Dr. Vasant Niwruuti Pawar, Dr. Jayanta Rongpi, Dr. Kartikeswar Patra, Shrimati Basavarajeswari, Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan, Shrimati Kesharbairo Sonajirao Kshirsagar and Kumari Frida Topno.

continued fiscal consolidation thereafter. The thrust of the reform process would be to increase efficiency and international competitiveness of industrial production, to utilise foreign investment and foreign technology to a much greater degree to increase the productivity of investment and to improve the performance of the public sector so that the key sectors of the economy would attain an adequate technological and competitive edge in a fast changing global economy.

Dealing with the budget provisions for 1991-92, the Minister stated that total receipts at the existing rates of taxation were estimated at Rs.103698 crore, while total expenditure was estimated at Rs.113422 crore and without additional resource mobilisation the budget deficit was estimated at Rs.9724 crore, the revenue deficit at Rs.15859 crore and the fiscal deficit at Rs.39732 crore. The increase in excise duties would lead to a revenue gain of Rs.1799 crore while the reliefs would amount to Rs.358.06 crore in a full year. The net revenue gain from excise duties was thus Rs.1440.94 crore in a full year, of which the States would get Rs.750.04 crore leaving the balance Rs.690.90 crore for the Union. The proposals in regard to changes in the customs duties implied a revenue loss of Rs.822.52 crore and a revenue of Rs.78.00 crore in a full year. The net impact of the proposals relating to customs duties was a loss of Rs.744.52 crore in a full year. Thus, compared with the additional net revenue of Rs.696.42 crore from customs and excise duties, the States, would gain Rs.750.04 crore, while the Union would lose Rs.53.62 crore in a full year. Taking both direct and indirect taxes into account, the net gain to the Union in the current year was estimated at Rs. 2005 crore and the budgetary deficit of the Union for the current year was estimated Rs. 7719 crore, the revenue deficit Rs. 13854 crore and the fiscal deficit Rs.37727 crore.

The discussion on the general Budget was held for 7 days, i.e. 29-31 July and 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 August 1991. Initiating the discussion on 29 July 1991, Shri Jaswant Singh said that the Budget failed to preserve the economic sovereignty of the country and did not sufficiently address itself to the permanent priorities such as poverty elimination, reducing unemployment, containing population growth and enhancing the purchasing power of the poor.

Participating in the discussion, on 31 July 1991, Shri Indrajit Gupta cautioned that the three props on which these adjustments and reforms were based—non-resident Indians, multinational corporations and the domestic private sector—were not reliable at all and they could let the Government down any day. Shri P.G. Narayanan said that while attempts were being made to give some relief to the poor people, the increase in the prices of sugar, petrol, cooking gas and fertilizers would hit the common man, particularly the subsidy cut on fertilizer items. Shri Moreswar Sava suggested that a cut of at least Rs. 500 crore annually was necessary in Government expenditure. He also suggested that the

Government must take some bold and unpleasant policy steps to overcome the current economic crisis.

Replying to the discussion on 6 August,* Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that India needed the support of the IMF to restore international confidence in the economy at this juncture and to convince international commercial banks as well as non-resident Indians that India would be a viable entity. India would not accept any condition which would go inconsistent with fundamental national interests, he asserted.

Referring to the new Industrial Policy, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that it had a two-fold objective; first, to release the entrepreneurial spirit and energy of the businessmen, industrialists and entrepreneurs to create wealth; and second, to protect the weak and the poor from exploitation and to ensure that they were provided the basic needs and opportunities for development. About inflation, he said that if fiscal and monetary discipline was maintained strictly, price rise could be moderated and lowered. The Government would protect the farmer's interests, he added.

All the Demands for Grants (General) for 1991-92 were voted in full.

Gold Transactions: Making a statement on 18 July 1991, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that despite significant borrowings from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in July 1990 and January 1991, the foreign exchange reserves of India had fallen to a very low level. Due to weakening of international confidence in the rupee, the Government of India took the decision on 1 and 3 July 1991 to adjust the exchange value to the rupee. In exercise of its powers, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) sent abroad 4.8 metric tonnes of gold on 4 July 1991 to be kept in safe custody with the Bank of England. Subsequently, a further quantity of 20.01 tonnes, 10.01 tonnes and 12.09 tonnes was sent on 7, 11, and 18 July, respectively. Thus, in all the RBI had sent abroad for safe custody with the Bank of England a total quantity of 46.91 tonnes. Against the pledge of 46.91 tonnes of gold, the RBI could borrow for a period of

* Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Chandrajeet Yadav, Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, K. Venkatagiri Gowda, Sukh Ram, E. Ahamed, Manoranjan Bhakta, B.B. Ramaiah, Anantrao Deshmukh, Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Surya Narayan Yadav, H.D. Devegowda, Rao Ram Singh, Murli Deora, Karla Munda, V.S. Vijayaraghavan, Shauddha Bahadur Singh, M.V.V.S. Murthy, Yaima Singh Yumnam, Mohan Singh, Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi, K.D. Sultanpuri, Dwarka Nath Das, Amar Roy Pradhan, Nurul Islam, Bhagey Gobardhan, Bhagwan Shankar Rawat, Avtar Singh Bhadana, S.B. Signal, Ramashray Prasad Singh, Mumtaz Ansari, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Imchalemba, K.V. Thangbalu, Bijoy Krishna Handique, Hari Kishore Singh, Vijay Naval Patil, Satya Narain Jatiya, Peter G. Marbaniang, M. Baga Reddy, K.H. Muniyappa, Ram Punjan Patel, Muhiram Saikua, C.K. Kuppaswamy, Mohan Lal Jhikram, Syed Masudul Hossain, P.C. Thomas, D. Pandian, Phool Chand Verma, Prithviraj D. Chavan, Govinda Chandra Munda, S. Gangadhara Sanipalli, Ankushrao Rasoahab Tope, Vadde Sobhanadreeswara Rao, S. Mallikarjunaiah, Sribalav Panigrahi, Dr. Debi Prasad Pal, Dr. R. Maitu, Dr. Jayanta Rongpi, Prof. Susanta Chakravorty, Pror. K.V. Thomas, Shrimati Dilkumari Bhandari, Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee, Shrimati Chandra Prabha Urs and Kumari Selja.

one month at a time, a total sum of about \$400 million to help tide over the serious liquidity problems. He expressed confidence that over a period of time, the balance of payments position would improve. All efforts would be made to bring back to India the gold sent abroad, he added.

Motion on the affairs of BCCI: Moving a motion under Rule 191 on 6 September, Shri Jaswant Singh said that it had been established that the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (Overseas) Ltd. (BCCI) had been providing financial services to the agents of the Pakistan Government for the illicit purchase of nuclear weapons-related commodities and technologies wherever it was found in the world. Resuming the discussion on 14 September, Shri Jaswant Singh said that our concern in India had been about subversion of systems and institutions and most importantly about the nexus among the bank, politicians, industrialists and corruption.

Participating in the discussion * Shri Somnath Chatterjee called for an appropriate, proper and in-depth inquiry by a Joint Parliamentary Committee on the affairs of the BCCI.

The Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh assured the House that he would ask all relevant agencies of the Government to look into whatever had been said on the floor of the House.

The motion was then withdrawn by Shri Jaswant Singh by leave of the House.

Resolution on the demise of Shri Rajiv Gandhi: On 11 July, the Speaker placed the following Resolution before the House on the demise of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India:

This House expresses its profound sense of grief at the treacherous and brutal assassination of our former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The cult of violence and the atmosphere of hatred deliberately promoted by senseless elements who have no faith in the democratic process and who are ceaselessly working against the unity and integrity of the nation, have claimed yet another crusader of peace and non-violence who, like his revered mother seven years ago, preferred to risk his life rather than to distance himself from the common masses of the country who loved him so intensely. The passing away of Shri Rajiv Gandhi at such a crucial juncture has deprived the country of the services of a young and charismatic leader on whom the down-trodden masses had pinned their hope and faith for a better and brighter future.

Though a reluctant entrant into politics, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, having taken the crucial decision, never looked back. A man with tremendous courage of conviction, he served the nation in and out of office with a deep sense of commitment, clear vision and youthful vigour. Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the

* Other members who took part in the discussion were Sarvashri Digvijaya Singh, George Fernandes and Chhitubhai Gamit.

symbol of the nation's youth and his political career was a rapidly rising graph of accomplishments in pursuit of the ideals and aspirations of the younger generation.

His tenure in office as Prime Minister won him international recognition and he came to be respected as one of the foremost leaders of the Third World. His contribution to the cause of disarmament, international understanding, the non-aligned movement, environmental protection and abolition of apartheid will be ever remembered.

A visionary like his illustrious grandfather and a person with strong determination like his mother, Shri Rajiv Gandhi worked hard to take India into the 21st century as a modern, technologically advanced and forward looking nation. He gave technology a new and clear mission: to solve the problems of the poor.

The nation stands at the crossroads today. We have to redouble our efforts to rid the country of the dreadful menace of terrorism and to restore the faith of the people in the democratic process. Let us rededicate ourselves to the accomplishment of the tasks which were so dear to Rajiv Gandhi. That would be our real tribute to his cherished memory.

The House sends its condolences to the bereaved family. In his obituary reference, the Speaker, Shri Shivraj V. Patil said that Shri Rajiv Gandhi made the supreme sacrifice for the cause of national unity and integrity and became a martyr in this endeavour. The Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao pledged to complete Shri Rajiv Gandhi's task and to live up to all that he stood for while Shri L.K. Advani felt that his untimely death was a stunning blow to his party, his family and the entire nation. The leader of the House and Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Arjun Singh pointed out that it was our collective responsibility to conserve the social, political and economic legacies left behind by the former Prime Minister. The Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar, said that Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the symbol of large-heartedness, tolerance, love and affection.

Sarvashri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Somnath Chatterjee, Indrajit Gupta, B. Vijayakumar Raju, P.G. Narayanan, Shibu Soren, Nani Bhattacharya, Chitta Basu, Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait, Ashokrao Anandrao Deshmukh, Frank Anthony, Shraavan Kumar Patel, Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi and Mani Shanker Aiyar, Dr. Jayanta Rongpi and Shrimati Dil Kumari Bhandari also associated themselves with the sentiments expressed by the Speaker.

The House then adopted the Resolution and members stood in silence as a mark of respect to Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Atrocities on Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Weaker Sections: On 13 August 1991, moving a motion under Rule 191 regarding atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and other parts of the country, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan

urged the need to bring about fundamental changes in the country to abolish caste system altogether.

In a brief intervention, Minister of Welfare, Shri Sitaram Kesri said that until the society became vigilant, Harijans, minorities, backward classes and the poor could not be protected. Participating in the discussion, on 14 August 1991, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh pointed out that incidents of atrocities could be effectively checked by the participation of the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the power structure and bureaucracy.

Intervening in the discussion on 19 August 1991, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development, Shri G. Venkataswamy said that having come to know about the tragic incident of Harijan killings at Chundur, he and the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had personally visited the village. In fact, all the political parties should make concerted efforts to realise the dream of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Ambedkar to usher in an era of equality in this country, he added.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Shibu Soren suggested that there should be separate arrangement for education of Adivasi and Harijan children in the entire country.

Intervening to the discussion* the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that the issue at stake was a national issue and all political parties should take a decision not to exploit it for party ends. He expressed confidence that with collective efforts, it would be possible for the Government to find out an amicable solution. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, who replied to the debate on 19 August, said that the intention behind the motion was to show that there was unanimity of the House as far as this issue was concerned.

The Motion was then withdrawn by leave of the House.

President's Rule in Jammu and Kashmir: Moving a Statutory Resolution on 26 August 1991, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that in view of the then situation prevailing in the Jammu and Kashmir, a Proclamation under article 356 of the Constitution was issued by the President on 18 July 1990 on the recommendation of the State Governor. As the law and order and security situation in the State continued to be disturbed, approval of both the Houses of Parliament was obtained for continuance in force of the said Proclamation for a period of six months with effect from 3 March 1991. President's rule would have expired in

*Members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvasbri Mukul Balkrishna Wasnik, Ramashray Prasad Singh, Frank Anthony, Kalka Das, Digvijaya Singh, B.N. Reddy, Dattatraya Bandaru, Ummareddy Venkateswari, Butar Singh, Shyam Lal Kamal Rajnath Sonakar Shastri, Manoranjan Bhakta, Ratilal Verma, A. Asokraj, Chitta Basu, Pius Turkey, Peter G. Marbaniang, Roshan Lal, K.P. Reddaiah, Rupchand Murmu, Chokka Rao, Juvvadi Ramnithore Rai, Dr. R. Mallu, Prof. Savithri Lakshmanan, Kumari Selja and Maharani Bibhu Kumari Devi.

September 1991. The Governor in his report to the President dated 22 July 1991, however, stated that the situation continued to remain grim and challenging. Keeping this in view and taking all the relevant factors into consideration, it was proposed that president's Rule in Jammu and Kashmir might be continued for a further period of six months with effect from 3 September 1991.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Indrajit Gupta said that neither the Congress Party nor the National Conference nor any other party had been able to revive political activities in the Kashmir Valley. He suggested that all political parties should get together and consider what could be done in this regard.

Winding up the discussion, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan maintained that the Government had a definite policy so far as the State of Jammu and Kashmir was concerned. The Government of India had taken up the issue of Pakistani help to the terrorists at the diplomatic level. Shri Chavan asserted that the Government would try to find a solution by which the people of Jammu and Kashmir would feel that they were not neglected or alienated.

The Resolution was adopted.

President's Rule in Punjab: Moving a Resolution on 17 September 1991, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that President's Rule was promulgated in Punjab on 11 May, 1987 on the recommendation of the State Governor. The Legislative Assembly of the State, which was initially kept under suspended animation, was dissolved on 6 March 1988. As the law and order situation in the State continued to be disturbed, President's Rule had been further extended from time to time with the approval of both the Houses of Parliament. The Present term of President's Rule was due to expire on 10 November, 1991. The issue of holding elections in Punjab was considered in April 1991 and it was decided that elections to the Legislative Assembly of Punjab be held along with the Lok Sabha poll. Accordingly, elections were scheduled to be held on 22 June. However, taking into account all relevant facts, the Election Commission of India was satisfied that it was not possible to conduct free and fair poll in Punjab on 22 June 1991 on account of the prevailing circumstances in the State. Thereafter, the Election Commission announced that elections in Punjab would be held on 25 September 1991. The election notification regarding elections in the State had since been cancelled.

In view of the circumstances, the Governor had recommended extension of President's Rule in Punjab for a period of six months beyond

* Other members, who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Digvijaya Singh, Syed Shahabuddin, Madan Lal Khurana, Sriballav Panigrahi, George Fernandes, Mani Shankar Aiyar, Chitta Basu, Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal and Dr. Sudhir Ray.

10 November, 1991. Keeping in view the situation prevailing in the State and taking all the relevant facts into consideration, it was proposed that President's Rule in Punjab might be continued for a further period of six months with effect from 11 November, 1991, the Minister added.

Participating in the discussions, on 18 September 1991, Shri Indrajit Gupta said that the Government had lost all credibility as far as Punjab was concerned. He asserted that there was no political move and initiative at all about the Rajiv Gandhi-Longowal accord.

Winding up the discussion, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan maintained that cancelling elections in Punjab was purely the decision of the Chief Election Commissioner. The Government was committed to hold the elections before 15 February 1992. The Government was also committed to the Rajiv Gandhi-Longowal accord, he added.

The Resolution was adopted.

Political situation in the Soviet Union: Making a statement in the House on the developments in the Soviet Union on 20 August, Minister of External Affairs, Shri Madhavsingh Solanki said that the Government had received the appeal issued from the Soviet Union regarding transfer of power from President Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev to Vice-President Mr. G.I. Yanaev. He assured members that India was constantly and carefully monitoring the situation.

On 23 August, the Minister of External Affairs, in his statement, said that Mr. Gorbachev had resumed his duties as President on 22 August. He informed members that the Prime Minister had sent messages to both President Gorbachev and Mr. Boris Yeltsin, President of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republics.

Subsequently, Speaker Shri Shivraj V. Patil observed that the people, the Parliament and the authorities in India rejoiced in the restoration of the constitutional and democratic authority in the Soviet Union. All the members and leaders of all parties wished the Soviet Union, Mr. Gorbachev the Parliament and the people of the Soviet Union all glory, peace and prosperity. He further observed that the members in the House were one on these views and desired the same to be conveyed to the President, the Parliament and the people of the Soviet Union.

Recognition by the Government of the three Baltic States: Making a statement on 9 September on the recognition extended to the three Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania by the Government of India, Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Eduardo Faleiro said that on

* Other members who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Jaswant Singh, George Fernandes, Ayub Khan, Chandrajeet Yadav, Saifuddin Choudhury, Madan Lal Khurana, Ram Vilas Paswan, Narain Singh Chaudhry, A. Asokraj, Kodikunnil Suresh, Pius Turkey, P.C Thomas, Bhogendra Jha, Imchalemba Rao, Ram Singh, Sribalav Panigrahi and Dr. Kartikeswar Patra.

6 September 1991, the USSR State Council had passed a resolution officially recognising the independence of the three Baltic States. Government of India's policy on the recognition of states stipulated that the constitutional procedures for the declaration of sovereignty should be proper and irrevocable and that the Governments concerned should be in effective control of the territory. Since these conditions were adequately fulfilled by the three Baltic States, Government of India announced on 7 September that it welcomed the entry of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania into the comity of independent states and recognised them as such.

Prime Minister's visit to the Federal Republic of Germany: Making a statement on 13 September on his visit to the Federal Republic of Germany from 5 to 7 September 1991, the Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao said that it was essentially a goodwill visit, the main purpose of which was to inaugurate, along with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, the Festival of India in Germany. The Prime Minister informed the House that during the visit, he had occasion to exchange views with German leaders on a wide range of bilateral and international issues. Expressing satisfaction over his visit, he hoped that it would provide a fresh impetus to Indo-German cooperation.

International situation. Moving a Motion on 18 September regarding the international situation, Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Eduardo Faleiro said that global changes which were historic in nature and radical in character were taking place all around and called for greater democratisation of the United Nations taking into account the said realities. Stating that relations with neighbours were a priority of our diplomacy, he said SAARC must be strengthened. The Prime Minister's visit to Germany was an enormous success. The relations with Japan would be on the upswing in view of the new economic policies. The relationship with the Soviet Union and the United States was very important to India, he added.

Intervening in the discussion*, Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao said that what we were looking for was a democratised functioning of the world community wherein decisions would not be taken on the basis of armaments, money power or any other considerations but on the basis of justice and fair play, Shri Indrajit Gupta said that India must go out to take the initiative as we used to take earlier as far as the problems of the Third world countries were concerned.

* Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Sharad Dighe, Chandrajeet Yadav, Syed Shahabuddin, Sudarshan Roy Chowdhary, Chitta Basu, E. Ahamed, Bhogendra Jha, Prithviraj D. Chavan, M.V.V.S. Murthy, A. Asokraj, Chandulal Chandrakar, Inderjit and Prof. Prem Dhumal.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Representation of People (Amendment) Bill: Moving the Bill as passed by Rajya Sabha for consideration, on 7 August 1991, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, Shri Rangarajan Kumaramangalam said that the Bill sought to replace the Representation of People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991, (No. 20 of 1991) which was promulgated by the President on 18 April 1991. In accordance with the Provisions of sub-section(2) of section 14 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Election Commission of India had recommended the issue of a notification by the President on 19 April 1991 calling upon all parliamentary constituencies other than those in the State of Jammu and Kashmir to elect members for constituting the Tenth Lok Sabha. The Election Commission had recommended the issue of a notification separately, in due course, in respect of the parliamentary constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir. Under section 73 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Election Commission was required to notify the names of the members elected from the different constituencies and upon the issue of such a notification the House concerned should be deemed to be duly constituted. It was, therefore, necessary to over-ride section 73 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 to enable the Election Commission to issue a 'due constitution' notification under that section without taking into account the parliamentary constituencies in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. As the matter was urgent and the Parliament was not in Session, the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991 was promulgated by the President on 18 April 1991.

Earlier, moving a Statutory Resolution regarding disapproval of the Representation of People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991, Shri V. Sobhanadreeswara Rao said that the situation in Jammu and Ladakh was not as bad as in the Kashmir Valley and the promulgation of the Ordinance had denied the right of the people of Jammu and Ladakh to elect their representatives to the Tenth Lok Sabha.

Winding up the discussion on 9 August 1991*, Shri Rangarajan Kumaramangalam said that under section 73 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Tenth Lok Sabha was to be constituted and unless the Ordinance was made, it would have been impossible to constitute the House due to the legal restrictions. Government would not compromise with anybody who challenged the sovereignty and unity of the nation. He added that the Government would come with a package of electoral reforms and would keep the views of all political parties in mind with

*Members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Dharampal Singh Malik, Syed Shahabuddin, Ramesh Chennithala, Tej Narayan Singh, Basudeb Acharia, Mohan Singh, Manoranjan Bhakta, P.C. Thomas, E. Ahamed, Sharad Dighe, Chitta Basu and Sriballav Panigrahi.

regard to the solution of problems of Jammu and Kashmir. Later, the Resolution was withdrawn by leave of the House.

The Bill was passed.

Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 1991: On 14 August 1991, the Minister of Welfare, Shri Sitaram Kesri moved the Bill as passed by Rajya Sabha be taken into consideration.

Earlier, moving a Statutory Resolution regarding disapproval of the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991 (Ordinance No. 3 of 1991) promulgated by the President on 19 April 1991, Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava said that a comprehensive Bill should be brought before the House in which other castes and tribes from all the States should be included and a Commission in that regard should be constituted.

Sarvashri Syed Shahabuddin, Pius Tirkey and Rajnath Sonkar Shastri took part in the discussion.

Shri Sitaram Kesri replied to the debate, and

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava spoke (by way of reply to his Statutory Resolution).

The Resolution was negatived.

The Bill was passed.

Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991: Moving the Bill be taken into consideration, on 19 August 1991, the Minister of Welfare Shri Sitaram Kesri said that the Bill had been brought to replace the Ordinance promulgated on 19 April 1991, in which the Tribal Communities of Naik, Beda, Bedar and Valmiki of Karnataka were included in the List of Scheduled Tribes in the State, in order to derive the benefits and safeguards provided for Scheduled Tribes in the Constitution.

Winding up the discussion, Shri Sitaram Kesri said that Government would definitely consider some more castes for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Castes which had been approved by the Registrar General of India. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which had been recommended by the different State Governments for being included in the list of these communities would also be considered by the Government.

The Bill was passed.

On 6 September 1991, Shri Sitaram Kesri moved that an amendment made by Rajya Sabha in the above Bill as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

*Members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri V.S. Vijay Raghavan, Syed Shahabuddin, Rupchand Murmu, Manorianan Bhakta, Rajnath Sonkar Shastri, P.C. Thomas, Ram Vilas Paswan, Frank Anthony, H.D. Devegowda and Dr. Laxmi Narayan Pandey.

Earlier, moving a Statutory Resolution regarding disapproval of Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1991, Shri Ram Naik said that this was the first case where against one Ordinance, two Bills had been issued.

Replying to the discussion in which Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava also took part Shri Sitaram Kesri assured that a comprehensive Bill would be brought forward for including the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which had not been included in the list so far.

Shri Ram Naik spoke (by way of reply to his Statutory Resolution).

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

The motion was adopted and the amendment was agreed to.

*Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Bill, 1991:** On 9 September 1991, moving the Bill be taken into consideration, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that the Bill had been brought in fulfilment of a commitment made in the President's Address to the Parliament on 11 July 1991. Adoption of this Bill would effectively prevent any new controversies from arising in respect of conversion of any place of worship while the exemptions contained in sub-clause 3 of clause 4 would ensure that matters which had been settled amicably, finally disposed of by courts, barred by limitations, etc. would not be unnecessarily raised.

Intervening in the discussion, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad said that if instead of solving people's problems, political parties, misled them in the name of religion, that would aggravate the problem of unemployment and poverty and the country would never be able to progress. The Leader of the Opposition, Shri L.K. Advani, felt that we were not solving the problems which were causing tension. On the contrary, the Bill would cause tension where it was not existing, he added.

Supporting the Bill, Shri Indrajit Gupta said that the Bill would go a long way in defusing the situation which was sought to be created out of the temple and mosque controversy. Shri Somnath Chatterjee maintained that religious fundamentalism would only perpetuate division and create fear and hatred amongst the people.

Welcoming the Bill, Shri B. Vijaykumar Raju felt that religion should not be allowed to divide the country.

*The Bill was introduced on 23 August 1991 by the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan.

Winding up the discussion on 10 September 1991,^{*} Shri S.B. Chavan said that the Bill came as a measure to provide and develop the glorious traditions of love, peace and harmony. These traditions of amity, harmony and mutual respect came under severe strain during pre-independence period. It was our duty and commitment to learn lessons from them for the future. It was also necessary to take steps to put an immediate end to such unfortunate conflicts and foreclose any new controversies, he added.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

Special Protection Group (Amendment) Bill, 1991^{**}: Moving that the Bill be taken into consideration, on 11 September 1991, the Minister of Home Affairs Shri S.B. Chavan said that after the unfortunate assassination of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Special Protection Group (SPG) security cover was demanded for the Members of the family of the late Prime Minister in view of the fact that they were facing serious threats to their security. In deference to the views expressed by the members in the House, the Government decided that SPG cover might be provided to the former Prime Ministers and the members of their families for a maximum period of five years from the date of their demitting the office of the Prime Minister.

Participating in the discussion, Shri B. Vijaykumar Raju demanded that SPG protection should be extended to all those who were in need of it. Shri Somnath Chatterjee observed that the Government may provide all the necessary protection to Shri Rajiv Gandhi's family but then they must provide similar security to whoever needed protection in the country.

Winding up the discussion^{***}, Shri S.B. Chavan agreed that people at large deserved more security. But the Government would have to discriminate between security which was to be given to people at large and some people amongst them who had greater threat, he added.

The Bill as amended, was passed.

^{*}Members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri P.M. Sayeed, Ram Vilas Paswan, Mani Shankar Aiyar, Gumanmal Lodha, Rajnath Sonkar Shastri, Digvijaya Singh, S.C. Dikshit, Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait, Mohammad Yunus Saleem, Ashokrao Anandrao Deshmukh, Sudhir Sawant, Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi, Sunil Dutt, Ram Sunder Das, K.P. Unnikrishnan, Ram Saran Yadav, Saifuddin Choudhury, Girdhari Lal Bhargava, Madan Lal Khurana, Kamla Mishra Madhukar, Syed Shahabuddin, Mohan Singh E. Ahamed, Ram Naik, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya and Kumari Uma Bharati.

^{**}The Bill was introduced on 26 August, 1991 by Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan.

^{***}Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Ram Naik, M. Ramanna Rai, George Fernandes, Digvijaya Singh, Pawan Kumar Bansal, Chitta Basu, Ramashray Prasad Singh, Ram Prasad Singh, Girdhari Lal Bhargava, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat and Prof. Prem Dhumal.

C. THE QUESTION HOUR

During the session, 19,709 notices of Questions (15,430 Starred, 4,193 Unstarred and 86 Short Notice Questions) were received. Out of the total 820 Starred Questions and 7,060 Unstarred Questions were admitted. 17 Starred and 105 Unstarred Questions were deleted/postponed/transferred from one Ministry to another.

Daily average of Questions: Each of the lists of Starred Questions contained 20 Questions except that of 24, 25, 29 and 30 July; 1, 12, 21, 23, 28 and 30 August; and 5 and 11 September, 1991 Which contained 21 Questions each, 13 September 1991 which contained 22 Questions, and 9 September 1991 which contained 23 Questions. The average number of Starred Questions orally answered on the floor of the House during the Session was 5. The maximum Starred questions answered on a day was eight on 13 August and 3 September 1991 and the minimum were two on 12 August 1991.

The average number of Questions in the lists of Unstarred Questions were 164 against the prescribed limit of 230 questions, the minimum being 50 on 12 July 1991 and the maximum being 233 on 13 and 14 August 1991.

Half-an-Hour Discussion: In all, 68 notices of Half-an-Hour Discussion were received during the Session. Out of these, 9 notices were admitted and 4 notices were discussed on the floor of the House.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, the House made obituary references to the passing away of Shri Chitta Mahata who was elected to the Tenth Lok Sabha but passed away before taking oath; Shri Rajiv Gandhi, who was elected to the Tenth Lok Sabha posthumously; Sarvashri C.K. Chakrapani, Nagina Rai, Gauri Shankar Rai, Jageshwar Yadav, Ishwar Chaudhry, S.A. Dange, Dinesh Goswami, Prabhu Dayal Himmatsingka, Bhai Shaminder Singh, Dattatraya Parashuram Karamarkar, Jagannathrao Joshi, Chhaviram Argal, Bhakt Darshan, Shankar Dayal Singh, Kadiyala Gopla Rao, V.K.R.V. Rao, Ram Deo Singh, Ananta Tripathy Sarma, Digvijay Narain Singh, Raja Ram Shastri, Samar Bramha Chaudhury, Ravi Narayan Reddi, Shrimati B. Radhabhai Ananda Rao, Shrimati Mukul Banerjee, Shrimati Bimal Kaur (all former members), and Shri Uma Shankar Dikshit (former Union Minister and Rajya Sabha member).

RAJYA SABHA*

HUNDRED AND FIFTY-EIGHTH SESSION

The Rajya Sabha met for its Hundred and Fifty-Eighth Session on 3 June 1991 and adjourned *sine die* on 5 June 1991**. A brief resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the Session is given below.***

A. DISCUSSIONS

Resolution on the demise of Shri Rajiv Gandhi: On 3 June 1991, the Chairman placed the following Resolution before the House on the demise of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India.

This House deeply mourns the passing away of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, an outstanding world leader, who with prescient vision, indomitable courage and tremendous determination, dedicated himself to the sacred task of building a new India, representing the dreams of generations of patriots in our glorious struggle for freedom, an India strong, united, peaceful and progressive, an India evolving, in the genius of her time-honoured ethos of oneness of synthesis, towards, modernity, an India making her contribution to the building of a better, more humane, world environment.

This House gives expression to the sense of profound shock and remorse felt by our nation, and the people around the world, that Shri Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated and our nation so deprived.

The horrendous assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi is recognised by us as a blow inflicted on democracy, secularism and our national goal of growth with social justice. This is the time when India must ponder over, and fully comprehend, the ramifications of this great tragedy. The nation must beware of any further attempts to convulse and disrupt national life.

This House condemns the diabolical and pre-meditated conspiracy threatening the very foundations of our civilization, culture and identity as a free, sovereign and independent nation-state, a nation which nurtured Rajiv and which in turn he served, and sought to help transcend to new horizons, with his inimitable stamp of decency and distinction.

It is vitally necessary that the nation responds to the dreadful deed by the manifestation of resolute determination upholding our national values unitedly and fearlessly, and by our rededication to

*Contributed by the Research and Library Section, Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

**The special two-day Session of Rajya Sabha was convened to consider and approved the Proclamation regarding President's Rule in Haryana issued on 5 April 1991. Since the Lok Sabha was not constituted, the Rajya Sabha considered the Proclamation.

***A brief resume each of the 159th and 160th sessions of Rajya Sabha is also included in this feature.

the task of national reconstruction and the building of a better future for the world as a whole.

Nothing less would be an appropriate tribute to the memory of Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Thereafter, the Chairman made obituary reference to the passing away of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and several members associated themselves with the sentiments expressed by the Chairman.

The House then adopted the Resolution and observed two minutes' silence, with all members standing as a mark of respect to the memory of Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Alleged Failure of Government to provide adequate security to Shri Rajiv Gandhi and to prevent large-scale violence in various parts of the country following his assassination: Initiating a short duration discussion on the above mentioned subject on 4 June 1991, Shri Parvathaneni Upendra charged the Government with criminal negligence in providing security to Shri Rajiv Gandhi as the Tamil Nadu administration was directly under the control of the Centre.

The members said that the terms of reference of the judicial inquiry which had been ordered into the assassination might be expanded so that all ramifications of the assassination could be brought out.

Referring to several violent incidents which took place in many states after the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the member demanded action against the culprits who had been named. There should be a judicial inquiry into the incidents in Tamil Nadu and Tripura also, that the elections in Tripura must be postponed until the situation improved, the member suggested.

Intervening in the debate, Prime Minister Shri Chandra Shekhar said that never before in the history of the whole world had a human bomb been used to kill any VIP. The assassination was of its own type and that was why perhaps the security lapse was there.

Replying to the debate^{*} on 4 June 1991, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri Subodh Kant Sahay said that there was certainly some security lapse. A special Investigating Task Force headed by the Director of CBI had been set up to investigate the whole matter at the national and international level. An Inquiry Commission had also been

^{*} Other members who took part in the discussion were : Sarvashri N.K.P. Salve, Ish Dutt Yadav, S.B. Chavan, S. Jaipal Reddy, Dipen Ghose, Ghulam Nabi Azad, Sikander Bakht, A.G. Kulkarni, S. Viduthalai Virumbi, Madan Bhatia, N.E. Balaram, Kapil Verma, H. Hanumanthappa, M. Vincent, Narayan Kar, Vishvijit P. Singh, S.S. Ahluwalia, V. Narayanasamy, Moturu Hanumantha Rao, Kahnur Charan Lenka, Mohammed Afzal, B.L. Panwar, Shiv Pratap Mishra, Surendra Singh, Thakur and Ram Awadhesh Singh, Prof. Sourendra Bhattacharjee, Dr. Subramaniam Swamy, Dr. Rudra Pratap Singh, Dr. Ratnakar Pandey, Dr. Abrar Ahmed, Shrimati Satya Behin, Kumeri Sayeeda Khatun and Kumari Alia.

set up which would submit its reports within a period of three months. The terms of reference of the Commission would be suitably amended to incorporate the views expressed in the House with the consent of Justice Verma who was heading the inquiry, the Minister informed.

Shri Subodh Kant Sahay asserted that the Government had not failed to discharge its responsibility after the tragedy. A control room had been set up in the Ministry of Home Affairs under the supervision of an Additional Secretary. Winding up the discussion, the Minister informed about the steps taken to ensure the security to national leaders and others during the election.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

I. *Statutory Resolution seeking approval of the Proclamation issued on 6 April, 1991 under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Haryana.*

II. *Motion seeking revocation of the Proclamation issued on the 6 April 1991 under article 356 of the Constitution, in relation to the State of Haryana:* On 4 June 1991, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri Subodh Kant Sahay moved:

"That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 6th April, 1991 under article 356 of the Constitution, in relation to the State of Haryana".

The Resolution was adopted.

On the same day the following Motion seeking revocation of the President's Rule in Haryana was moved by Shri S.S. Ahluwalia:

"That this House recommends to the President that the Proclamation issued by him on the 6th April, 1991, under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Haryana, be revoked".

The Motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

C. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, references were made to the passing away of Sarvashri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister, S.A. Dange, Veteran Communist Leader, Mahadeo Prasad Verma, Premji T. Leuva, Uma Shankar Dikshit, Prabhu Dayal Himmatsingka, P.V. Kumaran, all former members and Dinesh Goswami, sitting member. Members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

HUNDRED AND FIFTY-NINTH SESSION

The Rajya Sabha met for its Hundred and Fifty-Ninth Session on 11 July 1991 and adjourned *sine die* on 7 August 1991. A brief resume of

some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the session is given below:

A. DISCUSSIONS

Acute power shortage in the country: Calling the attention of the Minister of Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources on 15 July 1991, Shri S.S. Ahluwalia referred to the acute power shortage in the country and the steps taken to remedy the situation.

Replying to the Calling attention, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Shri Kalp Nath Rai stated that the present power shortage was mainly on account of the demand for power outstripping the generation. However, all possible measures were being taken to augment the availability of power. The Eighth Plan proposal before Planning Commission was for addition of 38,000 MW. The proposals cleared were likely to end in commissioning of an additional power generation capacity of about 27,189 M.W.

The Minister further informed that states such as Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar and Orissa had experienced power shortage of more than 10 per cent during April to June in the current year. Most of these States depended to a substantial extent or even entirely on hydel generation. Assistance was being arranged for deficit areas from neighbouring systems. Simultaneously, demand management measures were also being implemented following a system of graded priorities. While doing so, a higher priority was being accorded to the agricultural sector and its minimum requirements were being met.

While concluding, the Minister referred to the development and utilisation of new and renewable energy sources which could also contribute to fill up the energy demand gap in the country.

The Budget (Railways) 1991-92: Initiating a discussion on the Railway Budget on 20 July 1991, Shrimati Kamla Sinha said that in the current Railway Budget, fares and freights had been increased without taking into consideration the serious problems being faced by the passengers due to non-availability of the bare minimum amenities. Passengers did not get seats and had to travel by sitting on the roofs or by catching the door rods. Even drinking water and toilet facilities were deplorable. Most of the trains ran late by 8 to 10 hours, causing huge losses and much suffering to the passengers.

Replying to the discussion* on 26th July 1991, the Minister of Railways, Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief observed that the allocation for passenger amenities received a big boost in the Seventh Plan period. There was a

*Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Sunil Basu Ray, Jagdish Jani, Ish Dutt Yadav, John F. Fernandes, Shanli Tyagi, Pravat Kumar Samantaray, V. Gopalsamy, Pramod Mahajan, P. Upendra, Ram Naresh Yadav, Shankar Dayal Singh, Moturu Hanumantha Rao, Basant Kumar Das, Viduthalai Virumbi, M. Vincent, Sarda Mohanty, David Ledger, Dr. Abrar Ahmed, Dr. Nagen Saikia, Shrimati Kamla Sinha and Shrimati Suryankanta Patil.

general demand for expeditious expansion of the railway network. Funds required for the completion of the on-going new lines and gauge conversion projects exceeded Rs. 3,000 crores. Until those projects progressed, it would not be prudent to take on new projects, he added.

Motion of Thanks on the President's Address: Moving the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address on 17 July 1991, Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan referred to the senseless assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, on 21 May, in Tamil Nadu. The tremendous sacrifice that he made, was for the cause of democracy, unity and integrity of the country.

On the issue of reservation, she said that reservation was not simply a matter of caste. It was something that the founding-fathers of the Constitution handed out to the deprived sections of the society. Reservation was a matter of historical compensation, the member asserted.

Referring to the Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid controversy the member submitted that there had to be a proper negotiated settlement of the issue. Concluding her speech, the member referred to the state of the economy and said that one of the important corrective steps in this regard would be to improve tax collection. Devaluation of rupee and IMF loan were important economic issues. Then the questions of sale of gold and the balance of payments situation were there. Finally, she stressed the need for a complete package for women in every sphere of life such as nutrition, education, employment, housing, etc.

Replying to the debate* on the Motion of Thanks on 20 July 1991, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao said that there was no question of the Government making any departure from the Nehru line which was so comprehensive that it itself had enough scope to make innovative changes according to circumstances. The economic situation had been described as near-hopeless. But during the last few days, there hopes had been revived because of certain decisions that the Government had taken.

Referring to the problem of Punjab, the Prime Minister said that in a democratic set up problems had to be solved democratically.

Regarding Kashmir, the Prime Minister stated that the only bridge between the people of Kashmir on the one hand and the Union Government on the other, namely, the State Government, had been

* Other members who took part in the discussion were : Sarvashri Bishambhar Nath Pande, Ranjit Singh, Kapil Verma, Shabbir Ahmad Salaria, Vithalrao Madhavrao Jadhav, Samar Mukherjee, Surendra Singh Thakur, Santosh Kumar Sahu, Murasoli Maran, Krishna Kumar Birla, Mentay Padmanabham, Rajni Ranjan Sahu, Maulana Asad Madni, Som Pal, Nyodek Tonggam, Ramachandran Pillai, Anant Ram Jaiswal, Suresh Pachouri, S. Madhavan, S.K.T. Ramachandran, G.G. Swell, Sangh Priya Gautam, Ram Jethmalani, Khyomo Lotha, Prakash Yashwanth Ambedkar, Ish Dutt Yadav, Sardar Jagjit Singh Aurora, Prof. Sourendra Bhattacharjee, Dr. Raja Ramanna, Dr. Z.A. Ahmad, Dr. Nagen Saikia, Dr. Rudra Pratap Singh, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, Shrimati Pratibha Singh, Shrimati Bijoya Chakravarty and Kumari Chandrika Premji Kenia.

dismantled. The Government had to build bridges there for solving the problem.

So far as the Assam situation was concerned, the new State Government, headed by an experienced administrator, had taken over. The Prime Minister hoped that the problem in Assam would also be solved in the near future.

Reiterating the promises made in the Congress Party Manifesto, Shri Narasimha Rao said that all programmes for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, minorities and the Backward Classes, as also programmes for women, including the appointment of a Commissioner for Women's rights, would be implemented. The concept of Indira Mahila Yojana had to unfold itself. Women's programmes were in different boxes like social welfare programmes. The idea was to integrate all those things under one umbrella to give a real thrust to the programme.

Winding up the discussion, the Prime Minister emphasised the need of consensus and of cooperation in the politics of the country. He said that it was the time to come together with a purpose and solve the problems of the country.

All the amendments moved were either withdrawn or negatived and the Motion of Thanks, as originally moved, was adopted on 20 July 1991.

Gold Transactions : Making a statement on 18 July 1991, regarding the transactions of gold, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh referred to the rapid decrease in the foreign exchange reserves, despite significant borrowings from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in July 1990 and January 1991. Explaining further, the Minister said that due to the weakening of international confidence in the rupee, international commercial banks had become extremely reluctant to lend money. For the same reason, inflow of remittances from non-resident Indians into foreign currency and rupee denominated general accounts with banks in India had ceased to be a positive figure.

In exercise of its powers, the Reserve Bank of India sent abroad 4.8 metric tonnes of gold on 4 July 1991 to be kept in safe custody with the Bank of England. On 7 July, another 20.01 tonnes was sent followed by a further quantity of 12.09 tonnes on 11 July. Thus, in all, the Reserve Bank of India had sent abroad a total quantity of 46.91 tonnes.

Concluding, the Finance Minister said that the present Government had set the economy in motion in a reasonably short period of time and it would be its endeavour to bring back that gold which was sent abroad.

The Budget (General), 1991-92 : Initiating the discussion on the Budget (General), on 29 July 1991, Shri S. Jaipal Reddy said that the three most disturbing aspects of the current economic situation were: (1) yawning

*Laid on the Table of the House on 24 July 1991.

fiscal deficit; (2) run-away price factor; and (3) alarming foreign exchange crunch. Because of the growing fiscal deficit, the wholesale price index rose to over 9 per cent in 1989-90.

In the context of the IMF loan, the members said that the IMF was not interested so much in the fiscal correction of the Indian economy as in getting the country's economy opened up to multinationals and their capturing the Indian market. All the measures initiated by the finance Minister had been introduced not because they were in the best interest of the country, but because that was the only way to obtain the IMF loan, he added.

Flaying the other objectives of the Budget, the member pointed out that for the first time in the last 11 years, the growth rate would be four per cent. The Budget, far from being deflationary, was highly inflationary. The rupee had been devalued by over 46 per cent, the member opined.

The member said that the biggest failure in the area of the fiscal effort by the Government through the current Budget was its failure to tap the source of black money. The Government lacked political will to tackle the problem, he concluded.

Replying to the debate* on 31 July 1991 the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that the current account deficit of ten thousand crores of rupees was not a small sum, but its financing was the real problem. Before the onset of this crisis, a part of this deficit was being financed by non-resident remittances which was of the order of Rs. 25,000 crore. In addition, India was borrowing in the international capital market a gross amount of about Rs. 4500 crores. Now these two inflows were simply not available to India. The country had an outstanding amount of 11 billion dollars of non-resident deposits which would go out of India at any time. Referring to several other measures taken to maintain the growth momentum of the economy, the Finance Minister stated that the Government had succeeded in bringing about a degree of calmness in the international capital market as also in saving about Rs. 3000 crores of budgetary subsidies which went to the export sector. That exchange rate adjustment would not only encourage growth of export but also eliminate a lot of bureaucratic interference and the scope for all undesirable practices.

* Other members who took part in the debate were : Sarvashri E. Balanandan, A.G. Kulkarni, Viren J. Shah, Jagesh Desai, Kamal Morarka, Chaturanan Mishra, Vishvijit P. Singh, G. Swaminathan, Pragada Kotiah, Hiphei, Santosh Bagrodia, Chimanbhai Mehta, Shabbir Ahmad Salaria, Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar, Ashis Sen, Chhotubhai Patel, Ashwani Kumar, S.S. Ahluwalia, Tindivanam G. Venkataraman, Shiv Pratap Mishra, Vithalbhai M. Patel, B.V. Abdulla Koya, Anand Prakash Gautam, Dayanand Sahay, Ram Awadhesh Singh, Ram Naresh Yadav, Prof. Chandresh P. Thakur, Prof. Sourendra Bhattacharjee, Dr. Yelamanchili Sivaji, Dr. Ratnakar Pandey, Dr. Narreddy Reddy, Shrimati Bijoya Chakravarty, Shrimati Mira Das, Shrimati Veena Verma, Shrimati Satya Bahin and Kumari Alia.

The Finance Minister repudiated the charge that the Budget had been prepared at the behest of the International Monetary Fund.

As regards, the issue of public sector versus private sector, the Finance Minister said that the Government wanted to work towards the public sector which was efficient and which made profit. But if it functioned in a manner in which year after year, there were losses, that sort of a public sector would be a drag on the economy, he added.

New Industrial Policy: Initiating a short duration discussion on 6 August 1991 on the new Industrial Policy, Dr. Jinendra Kumar Jain observed that the present day ruination of India's national economy was a consequence of the enslavement of entrepreneurs by those very policies of controls, regulations and licences.

The member agreed that India should be integrated with the global economy. But in doing so it had to be seen that the benefits went to the Indian industry and not to multi-nationals.

Replying to the discussion¹ on 7 August 1991, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao said that India could not rely on borrowed technology. The country had to be in line with the latest trends in technology, the latest trends in industrialisation.

Shri Narasimha Rao said that for the first time education had been taken as a component of development and also as a corrective to social inequality. At the root of all this industrialisation would have to be a massive programme of human resource development. As regards small, tiny and cottage industries, about which apprehensions were being expressed, it should be made clear that there was no question of any of those industries being submerged by heavy industries or big industries, the Prime Minister added.

Subsidy on fertilizers: Raising a half-an-hour discussion on 6 August 1991, on the points arising out of answer to Starred Question No. 222 given in the Rajya Sabha on 30 July 1991 regarding subsidy on food and fertilisers, Dr. Yelamanchili Sivaji said that the Indian farmer was paying more than five times of what his counterpart in Japan was paying for the same quantity of fertilizers. Compared to Pakistan and Bangladesh, Indian farmers were compelled to pay at least 2½ to 3 times to get the same quantity of fertilizers. That subsidy was intended to safeguard the high taxation on fertilizers, high freight rates of Railways, high charges of electricity and not the interests of farmers.

Replying to the discussion on the same day, the Minister of Finance,

¹Other members who took part in the discussion were : Sarvashri A.G. Kulkarni, M.S. Gurupadaswamy, Vithalrao Madhavrao Jadhav, Dipen Ghosh, Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare, Yashwant Sinha, Vishvjit P. Singh, Santosh Bagrodia, Tindivanam G. Venkataraman, Chaturan Mishra, S. Madhavan, Jagesh Desai, Bhupinder Singh Mann, Shabbir Ahmad Salaria, Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar, Prof. M.G.K. Menon and Dr. G. Vijaya Mohan Reddy.

Dr. Manmohan Singh said that the country did not have foreign exchange to import the fertiliser. Stating the past experience, the Minister said that the history of the last 20 years showed that whenever there had been such a big increase in the petroleum prices, there was no way to protect an industry like fertiliser. It was easy for countries like Japan and United States and the European Community to subsidise their farmers without their treasury getting bankrupt. But in a country where farmers constituted 70 per cent of the population, there was no magic formula which could subsidise this 70 per cent of the population.

The Finance Minister said that the decision to exempt small and marginal farmers totally from the increase in fertiliser prices was a step in the right direction. The only way to deal with urban and rural disparities was to strike at the root of the problem, which was that India had an excessively protected industry, the Minister concluded.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

*The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1991**: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 16 July 1991, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, Shri Rangarajan Kumaramangalam said that Section 14(2) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 as amended was very categorical. The Chief Election Commissioner found it fit to recommend to the President that elections could not be held in Jammu and Kashmir immediately along with the rest of India since circumstances were such that special security arrangements would have to be made. There was not sufficient manpower, both administrative as well as security, to have elections. It was impossible to issue a notification under Section 14(1) without amending Section 73.

Regarding Punjab, the Minister stated that the Chief Election Commissioner had not cancelled the elections but postponed them for reasons to his satisfaction. 23 Candidates out of 170 were killed. Punjab was not in a position where 'free and fair elections could have been held.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses etc., were adopted and the Bill was passed on the same day.

*The Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 1991*** : Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 1 August 1991, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Supplies and Public Distribution, Shri Kamaluddin Ahmed said that the law to protect the rights of the consumer was enacted in 1986. The present amendment bill sought to replace the ordinance which was necessitated due to the crucial judgement given by Justice Eradi, President of the National Commission. Had the ordinance not been issued, a large number of cases decided by various fora and State Commissions like that of Delhi and Maharashtra would have been null and

*The Bill was introduced in the House on 12 July 1991.

**The Bill was introduced in the House on 24 July 1991.

void. Regarding the functioning of the various fora, the Minister stated that thousands of complaints were filed with the fora and Commission. Many of them were inquired into and disposed of. However, in many States these fora had not been constituted in all the districts. The fora and Commission had all the powers. They were empowered to give compensation.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and clauses, etc., were adopted and the Bill was passed on 1 August 1991.

The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 1991: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 1 August 1991, the Minister of Welfare, Shri Sitaram Kesri said that there was persistent demand from the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir for the inclusion of the Gujjars and Bakarwals in the List of the Scheduled Tribes in the State. As the Lok Sabha had been dissolved and the Rajya Sabha was not in Session, the aforesaid circumstances necessitated the promulgation of the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991. The Bill sought to replace the above-mentioned ordinance and also to include the Gaddi and Sippi communities in the List of Scheduled Tribes in the said order, as recommended by the State Government.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses, etc., were adopted and the Bill was passed on 5 August 1991.

Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill 1991: Moving the motion for the consideration of the Bill on 6 August 1991, the Minister of Home Shri S.B. Chavan said that in view of the fact that the Act was expiring on 24 May 1991 and the terrorist violence still continued unabated, it was decided to further extend the Act by two years up to May 1993. As Parliament was not in session and the circumstances so warranted, the President promulgated on 2 May 1991, the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Amendment Ordinance, 1991. The Bill was to replace the said Ordinance.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses, etc., were adopted and the Bill was passed on the same day.

C. THE QUESTION HOUR

During the Session, 3,704 notices of questions (3,428 Starred and 276 Unstarred) were received. Out of these, 274 Starred questions and 1776 Unstarred Questions were admitted. 11 Short Notices Questions were received but were either refused or lapsed. After the lists of questions were printed, 8 Starred and 65 Unstarred Questions were transferred from one Ministry to another.

*The Bill was introduced in the House on 29 July 1991.

**The Bill was introduced in the House on 2 August 1991.

Daily Average of Questions: Each of the lists of Starred Questions contained 19 to 21 Questions. On an average, 4 Questions were orally answered per sitting. The maximum number of Questions orally answered were 6 on 19 July 1991 and the minimum number of Questions orally answered were 3 on 16, 17, 18, 25, 30 and 31 July 1991.

The minimum number of Questions admitted in lists of Unstarred Questions were 27 on 12 July 1991 and their maximum number was 274 on 30 July 1991. Their average came to 127.

Half-an-Hour Discussion: 8 notices of Half-an-Hour Discussion were received and out of them 3 were admitted and two were clubbed therewith.

Statement Correcting answers to Questions: 2 statements correcting answers to Questions answered in the House were made by the Minister concerned.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, references were made to the passing away of Sarvashri P.K. Kunjachen, sitting member and D.P. Karmarkar, Jagannath Rao Joshi and Thakur Kamakhya Prasad Singh, all ex-members. Members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

HUNDRED AND SIXTIETH SESSION

The Rajya Sabha met for its Hundred and Sixtieth Session on 26 August 1991 and adjourned *sine die* on 18 September 1991. A brief resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the Session is given below:

A. DISCUSSIONS

Discussion on the working of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry: Initiating the discussion on the working of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on 29 August 1991, Shri Kapil Verma said that a technological-revolution in the field of communication was taking place.

He suggested that the effort on the part of Doordarshan should be to project the policies of the Government. The entire format needed to be changed. In depth analysis of the news was most important. There should be a separate News Division. At present, a common pool copy was being used for TV and radio both.

Replying to the discussion* on 4 September 1991, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Ajit Kumar Panja said

*Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Raj Mohan Gandhi, Suresh Pachouri, Bishambhar Nath Pande, Pramod Mahajan, Vithalbhai M. Patel, Anant Ram Jaiswal, Vishvjit P. Singh, P. Upendra, S. Viduthalai Virumbi, John F. Fernandes, S.S. Antuwalla, G. Swaminathan, Gurudas Das Gupta, David Ledger and Mohammad Atzal alias Meem Atzal, Prof. Sourender Bhattacharjee, Dr. Nagen Saikia, Shrimati Sarala Maheshwari, Shrimati Veena Verma and Kumari Girija Vyas.

that in the Congress(I) Manifesto it had been laid down that the party would make a law in regard to the freedom of information and offer broadcasting and telecasting rights to public corporation which would be allowed to function in competition with Prasar Bharati.

Regarding the demand to televise the proceedings of the Parliament, the Minister said that resource constraint would stand in the way. For TV programmes, light was very low in both the Houses of Parliament. So the high sensitivity cameras would have to be imported because they were not available in India.

Concluding his speech the Minister informed that in 1957, All India Radio Act fixed up 10 per cent of the time for advertisement. Doordarshan was giving 2.5 per cent of the telecast time for advertisements. So far as privatisation was concerned, it was a Government corporation. So many complaints were received about the news left out. That was because sometimes there was a time constraint; within 10 minutes so many things could not be covered, including Parliament News and other news. The Minister said that the parameters laid down by law would be taken care of by the august House.

Discussion on the Working of the Ministry of Labour: Initiating the debate on the working of the Ministry of Labour on 4 September 1991, Shrimati Kamla Sinha said that the Labour Standing Committee had not been reconstituted. The National Front Government had brought forward a bill which provided that there would be labour participation in the management. All the labour organisation welcomed the Bill but the management criticised it. The new Government had not clarified its stand on that issue. The Industrial Relations Bill was also opposed vehemently by the labour organisations. A comprehensive Bill should be brought forward in that regard, the member suggested.

Continuing her unfinished speech on 5 September 1991, the member said that inspite of successive Plans, unemployment continued to increase.

Regarding women workers, the member observed that about 10 per cent of the total women workers were employed in the organised sector whenever there was any move for new technology, rationalisation or industrialisation in that sector women workers were the first victims of retrenchment. This should be stopped. Sexual harassment of women at their work-place should be considered as offence under the Trade Union Act and the supervisor or the owner of that work-place should be held responsible for any such act, she added.

Replying to the debate* on 9 September 1991, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Coal, Shri P.A. Sangma said that the bulk of workers belonged to the unorganized sector. The National Commission on Rural Labour had gone into the problems of that particular section of unorganised labour. There were demands from many quarters that child labour should be totally abolished. Government consciously took a decision that wherever it was necessary for example, in occupations which were hazardous and dangerous child labour should be prohibited. Under the National Child Labour Policy, the Government also incorporated the National Child Labour Programme.

The Minister said that the Government was also actively considering the constitution of a National Commission on Bonded Labour on the lines of the National Commission for Women.

So far as the demand for the National Wage Policy was concerned, it was not very easy to have a national wage policy for the Central Government, State Government and different sectors because there were different mechanisms for different sectors. However, the Ministry of Finance was contemplating to appoint a National Wage Commission. As regards implementation of the Bachawat Wage Board recommendations, the Deputy Minister had written letters to the State Government suggesting that they should immediately constitute tripartite bodies in order to monitor the implementation of the Bachawat Award, the Minister informed.

Recognition by Government of the three Baltic States, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania: On 9 September 1991, making a Statement on the recognition of the three Baltic States by the Government of India, the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Eduardo Faleiro said that the new National Treaty of USSR that was intended to be signed on 20 August 1991, had envisaged that the constituent Republics of USSR would be sovereign States. The new treaty could not be signed due to the attempted *coup* in that country on 19 August 1991, on 6 September 1991, the USSR State Council, the highest interim executive authority of the Soviet Union, passed a resolution officially recognising the independence of the three Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Government of India's policy on the recognition of states stipulated that the constitutional procedures required for the declaration of sovereignty should be proper and irrevocable, and that the Governments concerned should be in effective control of the territory. In the case of the three Baltic

* Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Mohammed Amin, V. Narayanasamy, J.S. Raju, Santosh Bagrodia, Pragada Kotaiah, Naresh Puglia, Anand Prakash Gautam, Shabbir Ahmed Salaria, Pravat Kumar Samantaray, Jagdish Prasad Mathur, Ranjit Singh, G. Swaminathan, Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar, H. Hanumanthappa, Gurdas Das Gupta, Prof. Chandresh P. Thakur, Prof. Sourendra Bhattacharjee, Dr. Ratnakar Pandey and Dr. G. Vijay Mohan Reddy,

States, these conditions were adequately fulfilled. The Government of India announced on 7 September 1991 that it welcomed the entry of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania into the comity of independent States and recognised them as such.

Prime Minister's visit to the Federal Republic of Germany: Making a Statement on 13 September 1991, on his visit to the Federal Republic of Germany from 5 to 7 September 1991, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narsimha Rao said that the main purpose of that goddwill visit was to inaugurate, along with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, the Festival of India in Germany. The Prime Minister said that he took advantage of that occasion to exchange views with German leaders on a wide range of bilateral and international issues. The other important features of the visit were a meeting with the Senior Executives of leading members of the German business community, and a luncheon meeting with German Indologists.

The Prime Minister stated that the Festival of India was dedicated to the memory of Shri Rajiv Gandhi who had mooted the idea three years ago during his meeting with Chancellor Kohl. A reciprocal Festival of Germany in India was planned for the year 1993-94.

Expressing satisfaction over his visit to Germany, the Prime Minister hoped that it would provide a fresh impetus to Indo-German cooperation. Of particular significance was the desire expressed by Chancellor Helmut Kohl to draw India closer to the new Europe that was emerging.

The Affairs of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (Overseas) Ltd.: Raising a Short Duration Discussion on 14 September 1991, on the affairs of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (Overseas) Ltd. Shri Chaturanan Mishra observed that the activities of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (Overseas) Ltd, which had come to light were very dangerous for India. Drug smuggling was going on a large scale through that Bank which was also involved in espionage and arms gangs' training. It had also come to light that the persons creating disturbances in Kashmir, were being helped by the Bank.

The member suggested that a Joint Parliamentary Committee consisting of members of both the Houses should be constituted to go into the affairs of the Bank.

Replying to the discussion on 16 September 1991, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh assured the House that all the points that had been made on the floor of the House would be looked into properly. Whether there was any deficiency in the BCCI's Bombay branch would be found out through the special audit which the Reserve Bank of India had ordered. He said that several issues had been raised about matters

*Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri A.G. Kulkarni, M.S. Gurupadaswamy, N.K.P. Salve, Sunil Basu Ray, Vishwasrao Ramrao Patil, Shabbir Ahmed Salaria, Dr. Vijay Mohan Reddy, Prof Sourendra Bhattacharjee and Smt. Sushma Swaraj.

having a bearing on the security of the country. The licence to the Bank was given in accordance with established procedures. The Reserve Bank had regularly inspected the Bombay branch. The Reserve Bank would take care of the interests of the depositors, he added.

The price situation in the country: Calling the attention of the Minister of Finance on 16 September 1991, Shri Gurudas Das Gupta referred to the price situation in the country and action taken by the Government in regard thereto.

Replying to the Calling Attention, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that during the current financial year, the acceleration in the rate of inflation might be attributable to a large liquidity over-hang inherited from the past; the unavoidable increase in administered prices of petroleum products, fertilisers and sugar as part of the fiscal adjustment; the serious constraint on supply management through imports as a result of the precarious balance of payments situation; and inflationary expectations on account of exchange rate adjustments in early July and the uneven progress of the monsoon until late August.

Elucidating some important measures taken by the Government to curb the rising trend in prices, the Minister said that the Union Budget for 1991-92 sought to reduce the fiscal deficit of the Union Government by 2 percentage points of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from 8.5 per cent in 1990-91 to 6.5 per cent in 1991-92. At the same time, the Reserve Bank of India was implementing a strong monetary discipline so as to mop up excess liquidity by restraining the growth of money supply and the expansion of credit. In view of the recent price output developments relating to foodgrains, the minimum margins on bank advances against the stocks of paddy and other foodgrains had been raised across the board by 15 percentage points, and selective credit controls on bank advances against the stocks of wheat (including advances to roller flour mills), which were exempted from the credit controls, had been reintroduced with effect from 4 September 1991.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 1991^a: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 27 August 1991, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Shri Kamal Nath said that the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 provided for protection of wildlife and management of its habitats. Wild life in India had suffered seriously on account of rapid growth of population and the consumption-oriented approach. Setting up of National Parks and Sanctuaries was the highest priority of wild life conservation. Poaching of wild animals and illegal trade had, over the years, taken serious dimensions because of the

^a The Bill was introduced on 10 January 1991.

alarming rise in the prices of wild animals' products. Proposals had been made in the Bill to make the penalties for various offences, more deterrent.

Referring to several measures adopted in the Bill to safeguard wild life, the Minister said that commercial exploitation of plants had brought many species on the verge of extinction. Provision to prohibit collection and exploitation of plants was being made. Provisions with regard to trade in scheduled animal articles were also proposed to be amended.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill, as amended, was passed on 28 August 1991.

The Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Bill, 1991^{*}: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 12 September 1991, the Minister of Home, Shri S.B. Chavan said that the Bill sought to prohibit conversion of any place of worship and to provide for the maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship as it existed on 15 August 1947. The Bill had been brought in fulfilment of a commitment made in the President's Address to the Parliament on 11 July 1991. The adoption of the Bill would effectively prevent any new controversies from arising in respect of conversion of any place of worship.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill was passed on the same day.

The Remittances of Foreign Exchange and Investment in Foreign Exchange Bonds (Immunities and Exemptions) Bill, 1991^{**}: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 13 September 1991, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Shri Rameshwar Thakur said that the Government had taken measures to ensure that those who had got money abroad brought it in foreign remittance and the foreign remittance in India would be allowed without any income tax, wealth tax or gift tax up to 30 November 1991. Similarly, those who wanted to buy bonds in foreign exchange, that was in dollars, the State Bank of India would be issuing these bonds and they would be fully protected and could be held in dollars abroad or they could be brought into India. They could be transferred freely to others and the interest rate would be duly protected.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill was returned to Lok Sabha on 14 September 1991.

The Special Protection Group (Amendment) Bill, 1991^{***}: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 14 September 1991, the Minister of Home, Shri S.B. Chavan said that after the unfortunate assassination of late, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister, many members had

^{*}The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, was laid on the Table of the House on 11 September 1991.

^{**}The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, was laid on the Table on 11 September 1991.

^{***}The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, was laid on the Table on 11 September 1991.

demanded that the Special Protection Group security cover should be provided to the members of the family of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The Government had reconsidered the Bill and had also proposed to amend SPG Act in order to cover the former Prime Ministers. The Government had decided that the SPG cover might be provided to the former Prime Ministers and members of their families for a maximum period of five years from the date of their demitting the office of the Prime Minister.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill was passed on the same day.

The Voluntary Deposits (Immunities and Exemptions) Bill, 1991: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 18 September 1991, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Shri Rameshwar Thakur said that in the Budget speech for 1991-92, the Minister of Finance had announced that the Government would like to give a last opportunity to tax evaders to come clean by making a deposit under a scheme to be instituted for the purpose. The Bill provided for institution of a scheme by the National Housing Bank to accept voluntary deposits from persons in possession of black money and withdrawal of 60 per cent of the same by them for any purpose of their choice. The scheme should be prepared by the National Housing Bank and notified by it in the Official Gazette.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill was returned to the Lok Sabha on the same day.

C. THE QUESTION HOUR

During the Session 4,165 notices of Question (3,685 Starred and 480 Unstarred) were received. Out of these, 276 Starred Questions and 1,868 Unstarred Questions were admitted. 17 Short Notice Questions were received, but only one was admitted and two were clubbed therewith. After the lists of Questions were printed, 6 Starred and 59 Unstarred Questions were transferred from one Ministry to another.

Daily Average of Questions: Each of the lists of Starred Questions contained 18 to 21 Questions. On an average, 5 Questions were orally answered per sitting on the floor of the House. The maximum number of Questions orally answered were six and three on 3 September 1991 and the minimum number of Questions orally answered were three on 9 September 1991.

The minimum number of Questions admitted in the lists of Unstarred Questions were 32 on 28 August 1991 and their maximum number was 243 on 12 September 1991. Their average came to 133.4.

Half-an-Hour-Discussions: 12 notices of Half-an-Hour discussion were received but none of them was admitted.

Statement correcting answers to Questions: 7 Statements correcting

* The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, was laid on the Table on 16 September 1991.

answers to Questions replied in the House were made by the Ministers concerned.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, references were made to the passing away of Sarvashri C. Achutha Menon, Irrangbam Tompok Singh and M. V. Bhadram, all former members. Members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

STATE LEGISLATURES

ARUNACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Fourth Session on 16 September 1991, was adjourned *sine die* on 18 September 1991.

Obituary reference: On the opening day, i.e. 16 September 1991, the House condoled the demise of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India.

BIHAR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

The Bihar Legislative Council which commenced its 108th Session on 27 June 1991 was adjourned *sine die* on 3 August 1991.

Financial Business : The Budget for the whole year of 1991-92 as against the Vote on Account passed for only the first quarter of the year, was presented and passed by the House.

Legislative Business: During the Session, seventeen Bills were received from the Legislative Assembly and laid on the Table of the Council. Out of those, nine Bills—(i) Bihar Audyogika Kshetra Vikas Pradhikar (Amendment) Bill, 1991; (ii) Bihar Viniyog Vidheyak, 1991; (iii) Bihar Motor Gari Kararopan (Sansodhan) Vidheyak, 1991; (iv) Bihar Motor Gari Kararopan (Dwitiya Sansodhan) Vidheyak, 1991; (v) Bihar Niji Abhyantran Mahavidhyalay (Graham) Vidheyak, 1991; (vi) Bhartiya Stamp (Bihar Sansodhan) Vidheyak, 1991; (vii) Bihar Private Shiksha Sanstha (Adhigrahan) Nirasan Aur Sanshodhan Vidheyak, 1991; (viii) Bihar Rajya Alpa Sankhyak Ayog Vidheyak, 1991; (ix) Registrakaran (Bihar Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991—were passed by the Council.

Obituary References: On the first day of the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, several national and State leaders.

* Material contributed by the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

** Material contributed by the Bihar Legislative Council Secretariat.

GUJARAT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Gujarat Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Fifth Session on 3 September 1991, was adjourned *sine die* on September 1991.

Legislative Business: During the Session, three Bills (i) The Gujarat Legislative Assembly Members (Removal of Disqualifications) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991; (ii) The Gujarat State Guarantees (Amendment) Bill, 1991; and (iii) The Bombay Land Requisition (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 1991 were introduced and passed by the House.

HIMACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Seventh Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly commenced its Fifth Session on 10 September 1991, and was adjourned *sine die* on 13 September 1991.

Legislative Business: During the Session, four Bills (i) The Himachal Pradesh Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1991; (ii) The Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly (Allowances and Pensions of Members) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991; (iii) The Himachal Pradesh Entertainment Duty (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991; and (iv) The Himachal Pradesh General Sales Tax (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1991 were introduced, considered and passed by the House.

Obituary references: On the first day of the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Shri Mehanga Singh, former member of the State Legislative Assembly.

MADHYA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY***

The Fifth Session of the Ninth Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly commenced on 26 June 1991 and was adjourned *sine die* on 8 August 1991.

Legislative Business: During the Session, fifteen Bills were introduced and passed by the House.

Obituary references: On the opening day of the Session and on 3, 16, 17, 27 July and 8 August 1991, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Shri Umashankar Dixit, former Union Minister, Sarvashri Shripad Amrat Dange, Jagannath Rai Joshi and Chhabi Ram Argal, former members of Parliament, nine former members of the State Legislative Assembly, one eminent writer, two famous poets and a journalist.

*Material contributed by the Gujarat Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

**Material contributed by the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

***Material contributed by the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

NAGALAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Nagaland Legislative Assembly held a one-day Session on 20 September 1991, which was adjourned *sine die* on the same day.

Legislative Business: During the Session, one Bill, i.e. The Nagaland Retirement from Public Employment Bill, 1991 was introduced and passed by the House on 20 September 1991.

Obituary references: Obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Shri Dinesh Goswamy, former Union Minister of Steel and Mines and Law and Justice and Shri L. Lungalang, former Minister of Nagaland.

ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Orissa Legislative Assembly which commenced its Fifth Session on 9 September 1991 was adjourned *sine die* on 21 September 1991.

Financial Business: The First supplementary statement of expenditure for 1991-92 was presented by the Minister of Finance in the House on 9 September 1991. The Supplementary Demands for 1991-92 for Agriculture and Energy were voted on 16 and 17 September 1991, respectively.

Legislative Business: During the Session, Eight Bills were introduced, out of which six Bills (i) Orissa Panchayat Samities (Postponement of Election) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991; (ii) Orissa Gram Panchayat (Postponement of Election) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991; (iii) Orissa Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1991; (iv) The Nalini Devi Women's College of Education (Taking over of Management) Bill, 1991; (v) The Orissa Estate Abolition (Amendment) Bill, 1991; and (vi) The Orissa Clinical Establishment (Control and Regulation) Bill, 1991 were passed by the House.

Obituary references: On the first day of the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Shri N.K. Singh, Member, and four members of the Orissa Legislative Assembly.

*Material contributed by the Nagaland Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

**Material contributed by the Orissa Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

SUMMARIES OF BOOKS

R.V.R. Chandrasekhara Rao and V.S. Prasad (Ed). *Indian Constitution and Polity*, (Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi), 1991 for Andhra Pradesh Open University (Pages 95) (Price: Rs. 125/-).

The book is a compilation of five lectures delivered by experts in their respective areas of specialisation, at an Extension Lectures and Symposia series programme organised by the Andhra Pradesh Open University between January and April 1989. The Editors, R.V.R. Chandrasekhara Rao and V.S. Prasad, have added a detailed introduction with the purpose of knitting the lectures into a homogenous unit by identifying points of confluence and divergence and by providing a synthetic backdrop to the lectures.

Exploring the frontiers of Indian democracy, both from the point of view of content as well as framework, the Editors delve into the history of world democracy and endeavour to ferret out the essential aspects of the international democratic movement. They have identified two principal streams of democratic thought which are relevant to India—the fundamentally Anglo-American stream of democracy signifying the concept of "Limits to Government" and the French democratic ideal of *Vox Populi* under which people's sovereignty gained legitimacy.

The Editors feel that Indian democracy, born of a judicious blend of the two mentioned trends, admits of a number of contradictions. During the making of the Indian Constitution and immediately thereafter, the prime concern of those at the helm of affairs was the immediate content of democracy. In the last couple of decades, however, the concern has shifted to framework or form. The Editors emphasise that this shift in basic concern is nothing but an attempt on the part of the constitutional framework to adapt itself to changes in Indian society. A Constitution can at best reflect society and its relationships for a short duration. In sharp contrast to its rigid nature, society evolves continuously ushering in changes of all kinds. If a Constitution is to keep pace with the society it seeks to represent, it must identify these changes and amend itself accordingly. According to the Editors, constitutional amendments made before 1973 aimed at bridging the gap between the "limits of the constitutional process and the limitlessness of the social process". Amendments made thereafter, however had the

singular aim of strengthening the hands of the Executive which enlarged the hiatus between the Constitution and society.

A. Kuppuswamy's lecture on "Framing of the Constitution and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Role" is a descriptive analysis of the process of Constitution-making which throws light on how the fathers of the Indian Constitution, particularly Dr. Ambedkar, contributed substantially in drafting the Constitution. He describes Dr. Ambedkar as an active representative of the oppressed and downtrodden classes. Kuppuswamy's discussion on the considerations which guided the framers of the Constitution to create India as a federal, parliamentary democracy is illuminating in the context of the contemporary debate on the working of the federal and parliamentary institutions. Pleading for effective realisation of Directive Principles, he sounds a note of caution that every care should be taken in weighing the pros and cons before converting some of the Directive Principles like right to work into Fundamental Rights. Referring to some criticism of the Constitution as being too lengthy, "paradise of lawyers" and the like, he quotes Sir Perceival Spear "that the Constitution must on the whole be pronounced a signal success". He is all appreciation for the principles of accommodation and consensus which guided the decision-making process in the Constituent Assembly and expresses the hope that these two principles would guide the country in these difficult and troubled times.

O. Chinnappa Reddy's lecture entitled "Forty Years of the Constitution: A Lawyer's View" explores the people's quest for Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity as enshrined in the Constitution. He is critical of all the three organs of Indian democracy: the legislature is half-hearted in its attempts at making laws that would usher in social justice; the executive is indifferent in implementation of these laws and the judiciary makes occasional incursions into socialism but that is only as a concession to the pressures of the situation and no more. He points out that while Fundamental Rights are vested in the citizens and are enforceable by them, Directive Principles cast a duty on the State but are not enforceable against the State. This dichotomy has led to a continuous struggle in the Parliament and in the courts between the status quoists and the forces of progress. He discusses at length the influence of the American, French and Russian Revolutions on the framers of the Constitution. He also attempts a critical review of important constitutional amendments.

Prof. Upendra Baxi's lecture entitled "Accumulation and Legitimacy: The Indian Constitution and State Formation" attempts a clear distinction between "social justice" texts and "governance" texts. For explaining these two concepts, he resorts to citing Jawaharlal Nehru who complained about the 'Kidnapping' and 'Purloining' of the Constitution by lawyers and courts and Jaipal Singh, a member of the Constituent Assembly, who complained that the very act of Constitution-making entailed "an illegitimate appropriation of India". Prof. Baxi points out that only the Preamble, Part III (Fundamental Rights) Part IV (Directive Principles of State Policy),

bits of Part IV-A (Fundamental Duties of Citizens) and the Fifth and Sixth Schedules (Autonomous administration of tribal districts) constitute the 'social justice' texts. The rest of the Constitution, acclaimed as the longest Constitution in the world, deals with ways and means of governance.

According to Prof. Baxi, the making of the Constitution, premised on the view that the Indian National Congress is India's political microcosm, also anticipated for the decades to come the pre-eminence of the party and within it of its leader. He describes the story of Constitution making as the story of ascendant classes. He delves at length on how the Constitution enabled the emergence of a 'strong' State. He examines the phenomenon of an unwritten Constitution in the nature of a series of tacit understandings developed among those who wield State power. Discussing the role of judiciary, he observes that "the judiciary served increasingly as the whipping women (the Indian patriarchy requires this translation of the English phrase) reinforcing the legitimacy of the leadership and the regime style". He narrates the "growing lawlessness of the Indian state" but observes that the "struggle to capture the Constitution on the side of the rule of law" has now begun. He concludes that whether this struggle "would end in reinforcement of the authoritarian tendencies or of the rule of law inclinations within the domain of organised politics will depend in a very great measure on the possibilities of transformation of the very model of planned development which is currently Constitution-blind in myriad ways".

B.P.R. Vittal's lecture entitled "Evolving Practices and Emerging Fissures" focuses on the practices and fissures that have developed in the Indian polity over the years. According to him, "one of the problems of the evolution of our Constitution over the last forty years has been the loss of authority of practically every institution within the system". He expresses the view that the restoration of institutional authority is a major task facing us today at this stage of our constitutional development. Discussing the general deterioration in standards so conspicuous today, he asserts that it could be because of the emergence of political parties that do not agree with the "consensus opinion" thrashed out by the founders of the Constitution. Inter-religious and other tensions are prevailing because of the uncompromisingly antagonistic stand of several parties over consensus issues like secularism—to cite just one example.

Shri Vittal also laments the pervasive politicisation of the civil services, and the emergence of a *de facto* "spoils System" at the higher level of administration. As regards executive accountability, he suggests that if the legislature is to be an effective check on the executive, it is necessary that the legislative Committees are revitalised.

Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer's lecture entitled "Public Interest Litigation and Constitutional Justice in Action" lays emphasis on the judicial process in the Indian Constitution with special reference to public interest litigation

and constitutional justice and is more of an impassioned plea for judicial activism. He delves deep into the numerous limitations of the legal process and suggests that the centre of gravity of the legal process must get shifted so as to "neutralise the implicit bias towards the powerful". The concept of Public Interest Litigation seems to fit into his scheme of judicial activism. He defines Public Interest Litigation as an "imaginative creation of judicial technicians in response to social pressure, glaring injustice and constitutional commands". At another place, he describes it as "a procedural alter-ego of the substantive rights so far denied to the poor". To corroborate his conviction he cites Nan Aron who said "public interest law is the name given to efforts to provide legal representation to interests that historically have been unrepresented or under-represented in the legal process".

Justice Iyer feels that our Constitution *vis-a-vis* the judicial process has not fully unfolded the great potential to redeem the deprived and the dissenting section yet. To him, a judicial revolution is the expectation of the Constitution. He concludes that "the current status of the Constitution in action and the Public Interest Litigation reminds us of "Promises to keep" and "miles to go before we sleep".

The book on the whole, affords the reader an insight into the origins, ideology, mindframes and the struggles involved in the transformation of the constitutional framework to the demands of the polity. It also provides a cross-sectional view of the Constitution of India and the wider political spectrum.

RECENT LITERATURE OF PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST

1. BOOKS

Baxter, Craig and others: *Government and Politics in South Asia*. (2nd ed.) Boulder, West View Press, 1991.

(Focuses on regional conflict and cooperation, international relations and the on-going struggle between authoritarianism and democracy in South Asia. The book also reflects the changes that occurred in India and Pakistan in 1988 and 1989 and the ethno-religious strife in Sri Lanka.)

Bhambhri, C.P.: *Elections 1991: An Analysis*. Delhi, B.R. Publishing Corporation, 1991.

(Examines the Tenth Lok Sabha elections of 1991 and analyses the inter-election phase of 1989—91 to understand the significance of elections.)

Butler, David and others: *India decides: Elections 1952—1991*, (2nd ed.) New Delhi, Living Media Books, 1991.

Chakravarty, Ashoka: *Legislative politics in India*. New Delhi, Radha Publications, 1991.

(Deals with the evolution of the Second Chamber in India, its composition, structure, powers, and the functioning of the Upper Houses in the States known as Legislative Councils.)

Chaudhuri, Rekha: *Ideology and Politics of Ruling Parties in India*. New Delhi, Deep and Deep Publications, 1991.

(Highlights the ideology of ruling parties in India from time to time, especially of the Congress Party, Janata Party and the Janata Dal. Also traces the evolution of Congress ideology since its inception in 1985 and the impact of various ideological groupings within the broad movement of the Congress Party.)

Dutta, Prabhat K. : *Politics of Region and Religion in India*. New Delhi, Uppal Publishing House, 1991.

Finn, John E. : *Constitutions in Crisis: Political Violence and the Rule of Law*. New York, Oxford University Press, 1991.

INDIA. Lok Sabha Secretariat. *Commonwealth Parliaments: A Commemorative Souvenir*, New Delhi, 1991.

(Released to coincide with the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary

Conference, New Delhi, September 1991. Carries Messages from Heads of State/Government of many Commonwealth Countries, including those from Her Majesty, the Queen and President Shri R. Venkataraman. Introduction by Vice-President Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma and Foreword by Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; contains over 85 articles from Presiding Officers and Clerks of Commonwealth Countries, and reproduction of 40 beautiful paintings of India's art and culture.)

INDIA. Lok Sabha Secretariat (Eminent Parliamentarians Monograph Series): *Dr. B.R. Ambedkar*, New Delhi, 1991.

INDIA. Lok Sabha Secretariat (Eminent Parliamentarians Monograph Series): *Dr. C.D. Deshmukh*, New Delhi, 1991.

INDIA. Lok Sabha Secretariat (Eminent Parliamentarians Monograph Series): *V. K. Krishna Menon*, New Delhi, 1991.

INDIA. Lok Sabha Secretariat (Eminent Parliamentarians Monograph Series): *Jaisukh Lal Hathi*, New Delhi, 1991.

Inter-Parliamentary Union: *World Directory of Parliaments 1991*. Geneva, International Centre for Parliamentary Documentation, 1991.

Kashyap, Subhash C. : *History of Parliamentary Democracy: From the Earliest Times to the End of the Nehru Era*. Delhi. Shipra Publications, 1991.

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(Discusses the origin and evolution of the Office of the Speaker, its role and functions in relation to the life, work and rulings given by nine Speakers of India's Lok Sabha who have so far occupied the office.)

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APPENDIX I

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE FIRST SESSION OF THE TENTH LOK SABHA

1. PERIOD OF THE SESSION	9 July to 18 September 1991	
2. NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD		49
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	345 hours and 50 minutes	
4. NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD		5
5. GOVERNMENT BILLS		
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session		Nil
(ii) Introduced		23
(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Rajya Sabha		6
(iv) Returned by Rajya Sabha with any amendment/recommendation and laid on the Table		1
(v) Referred to Select Committee		Nil
(vi) Referred to Joint Committee		1
(vii) Reported by Select Committee		Nil
(viii) Reported by Joint Committee		Nil
(ix) Discussed		24*
(x) Passed		22
(xi) Withdrawn		2
(xii) Negatived		Nil
(xiii) Part-discussed		Nil
(xiv) Discussion postponed		Nil
(xv) Returned by Rajya Sabha without any recommendation		9
(xvi) Motion for concurrence to refer the Bill to Joint Committee adopted		Nil
(xvii) Pending at the end of the Session		5
6. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS		
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session		Nil
(ii) Introduced		78
(iii) Motion for leave to introduce negatived		Nil
(iv) Laid on the Table as passed by Rajya Sabha		Nil
(v) Returned by Rajya Sabha with any amendment and laid on the Table		Nil
(vi) Reported by Select Committee		Nil
(vii) Discussed		4
(viii) Passed		Nil
(ix) Withdrawn		4**
(x) Negatived		Nil
(xi) Circulated for eliciting opinion		Nil
(xii) Part-discussed		1
(xiii) Discussion postponed		Nil
(xiv) Motion for circulation of Bill negatived		Nil

* Includes two Bills withdrawn by Lok Sabha but does not include a Bill referred to Joint Committee by Lok Sabha.

** (Including 1 Bill withdrawn without discussion)

(xv) Referred to Select Committee	Nil
(xvi) Removed from the Register of Pending Bills	Nil
(xvii) Pending at the end of the Session	74
7. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 193 (Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
(i) Notices received	259
(ii) Admitted	12
(iii) Discussion held	2
(iv) Part discussed	Nil
8. NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 197 (Calling-attention to matters of urgent Public Importance)	
Statements made by Minister	Nil
9. MOTION OF NO-CONFIDENCE IN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS	
(i) Notices received	Nil
(ii) Admitted and Discussed	Nil
(iii) Barred	Nil
(iv) Withdrawn	Nil
10. HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS HELD	4
11. STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notice received	9
(ii) Admitted	9
(iii) Moved	9
(iv) Adopted	2
(v) Negatived	3
(vi) Withdrawn	4
12. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notices received	4*
(ii) Admitted	4
(iii) Moved	4
(iv) Adopted	4
13. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Received	16
(ii) Admitted	16
(iii) Discussed	2
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Withdrawn	1
(vii) Part-discussed	1
(viii) Discussions postponed	Nil
14. Government Motions	
(i) Notices received	4
(ii) Admitted	4
(iii) Discussed	2
(iv) Adopted	1
(v) Part-discussed	Nil
15. PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS	
(i) Notices received	151
(ii) Admitted	82

*Includes two Resolutions placed before the House by the Speaker.

(iii) Moved	2
(iv) Discussed	2
(v) Adopted	Nil
(vi) Negatived	Nil
(vii) Withdrawn	2
(viii) Part discussed	Nil
16. MOTION RE: MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE	
(i) Received	Nil
(ii) Admitted	Nil
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Discussed	Nil
(v) Adopted	Nil
(vi) Negatived	Nil
(vii) Withdrawn	Nil
(viii) Part-discussed	Nil
17. NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES CREATED, IF ANY, DURING THE SESSION	Nil
18. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED DURING THE SESSION	46,775
19. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	1,648 on 21.8.91
20. NUMBER OF ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS	
(i) Brought before the House	Nil
(ii) Admitted and discussed	Nil
(iii) Barred in view of adjournment motion admitted on the subject	Nil
(iv) Consent withheld by Speaker outside the House	49
(v) Consent given by Speaker but leave not granted by the House	Nil
21. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i) Starred	837
(ii) Unstarred	7165
(iii) Short Notice Questions	Nil
22. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES	

Sl. No.	Name of the Committee	No. of sittings held during the period 1 April to 30 September 1991	No. of Reports presented to the House during the Session
1	2	3	4
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	6	6
(ii)	Committee on Absence of Members	—	—
(iii)	Committee on Public Undertakings	—	—

1	2	3	4
(iv)	Committee on Papers laid on the Table	—	—
(v)	Committee on Petitions	—	—
(vi)	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	—	—
(vii)	Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	1	—
(viii)	Committee of Privileges	—	—
(ix)	Committee on Government Assurances	—	—
(x)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	—	—
(xi)	Estimates Committee	—	—
(xii)	General Purposes Committee	—	—
(xiii)	House Committee	2	—
	(i) Accommodation Sub-Committee	2	—
	(ii) Sub-Committee on Amenities	1	—
	(iii) Sub-Committee on Furnishing	1	—
(xiv)	Public Accounts Committee	—	—
(xv)	Railway Convention Committee	—	—
(xvi)	Rules Committee	—	—
JOINT/SELECT COMMITTEES			
(i)	Joint Committee on Offices of Profit	—	—
(ii)	Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament	—	—
Subject Committees			
(i)	Subject Committee on Environment and Forests	—	—
(ii)	Subject Committee on Agriculture	—	—
(iii)	Subject Committee on Science and Technology	—	—
23.	NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE		NH
24.	PETITIONS PRESENTED		6
25.	NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN WITH DATE		
		No. of Members Sworn	Date on which sworn in
(i)		417	9 July 1991
(ii)		81	10 July 1991
(iii)		5	11 July 1991
(iv)		1	12 July 1991
(v)		1	15 July 1991
(vi)		1	24 July 1991
(vii)		1	2 August 1991
(viii)		1	9 August 1991

APPENDIX II

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF RAJYA SABHA

1. PERIOD OF THE SESSION	3 and 4, June 1991
2. NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	2
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	15 hours and 50 minutes
4. NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	Nil
5. GOVERNMENT BILLS	
(i) Pending at the Commencement of the Session	21
(ii) Introduced	Nil
(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Lok Sabha	Nil
(iv) Returned by Lok Sabha with any amendment	Nil
(v) Referred to Select Committee by Rajya Sabha	Nil
(vi) Referred to Joint Committee by Rajya Sabha	Nil
(vii) Reported by Select Committee	Nil
(viii) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
(ix) Discussed	Nil
(x) Passed	Nil
(xi) Withdrawn	Nil
(xii) Negatived	Nil
(xiii) Part-discussed	Nil
(xiv) Returned by Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	Nil
(xv) Discussion postponed	Nil
(xvi) Pending at the end of the Session	21
6. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	51
(ii) Introduced	Nil
(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Lok Sabha	Nil
(iv) Returned by Lok Sabha with any amendment and laid on the Table	Nil
(v) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
(vi) Discussed	Nil
(vii) Withdrawn	Nil
(viii) Passed	Nil
(ix) Negatived	Nil
(x) Circulated for eliciting opinion	Nil
(xi) Part-discussed	Nil
(xii) Discussion postponed	Nil
(xiii) Motion for circulation of Bill negatived	Nil
(xiv) Referred to Select Committee	Nil
(xv) Lapsed due to retirement/Death of Member-in-charge of the Bill	Nil
(xvi) Pending at the end of the Session	51
7. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 176 (MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE)	
(i) Notices received	5
(ii) Admitted	5
(iii) Discussions held	1
	681

8. NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 180**(CALLING-ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE)****Statements made by Ministers****Nil****9. HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS HELD****Nil****10. STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS****(i) Notices received****6****(ii) Admitted****4****(iii) Moved****1****(iv) Adopted****1****(v) Negatived****Nil****(vi) Withdrawn****Nil****11. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS****(i) Notices received****Nil****(ii) Admitted****Nil****(iii) Moved****Nil****(iv) Adopted****Nil****12. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS****(i) Received****Nil****(ii) Admitted****Nil****(iii) Discussed****Nil****(iv) Withdrawn****Nil****(v) Negatived****Nil****(vi) Adopted****Nil****(vii) Part-discussed****Nil****(viii) Discussion postponed****Nil****13. GOVERNMENT MOTIONS****(i) Notices received****Nil****(ii) Admitted****Nil****(iii) Moved****Nil****(iv) Adopted****Nil****(v) Part-discussed****Nil****14. PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS****(i) Received****1****(ii) Admitted****1****(iii) Moved****1****(iv) Adopted****Nil****(v) Part-discussed****Nil****(vi) Negatived****Nil****(vii) Withdrawn****1****15. MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE****(i) Received****Nil****(ii) Admitted****Nil****(iii) Moved****Nil****(iv) Adopted****Nil****(v) Negatived****Nil****(vi) Withdrawn****Nil****(vii) Part-discussed****Nil**

16. NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES CREATED IF ANY DURING THE SESSION AND THE NAME OF THE COMMITTEE CREATED	Nil
17. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED	306
18. TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED	339
19. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	228 (on 4 June 1991)
20. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE ON WHICH VISITED	251 (on 4 June 1991)
21. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i) Starred	Nil
(ii) Unstarred	Nil
(iii) Short-Notice Questions	Nil
22. DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRIES	Nil
23. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES	

Name of Committee	No. of sittings held during the period from 1 April to 30 June 1991	No. of reports presented during the 159th Session
(i) Business Advisory Committee	2	Nil
(ii) Committee on Subordinate Legislation	5	Nil
(iii) Committee on Petitions	6	Nil
(iv) Committee on Privileges	2	Nil
(v) Committee on Rules	Nil	Nil
(vi) Committee on Government Assurances	5	Nil
(vii) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	8	Nil

24. NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE	3
25. PETITIONS PRESENTED	Nil
26. NAME OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN WITH DATES	

Sl. No.	Name of Members sworn	Date on which sworn
1	2	3
1.	Shri Chandra Mohan Sinha	3 June 91
2.	Shri N.E. Balaram	—do—
3.	Shri Ramchandran Pillai	—do—

27. CENTUARY REFERENCES

Sl. No.	Name	Sitting Member/ Ex-Member
1.	Shri Rajiv Gandhi	Ex-Prime Minister
2.	Shri S.A. Dange	Veteran Communist Leader
3.	Shri Mahadeo Prasad Varma	Ex-Member
4.	Shri Premji T. Leuva	—do—
5.	Shri Uma Shankar Dikshit	—do—
6.	Shri Prabhu Dayal Himnatsingka	—do—
7.	Shri P.K. Kumaran	—do—
8.	Shri Dinesh Goswami	Sitting Member

APPENDIX II—A

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE HUNDRED AND FIFTY NINTH SESSION OF RAJYA SABHA

1. PERIOD OF THE SESSION	11 July to 7 August 1991
2. Number of sittings held	19
3. Total Number of Sitting Hours	139 hours and 28 minutes
4. NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	1
5. GOVERNMENT BILLS	
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	21
(ii) Introduced	5
(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Lok Sabha	4
(iv) Returned by Lok Sabha with any amendment	NH
(v) Referred to Select Committee by Rajya Sabha	NH
(vi) Referred to Joint Committee by Rajya Sabha	NH
(vii) Reported by Select Committee	NH
(viii) Reported by Joint Committee	NH
(ix) Discussed	9
(x) Passed	8
(xi) Withdrawn	NIL
(xii) Negatived	NH
(xiii) Part-discussed	NH
(xiv) Returned by Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	2
(xv) Discussion postponed	NH
(xvi) Pending at the end of the Session	21
6. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	51
(ii) Introduced	15
(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Lok Sabha	NH
(iv) Returned by Lok Sabha with any amendment and laid on the Table	NH
(v) Reported by Joint Committee	NH
(vi) Discussed	2
(vii) Withdrawn	1
(viii) Passed	NH
(ix) Negatived	NH
(x) Circulated for eliciting opinion	NH
(xi) Part-discussed	1
(xii) Discussion postponed	NH
(xiii) Motion for circulation of Bill negatived	NH
(xiv) Referred to Select Committee	NH
(xv) Lapsed-due to retirement/Death of Member-in-charge of the Bill	1
(xvi) Pending at the end of the Session	64

7. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 176 (Matters of Urgent Public Importance).	
(i) Notices received	108
(ii) Admitted	10
(iii) Discussions held	1
8. NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 180 (Calling-Attention To Matters Of Urgent Public Importance)	
Statements made by Ministers	1
9. HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS HELD	4*
10. STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notices received	11 (On nine sub- jects)
(ii) Admitted	11
(iii) Moved	4
(vi) Adopted	1
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Withdrawn	3
1. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notices received	Nil
(ii) Admitted	Nil
(iii) Moved	Nil
(vi) Adopted	Nil
12. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Received	7
(ii) Admitted	7
(iii) Discussed	1
(iv) Withdrawn	Nil
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Adopted	Nil
(vii) Part-discussed	Nil
(viii) Discussion postponed	Nil
13. GOVERNMENT MOTIONS	
(i) Notices received	2
(ii) Admitted	2
(iii) Moved	Nil
(vi) Adopted	Nil
(v) Part-discussed	Nil
14. PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS	
(i) Received	128
(ii) Admitted	165
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Part-discussed	Nil

* Three notices of Half-an-Hour discussions were admitted and two were clubbed therewith.
 ** Included Notices of Short Duration Discussion on 39 subjects which were admitted as No-Day-Yet-Named Motions.

(vi) Negatived	Nil
(vii) Withdrawn	Nil
15. MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE	
(i) Received	
(ii) Admitted	Nil
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Withdrawn	Nil
(vii) Part-discussed	Nil
16. NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES CREATED, IF ANY DURING THE SESSION	Nil
17. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED	2270
18. TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED	2691
19. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	188 on 17 July 1991
20. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH VISITED	242 on 7 August 1991
21. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i) STARRED	274
(ii) UNSTARRED	776
(iii) SHORT-NOTICE QUESTIONS	Nil
22. DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRIES	Nil
23. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES	

Name of Committee	No. of sittings held during the 159th Session	No. of reports Presented during the 158th Session
(i) Business Advisory Committee	4	Nil
(ii) Committee on Subordinate Legislation	2	2
(iii) Committee on Petitions	2	Nil
(iv) Committee of Privileges	1	3
(v) Committee on Rules	Nil	Nil
(vi) Committee on Government Assurances	1	Nil
(vii) Committee on Papers laid on the Table	3	3

24. NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE	4
25. PETITIONS PRESENTED	Nil

26. Name of new members sworn with dates

S. No.	Name of Members sworn	Date on which sworn
1.	Shri R.K. Karanja	11 July 91
2.	Shri A.K. Antony	-do-
3.	Shri Thennala Balakrishna Pillai	31 July 91
4.	Shri V. Narayansamy	7 August 91

27. Ubituary References

S.No.	Name	Sitting Member/ Ex-Member
1.	Shri P.K. Kunjachen	Sitting Member
2.	Shri D.P. Karmarkar	Ex-member
3.	Shri Jagannath Rao Joshi	-do-
4.	Thakur Kamakhya Prasad Singh	-do-

APPENDIX II—B

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE HUNDRED AND SIXTIETH SESSION OF RAJYA SABHA

1. PERIOD OF THE SESSION	26 August to 18 September 1991
2. NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	18
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	125 hours and 15 minutes
4. NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	1
5. GOVERNMENT BILLS	
(i) Pending at the Commencement of the Session	21
(ii) Introduced	1
(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Lok Sabha	12
(iv) Returned by Lok Sabha with any amendment	Nil
(v) Referred to Select Committee by Rajya Sabha	Nil
(vi) Referred to Joint Committee by Rajya Sabha	Nil
(vii) Reported by Select Committee	Nil
(viii) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
(ix) Discussed	14
(x) Passed	14
(xi) Withdrawn	Nil
(xii) Negatived	Nil
(xiii) Part-discussed	Nil
(xiv) Returned by Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	7
(xv) Discussion postponed	Nil
(xvi) Pending at the end of the Session	20
6. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	64
(ii) Introduced	21
(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Lok Sabha	Nil
(iv) Returned by Lok Sabha with any amendment and laid on the Table	Nil
(v) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
(vi) Discussed	1
(vii) Withdrawn	Nil
(viii) Passed	Nil
(ix) Negatived	Nil
(x) Circulated for eliciting opinion	Nil
(xi) Part-discussed	1
(xii) Discussion postponed	Nil
(xiii) Motion for circulation of Bill negatived	Nil
(xiv) Referred to Select Committee	Nil
(xv) Lapsed due to retirement/Death of Member-in-charge of the Bill	Nil
(xvi) Pending at the end of the Session	85

7. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 176	
(Matters of Urgent Public Importance).	
(i) Notices received	74
(ii) Admitted	3
(iii) Discussions held	1
8. NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 180	
(Calling-Attention to Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
Statements made by Ministers	2
9. HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS HELD	Nil
10. STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notices received	2 (on two subjects)
(ii) Admitted	2
(iii) Moved	2
(iv) Adopted	2
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Withdrawn	Nil
11. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notices received	1
(ii) Admitted	1
(iii) Moved	1
(iv) Adopted	1
12. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Received	3
(ii) Admitted	3
(iii) Discussed	1
(iv) Withdrawn	1
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Adopted	Nil
(vii) Part-discussed	Nil
(viii) Discussion postponed	Nil
13. GOVERNMENT MOTIONS	
(i) Notices received	Nil
(ii) Admitted	Nil
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Part-discussed	Nil
14. PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS	
(i) Received	55
(ii) Admitted	82
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Part-discussed	Nil
(vi) Negatived	Nil
(vii) Withdrawn	Nil

* Included notices of Short Duration Discussion, which were admitted as No-Day-Yet-Named Motions.

15. MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE	
(i) Received	Nil
(ii) Admitted	Nil
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Withdrawn	Nil
(vii) Part-discussed	Nil
16. NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES CREATED, IF ANY DURING THE SESSION	Nil
17. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED	1984
18. TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED	3187
19. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	180 (on 18 September, 1991)
20. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE ON WHICH VISITED	383 (on 7 August, 1991)
21. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i) Starred	276
(ii) Unstarred	1868
(iii) Short-Notice Questions	1
22. DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRIES	3
1. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	
2. Ministry of Labour	
3. Ministry of Textiles	
23. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES	

Name of Committee	No. of meetings held during the period from 1 July to 30 September, 1991	No. of Reports presented during the 160th Session
(i) Business Advisory Committee	3	Nil
(ii) Committee on Subordinate Legislation	7	4
(iii) Committee on Petitions	4	Nil
(iv) Committee on Privileges	1	Nil
(v) Committee on Rules	Nil	Nil
(vi) Committee on Government Assurances	10	1
(vii) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	6	Nil
(viii)		
(ix)		
(x)		
(xi)		
(xii)		
(xiii)		
(xiv)		

24. NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE	5
25. PETITIONS PRESENTED	Nil

26. Name of new members sworn in with dates

S.No.	Name of Members sworn	Date on which sworn
1	2	3
1.	Shri Raghavji	26 August' 91
2.	Shrimati Basanti Sarma	3 September' 91
3.	Shri Satchidananda	5 September' 91

27. Obituary References

S.No.	Name	Sitting Member/ Ex-Member
1.	Shri C. Achutha Menon	Ex-member
2.	Shri Irengbam Tompok Singh	-Do-
3.	Shri M.V. Bhadram	-Do-

APPENDIX III

STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEGISLATURES OF STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD 1 APRIL TO 30 SEPTEMBER 1991

Legislature	Duration	Sittings	Govt. Bills	Private Bills	Starred Questions	Unstarred Questions	Short Notice Questions
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
STATES							
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	17.8.91 to 30.9.91	28	15(17)	4	485(118)	15(115)	248(64)
Arunchal Pradesh L.A.	16.9.91 to 18.9.91	3	4(3)	—	126(103)	49(48)	—
Assam L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.A.	21.6.91 to 2.8.91	25	17(17)	—	4220(2259)	144(669)	760(49)
Bihar L.C.	27.6.91 to 3.8.91	21	17(9)	—	1263(699)	(15)	516(222)
Gujarat L.A.	3.9.91 to 11.9.91	7	4(3)	1	1312(641)	629(221) ^(a)	27(7)
Goa L.A.	15.7.91 to 31.7.91	13	1(1)	1(1)	698(375)	11(254) ^(b)	4(1)
Haryana L.A.	9.7.91 to 12.7.91	4	1(1)	—	—	1	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	10.9.91 to 13.9.91	4	4(4)	—	429(305) ^(c)	15(63)	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A. @	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.	29.6.91 to 1.8.91 and 28.8.91 to 11.11.91	44	4(6)	—	13342 ^(d) (2004)	(9351)	7(5)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	26.6.91 to 8.8.91	29	15(15)	1	(7419)	(1005)	1
Maharashtra L.A.	15.7.91 to 7.8.91	17	5(4)	19	5316(643)	—	42(23)
Maharashtra L.C.	15.7.91 to 7.8.91	16	3(2)	4	2152(416)	9	149(23)
Manipur L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.	14.6.91 to 8.7.91, 7.8.91 and 8.10.91	16	10(9)	—	99(99)	8(8)	—
Mizoram L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.	20.9.91	1	1(1)	—	—	—	—
Orissa L.A.	9.9.91 to 21.9.91	9	9(7)	2	910(562)	793(1050) ^(a)	67(13)
Punjab L.A.@@	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.	10.9.91 to 19.9.91	8	10(9)	1	703(198)	879(316)	27(1)
Sikkim L.A.	5.9.91	1	2(2)	—	9(9)	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	1.7.91 to 13.7.91 and 4.9.91 to 4.10.91	32	34(34)	—	6973(2231)	(1716)	22(17)
Tripura L.A.	14.8.91 to 21.8.91	5	1	—	348(249)	64(137) ^(b)	4
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	31.7.91 to 13.8.91	11	9(13)	—	1614(210)	293(201)	569(50)
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	31.7.91 to 14.8.91	10	5(12)	—	1050(1087) ^(a)	6(24) ^(b)	375(179) ^(b)
West Bengal L.A.	18.7.91 to 6.9.91	34	12(12)	—	1431(790)	338(363) ^(b)	2(1)
UNION TERRITORIES							
Delhi Metropolitan Council@@@	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pondicherry L.A.	26.7.91 to 11.9.91	25	3(3)	—	708(626)	138(138)	1(1)

* Information not received from the State Legislature

- ** Statement received from the State Legislature contained NIL report.**
- @ During Governor's rule, the Assembly was dissolved on 19.2.90 and the State was brought under President's Rule from 19.7.90.**
- @@ President's Rule was imposed in the State on 11.5.1987 and the Assembly was dissolved on that day.**
- @@@ The Delhi Metropolitan Council stands dissolved since 13.1.1990.**
- (a) The figure 221 includes 10 Starred Notices admitted as Unstarred.**
 - (b) The figure 254 includes 248 Starred Notices admitted as Unstarred.**
 - (c) The figure 305 includes 48 Starred Notices admitted as Unstarred.**
 - (d) The figure 1342 includes both Starred and Unstarred Notices received.**
 - (e) The figure 1050 includes 372 Starred Notices admitted as Unstarred.**
 - (f) The figure 137 includes 137 Starred Notices admitted as Unstarred.**
 - (g) The figure 1087 includes 164 Short Notice Questions admitted as Starred.**
 - (h) The figure 24 includes 16 Starred and 2 Short Notice questions admitted as Unstarred.**
 - (i) The figure 179 includes 164 Short Notices admitted as Starred and 2 as Unstarred.**
 - (j) The figure 363 includes 25 Starred Notices admitted as Unstarred.**

APPENDIX — III (Contd.)
COMMITTEES AT WORK/NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD AND NUMBER OF REPORTS PRESENTED

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Business Advisory Committee																
Committee on Govt. Assurance																
Committee on Petitions																
Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions																
Committee on Privileges																
Committee on Public Undertakings																
Committee on Subordinate Legislation																
Committee on the Welfare of SC and ST																
Estimates Committee																
General Purposes Committee																
House/Accommodation Committee																
Library Committee																
Public Accounts Committee																
Rules Committee																
Joint/Select Committee																
Other Committees																
STATES																
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	3(3)	28	1	—	7(3)	11(1)	11	29(3)	15(1)	—	3	5	25(6)	—	—	21(1)(a)
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	—	2(1)	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Assam L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.A.	3	59(4)	191	—	9	167	25	47	94(1)	—	75	28	121	15	—	286(b)
Bihar L.C.	8(8)	17(1)	16	16(1)	13(3)	—	16(1)	16	—	—	16	17	—	1	—	105(12)(c)

Gujarat L.A.	3	11	2	1(1)	4	11(1)	1	14(2)	7	—	—	—	7	—	—	31(1)(d)
Goa L.A.	2(2)	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	5	—	—	—	1	2	—	2(2)(e)
Haryana L.A.	—	10	—	—	2	14	8	14	10	—	—	—	8	7	12	1(f)
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	1(1)	11(2)	4	—	7(2)	15(2)	6	16(1)	20(4)	—	—	—	1	1	22(8)	37(2)(g)
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.	5(3)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	8(8)	7(2)	4(2)	4(4)	11(1)	5(10)	2	2(1)	5(1)	—	—	—	2	2	6(3)	31(2)(h)
Maharashtra L.A.	3(2)	—	7(1)	3(2)	—	16(2)	3	26	26(2)	—	—	—	1	7(1)	—	25(4)(j)
Maharashtra L.C.	3(2)	18	8(3)	3(3)	—	16(2)	3	26	26(2)	—	—	—	1	7(1)	—	25(4)(k)
Manipur L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.	1	14(3)	4	—	—	6(13)	9	13	(2)	—	—	—	1	—	15	1
Mizoram L.A.	1	3	4	—	—	—	2	—	13	—	—	—	—	4	4	—
Nagaland L.A.	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Orissa L.A.	3(3)	7	5	—	4(1)	17	15	13(1)	15	—	—	—	6	4	14(2)	15(3)(l)
Punjab L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.	1(1)	37	16	—	—	21	37(18)	36	56(2)	85	1	49	32	26(18)	3	2
Sikkim L.A.	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	—	5	—	45(m)
Tamil Nadu L.A.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura L.A.	1(1)	2(2)	—	—	—	9(23)	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8(14)	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	7(1)	—	—	—	1(1)	3	—	7(1)	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	5(5)	11(1)	22(1)	—	—	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal L.A.	14(10)	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	3(1)
UNION TERRITORIES	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Delhi Metropolitan Council	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pondicherry L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	9(10)	—

NOTES: Figures in the brackets indicate the number of reports presented to the House.
 (a) Backward Classes Committee—21 sittings and 1 report.

- (b) Nivedan Committee—82 sittings; Question and Calling Attention Committee—77 sittings; Zila Panchayat and Zila Parishad Committee—127 sittings.
- (c) Implementation Committee—14 sittings and 1 report; Question and Calling Attention Committee—15 sittings and 8 reports; Zila Parishad and Panchayati Raj Committee—15 sittings and 1 report; Bunker Kalyan Samiti—15 sittings; Viklang Kalyan Samiti—16 sittings; Pollution Control Committee—15; and 1 report; Leprosy Control Committee—15 sittings and 1 report;
- (d) Committee on Welfare of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes—5 sittings; Members' Allowances Rules Committee—1 sitting; Committee on Panchayati Raj—10 sittings; Committee on Absence of Members—1 sitting and 1 report; Committee on MLA's Hostel—6 sittings; Committee on Papers laid on the Table of the House—4 sittings; *Ad hoc* Committee appointed to inquire into the incident of Police firing on Advasis at Sidumber village of Valsad Dist.—2 sittings;
- (e) Select Committee on the Goa Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service of Migrant Workmen Bill, 1991—1 sitting and 1 report; Select Committee on the Goa Unemployment Assistance and Self-Employment Scheme Bill, 1991—1 sitting and 1 report;
- (f) Press Gallery Committee—1 sitting.
- (g) Committee on Forests, Environment and allied matters—11 sittings; Committee on Agriculture, Horticulture and allied matters—9 sittings; Committee on Tourism and allied matters—7 sittings and 2 reports; Committee on Papers laid on the Table of the House—5 sittings; Committee on Implementation of official Language—5 sittings.
- (h) Subject Committee (I)—3 sittings and 2 reports; Subject Committee (II)—3 sittings and 2 reports; Subject Committee (III)—3 sittings and 2 reports; Subject Committee (IV)—2 sittings and 2 reports; Subject Committee (V)—3 sittings and 2 reports; Subject Committee (VI)—3 sittings and 2 reports; Subject Committee (VII)—3 sittings and 2 reports; Subject Committee (VIII)—5 sittings and 4 reports; Subject Committee (IX)—4 sittings and 2 reports; Subject Committee (X)—2 sittings and 1 Report.
- (i) Committee to examine Papers laid on the Table—4 sittings; Questions and References Committee—3 sittings; Women and Children's Welfare Committee—8 sittings.
- (j) Catering Committee—12 sittings; Panchayati Raj Committee—4 sittings and 2 reports; Vimuktia Jati and Nomadic Tribes Committee—4 sittings and 1 report; Employment Guarantee Scheme Committee—5 sittings and 1 report.
- (k) Catering Committee—12 sittings; Panchayati Raj Committee—4 sittings and 2 reports; Vimuktia Jati and Nomadic Tribes Committee—4 sittings and 1 report; Employment Guarantee Scheme Committee—5 sittings and 1 report.
- (l) House Committee to enquire into illegal acquisition of property—3 sittings and 1 report; Select Committee on the Orissa Clinical Establishment (Control and Regulations) Bill, 1990—5 sittings and 1 report; House Committee on Rehabilitation—3 sittings and 1 report; House Committee on Environment—3 sittings; House Committee on Linguistic Minorities—1 sitting.

- (m) Women and Childrens' Welfare Committee—37 sittings; Committee on Questions and References—8 sittings;
- (n) Committee on Financial and Administrative Delays—29 sittings; Questions and References Committee—20 sittings and 1 report; Committee on Compilation of Rulings—25 sittings; Committee on Parliamentary Studies—13 sittings and 1 report; Parliamentary and Social Goodwill Committee—13 sittings and 1 report; Rules Revision Committee—14 sittings and 1 report.
- (o) Subject Committee on Health and Family Welfare—1 sitting; Subject Committee on Education—1 sitting; Subject Committee on Irrigation and Waterways—1 sitting; *Ad hoc* Committee on the Questions of Subject Committees—1 sitting; Subject Committee on Power—2 sittings; Subject Committee on Public Works—1 sitting.

APPENDIX IV

LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AND ASSENTED TO BY THE PRESIDENT DURING THE PERIOD 1 JULY TO 30 SEPTEMBER, 1991

S.No.	Title of the Bill	Date of assent by the president
1.	The Appropriation (Railways) No.3 Bill, 1991	30.7.1991
2.	The Appropriation (Vote on Account) No.2 Bill, 1991	31.7.1991
3.	The Representation of the people (Amendment) Bill, 1991	14.8.1991
4.	The Delhi Municipal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991	-do-
5.	The Jammu and Kashmir Criminal Law Amendment (Second Amending) Bill, 1991	-do-
6.	The Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 1991	16.8.1991
7.	The Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill, 1991	-do-
8.	The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) order (Amendment) Bill, 1991	20.8.1991
9.	The Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 1991	13.9.1991
10.	The Cancellation of General Elections in Punjab Bill, 1991	17.9.1991
11.	The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991	-do-
12.	The Central Excises and Customs Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991	18.9.1991
13.	The Remittances of Foreign Exchange and Investment in Foreign Exchange Bonds (Immunities and Exemptions) Bill, 1991	-do-
14.	The places of Worship (Special provisions) Bill, 1991	-do-
15.	The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1991	19.9.1991
16.	The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 1991	20.9.1991
17.	The Punjab Appropriation (Vote on Account) No.2 Bill, 1991	-do-
18.	The Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 1991	-do-
19.	The Voluntary Deposits (Immunities and Exemptions) Bill, 1991	-do-
20.	The Special protection Group (Amendment) Bill, 1991	25.9.1991
21.	The Finance (No.2) Bill, 1991	27.9.1991
22.	The Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991	-do-

APPENDIX V

LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES OF STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD 1 APRIL TO 30 SEPTEMBER 1991

ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Andhra Pradesh Gram panchayats (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
2. The Andhra Pradesh (Krishna Godavari and Pennar Delta Area) Drainage Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
3. The Code of Criminal Procedure (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 1991.
4. The Code of Criminal procedure (Andhra Pradesh Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
5. The Andhra Pradesh Gram panchayats (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
6. The Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
7. The Andhra Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Amending Bill, 1991.
8. The Andhra Pradesh Entertainment Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
9. The Andhra Pradesh Rashtra Karshaka Parishad and Allied Bodies (Repeal) Bill, 1991.
10. The Indian Stamp (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 1991.
11. The Andhra Pradesh Special Protection Force Bill, 1991.
12. The Andhra Pradesh Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1991.
13. The Andhra Pradesh Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 1991.
14. The Andhra Pradesh Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 1991.
15. The Andhra Pradesh Appropriation (No.5) Bill, 1991.
16. The Andhra Pradesh Payment of Salaries and Pension and Removal of Disqualifications (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
17. The Andhra Pradesh Open University (Amendment) Bill, 1991.

BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

1. The Bihar Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1991.
2. The Registration (Bihar Amendment) Bill, 1991.
3. The Bihar Private Educational Institution (Adoption) (Repeal & Amendment) Bill, 1991.
4. The Bihar Minority Commission Bill, 1991.
5. The Bihar Private Engineering College (Adoption) Bill, 1991.
6. The Indian Stamp (Bihar Amendment) Bill, 1991.
7. The Bihar Regional Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
8. The Taxation on Bihar Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
9. The Taxation on Bihar Motor Vehicle (Second Amendment) Bill 1991.

BIHAR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. Bihar Audyogika Kshetra Vikas Pradhikar (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
2. Bihar Viniyog (Sankhyan-2) Vidheyak, 1991.
3. Bihar Motor Gari Kararopan (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
4. Bihar Motor Gari Kararopan (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
5. Bihar Niji Abhiyantran Manavidhyalay (Grahan) Vidheyak, 1991.
6. Bhartiya Stamp (Bihar Sansodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
7. Bihar Private Shiksha Sansthan (Adhigrahan) (Nirsan Aur Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
8. Bihar Rajya Alpa Sankhyak Ayog Vidheyak, 1991.
9. Registrikan (Bihar Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.

GOA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Goa Mundkars (Protection from Eviction) (Amendment) Bill, 1991.

2. The Goa Appropriation Bill, 1991.

GUJARAT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Gujarat Legislative Assembly Members (Removal of Disqualifications) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
2. The Gujarat State Guarantees (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
3. The Bombay Land Requisition (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 1991.

HARYANA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Haryana Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 1991.

HIMACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Himachal Pradesh Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1991
2. The Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly (Allowances and Pension of Members) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
3. The Himachal Pradesh Entertainment Duty (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991
4. The Himachal Pradesh General Sales Tax (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1991.

KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1. The Kerala Registration of Tourist Trade Bill, 1989
2. The Kerala Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 1991
3. The Kerala Women's Commission Bill, 1990
4. The Kerala Provisional Collection of Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
5. The Kerala Appropriation (Vote on Account No.2) Bill 1991.
6. The Kerala Appropriation (No.8) Bill, 1991.

MADHYA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. Madhya Pradesh Nagar Tatha Gram Nivesh (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak (No.10 of 1991) 1991
2. Madhya Pradesh Viniyog No.2, 1991.
3. Madhya Pradesh Viniyog No.3 1991.
4. Madhya Pradesh Viniyog No.4 1991.
5. Madhya Pradesh Sahakari Samiti (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991
6. Madhya Pradesh (Lok Abhikaran Ke Madhyam se) Dindayal Ant-yodaya Karykram Kas Kriyanvyan Vidheyak (No. 16) 1991.
7. Madhya Pradesh Motoryan Karadhan Vidheyak (No.17) 1991.
8. Madhya Pradesh Samaj Ke Kamjor Vargon ke liye vidhik sahayata tatha salah (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak (No. 18) 1991.
9. Madhya Pradesh Motor Parivahan Yano par pathkar ke udgrahan (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, (No.19) 1991.
10. Madhya Pradesh Krisik Pashu Parikshan (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak (No. 20) 1991.
11. Madhya Pradesh Bhoj Vishwavidhyalay Vidheyak (No.21) 1991.
12. Madhya Pradesh Vishwavidhyalay (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak (No.22) 1991.
13. Madhya Pradesh Stamp (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak (No.23) 1991.
14. Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha Sadasya Vetan Bhatta tatha Panshan (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak (No.24) 1991.
15. Madhya Pradesh Nagar Sudhar Nyas (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, (No.15) 1991.

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Maharashtra Municipalities (Temporary Postponement of Elections to Municipal Councils) Bill, 1991.
2. The Maharashtra (Second Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 1991.

*Awaiting assent.

3. The Maharashtra Repealing And Amending Bill, 1991.
4. The Bombay Cinemas (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 1991.

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Maharashtra Repealing and Amending Bill, 1991.
2. The Bombay Cinemas (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
3. The Maharashtra Municipalities (Temporary Postponement of Elections to Municipal Councils) Bill, 1991.
4. The Maharashtra (Second Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 1991.

MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Meghalaya Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1991.
2. The Meghalaya Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
3. The Meghalaya Tax on Luxuries (Hotel and Lodging Houses) Bill, 1991.
4. The Meghalaya Land Survey and Records Preparation (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
5. The Meghalaya Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
6. The Meghalaya (Sales of Petroleum and Petroleum Products of Lubricants) Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
7. The Meghalaya Parliamentary Secretary's Salary and Allowances Bill, 1991.
8. The Legislative Assembly of Meghalaya (Members' Salaries and Allowances) (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
9. The Meghalaya Transfer of Land (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 1991.

NAGALAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Nagaland Retirement from Public Employment Bill, 1991.

ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Orissa Grama Panchayats (Postponement of Election) Second Amendment Bill, 1991.
2. The Orissa Panchayat Samitis (Postponement of Election) Second Amendment Bill, 1991.
3. The Orissa Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
4. The Orissa Estates Abolition (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
5. The Nalini Devi Women's College of Education (Taking over of Management) Bill, 1991.
6. The Orissa Clinical Establishments (Control and Regulation) Bill, 1990.
7. The Orissa Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1991.

RAJASTHAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. Rajasthan Unnivasan (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
2. Rajasthan Bhu-Rajasav (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
3. Rajasthan Sehkari Society (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
4. Rajasthan Panchayat (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
5. Rajasthan Nagarpalika (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
6. Jaipur Vikas Pradhikaran (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
7. Rajasthan Nagar Sudhar (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
8. Rajasthan Viniyog (Sankhya-3) Vidheyak, 1991.
9. Rajasthan Motor Parivahan Yan Pathakar Vidheyak, 1991.

SIKKIM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Sikkim Ministers, Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly (Salaries and Allowances) Amendment, Bill, 1991.
2. The Denzong Agricultural Co-operative Limited (Acquisition of Certain Shares and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 1991.

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Tamil Nadu Municipal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991.

• Awaiting assent.

2. The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies (Appointment of Special Officers) Amendment Bill, 1991.
3. The Tamil Nadu Panchayats and Panchayat Union Councils (Appointment of Special Officers) Amendment Bill, 1991.
4. The Tamil Nadu Entertainments Tax (Third Amendment) Bill, 1991.
5. The Tamil Nadu Cultivating Tenants Arrears of Rent (Relief) Second Amendment Bill, 1991.
6. The Tamil Nadu Universities Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
7. The Tamil Nadu Municipal Corporation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
8. The Tamil Nadu District Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
9. The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
10. The Tamil Nadu Municipal Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
11. The Tamil Nadu Panchayats and Panchayat Union Councils (Appointment of Special Officers) Second Amendment Bill, 1991.
12. The Tamil Nadu Appropriation Bill, 1991.
13. The Tamil Nadu Court-fees and Suits Valuation (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
14. The Tamil Nadu Urban Land Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
15. The Tamil Nadu Agricultural Income-tax (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
16. The Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles Taxation (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
17. The Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
18. The Tamil Nadu Exhibition of Films on Television Screen through Video Cassette Recorders (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1991.
19. The Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Amendment Bill, 1991.
20. The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies (Appointment of Special Officers) Bill, 1991.
21. The Tamil Nadu Electricity (Taxation on Consumption) Amendment Bill, 1991.
22. The Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
23. The Tamil Nadu Tax on Entry of Motor Vehicles into Local Areas (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
24. The Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax (Third Amendment) Bill, 1991.
25. The Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 1991.
26. The Tamil Nadu Sales Tax (Surcharge) Amendment Bill, 1991.
27. The Tamil Nadu Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
28. The Tamil Nadu Universities Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
29. The Tamil Nadu Private Colleges (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1991.
30. The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Madras (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
31. The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University (Third Amendment) Bill, 1991.
32. The Tamil Nadu Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
33. The Tamil Nadu Wakf Board (Appointment of Special Officers) Bill, 1991.
34. The Tamil Nadu Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1991.

UTTAR PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Uttar Pradesh State Universities (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
2. The Uttar Pradesh Indian Medicine (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
3. The Uttar Pradesh Secondary Education Services Commission and Selection Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
4. The Uttar Pradesh Zila Parishads (Alpakalik Vyawastha) (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.

*Awaiting assent

5. The Uttar Pradesh Krishi Utpadan Mandi Samitis (Alpkalik Vyawastha) (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1991.
6. The Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
7. The Uttar Pradesh Industrial Area Development (Removal of Doubt and Validation) Bill, 1991.
8. The Uttar Pradesh Appropriation (Supplementary 1991-92) Bill, 1991.
9. The Uttar Pradesh Settlement of Country Liquor Licence (Tender-Cum-Auction) Rules (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
10. The Uttar Pradesh Land Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
11. The Uttar Pradesh Sales Tax (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1991.
12. The Uttar Pradesh Shri Badrinath and Shri Kedarnath Temples (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
13. The Uttar Pradesh Homoeopathic Medicine (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.

UTTAR PRADESH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. Uttar Pradesh Zila Parishad (Alpkalik Vyawastha) (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Bill, 1991.
2. Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
3. Uttar Pradesh Krishi Utpadan Mandi Samiti (Alpkalik Vyawastha) (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Bill, 1991.
4. Uttar Pradesh Homoeopathic Medicine (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991.
5. Uttar Pradesh Shri Badrinath and Shri Kedarnath Temples (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
6. Uttar Pradesh Indian Medicine (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
7. Uttar Pradesh Secondary Education Services Commission and Selection Board (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
8. Uttar Pradesh Industrial Area Development (Removal of Doubts and Validation) Bill, 1991.
9. Uttar Pradesh Appropriation (1991-92 Supplementary) Bill, 1991.
10. Uttar Pradesh Settlement of Country Liquor Licence (Tender-cum-Auction) Rules (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
11. Uttar Pradesh Land Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991.
12. Uttar Pradesh Sales Tax (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1991.

PONDICHERY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Appropriation Bill, 1991.
2. The Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1991.
3. The Pondicherry Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1991.

APPENDIX VI
ORDINANCES ISSUED BY THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS DURING THE
PERIOD 1 APRIL TO 30 SEPTEMBER 1991

S.No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of Ceazation	Remarks
1		3	4	5	6
UNION GOVERNMENT					
1.	Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	20.8.1991	20.8.1991	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	27.9.1991	—	—	—
STATE GOVERNMENTS					
ANDHRA PRADESH					
1.	The Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	30.3.1991	19.8.91	—	Replaced by legislation
2.	The Andhra Pradesh (Krishna, Godavari and Pennar Delta Area) Drainage Cess (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	27.4.1991	-do-	—	-do-
3.	The Andhra Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Amending Ordinance, 1991	5.6.1991	-do-	—	-do-
4.	The Andhra Pradesh Entertainments Tax (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	14.6.1991	-do-	—	-do-

	BIHAR			
1. The Registration (Bihar Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	—	21.6.91	—	—
2. The Bihar Panchayati Raj (Amendment & Law Validation) Second Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	—
3. The Patna Corporation (Amendment and Validation) (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	—
4. The Bihar Intermediate Education Council, Second Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	—
5. The Nalanda Open University, Second Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	—
6. The Patna University (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	—
7. The Bihar Private Educational Institution (Adoption) (Repeal and Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	—
8. The Patna Corporation (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	—
9. The Bihar Non-Government Secondary School, (Management and Control) (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	—
10. The Bihar Municipal Corporation (Amendment), Second Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	—
11. The Bihar Legislature (Members' Salaries, Allowances and Pension) (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	—
12. The Bihar Private Engineering College (Adoption) Second Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	—
13. The Bihar Non-Government Sanskrit School (Management and Control) Second Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
		GUJARAT			
1.	The Gujarat Legislative Assembly Members (Removal of Disqualification) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	—	4.9.91	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Bombay Land Requisition (Gujarat Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	-do-
		HIMACHAL PRADESH			
1.	The Himachal Pradesh Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	4.7.1991	10.9.1991	—	Replaced by Legislation
		KERALA			
1.	The Kerala Finance Ordinance, 1991	5.4.1991	8.7.1991	—	—
2.	The Local Government Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	13.4.1991	-do-	—	—
3.	The Kerala Police (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	4.5.1991	-do-	—	—
4.	The Local Government Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	8.8.1991	30.8.1991	—	Replaced by Legislation
		MADHYA PRADESH			
1.	Madhya Pradesh Sahakari Samiti (Sanshodhan) Adhyadesh	26.4.91	—	—	—
		MAHARASHTRA			
1.	The Maharashtra Municipalities (Temporary Postponement of Elections to Municipal Councils) Ordinance, 1991	10.5.1991	16.7.1991	25.8.1991	Replaced by Legislation
		NAGALAND			
1.	The Nagaland Retirement from Public Employment Ordinance, 1991	18.6.91	20.9.91	—	Replaced by Legislation

		Orissa			
1.	The Orissa Contingency Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	7.5.1991	10.9.91	—	—
2.	The Nairni Devi Women's College of Education (Taking over of Management) Ordinance, 1991	26.6.1991	-do-	—	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Orissa Grama Panchayats (Postponement of Elections) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	26.6.1991	-do-	—	-do-
4.	The Orissa Panchayat Samitis (Postponement of Election) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	-do-	-do-	—	-do-
5.	The Orissa Sales Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	26.7.1991	-do-	—	-do-
		RAJASTHAN			
1.	Rajasthan Bhru-Rajaswa (Sanshodhan) Adhyadesh, 1991	17.7.1991	10.9.1991	24.9.1991	Replaced by Legislation
2.	Rajasthan Sehkari Society (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Adhyadesh, 1991	1.8.1991	-do-	-do-	-do-
3.	Rajasthan Panchayat (Sanshodhan) Adhyadesh, 1991	2.8.1991	-do-	19.10.91	-do-
4.	Rajasthan Nagarpalika (Sanshodhan) Adhyadesh, 1991	27.8.1991	-do-	-do-	-do-
5.	Jaipur Vikas Pradhikaran (Sanshodhan) Adhyadesh, 1991	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
6.	Rajasthan Nagar Suchar Nyas (Sanshodhan) Adhyadesh, 1991	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
		SIKKIM			
1.	The Denzong Agricultural Co-operative Limited (Acquisition of Certain Shares and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, 1991	3.7.1991	5.9.1991	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
		TAMIL NADU			
1.	The Tamil Nadu Panchayats and Panchayat Union Councils (Appointment of Special Officers) Amendment Ordinance, 1991	—	9.7.91	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Tamil Nadu Municipal Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	-do-
3.	The Tamil Nadu Cultivating Tenants Arrears of Rent (Relief) Second Amendment Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	-do-
4.	The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies (Appointment of Special Officers) Amendment Ordinance, 1991	—	-do-	—	-do-
5.	The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies (Appointment of Special Officers) Ordinance, 1991	—	4.9.1991	—	-do-
		UTTAR PRADESH			
1.	The Uttar Pradesh Settlement of Country Liquor License (Tender-cum Auction) Rules (Amendment) (Third) Ordinance, 1991	3.4.91	31.7.91	21.8.91	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Uttar Pradesh Government Litigation (Engagement of Counsel) (Third) Ordinance, 1991	-do-	-do-	10.9.91	-do-
3.	The Uttar Pradesh State Universities (Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 1991	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
4.	The Uttar Pradesh Indian Medicine (Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 1991	-do-	-do-	16.8.91	-do-
5.	The Uttar Pradesh Public Services (Reservation for Backward Classes) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	-do-	-do-	9.9.91	-do-

6.	The Uttar Pradesh Sales Tax (Amendment and Validation) (Second) Ordinance, 1991	-do-	-do-	19.8.91	-do-
7.	The Uttar Pradesh Land Laws (Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 1991	-do-	-do-	21.8.91	-do-
8.	The Uttar Pradesh Secondary Education Services Commission and Selection Boards (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	6.4.91	-do-	19.8.91	-do-
9.	The Uttar Pradesh Zila Parishads (Alpakalik Vywasatha) (Dwitya Sanshodhan) Adhyadesh, 1991	26.8.91	-do-	13.8.91	-do-
10.	The Uttar Pradesh Krishi Utpadan Mandi Samitis (Alpakalik Vywasatha) (Dwitya Sanshodhan) Adhyadesh, 1991	30.8.91	-do-	16.8.91	-do-
11.	The Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
12.	The Uttar Pradesh Shri Badrinath and Shri Kedarnath Temples (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991	11.7.91	-do-	-do-	-do-
13.	The Uttar Pradesh Industrial Area Development (Removal of Doubt and Validation) Ordinance, 1991	19.7.91	-do-	19.8.91	-do-

APPENDIX VII
A. PARTY POSITION IN LOK SABHA (As on 19 December, 1991)

Sl. No.	Name of States/ Union Territories	Seats	Cong.(I)	BJP	J.D.	CPI (M)	CPI	Others	Ind/ Nomin- ated	Total Vacancies	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
I. STATES											
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42	25	1	—	1	1	14(a)	—	42	—
2.	Assam	14	8	2	—	—	—	2(b)	1	14	—
3.	Bihar	54	1	5	31	1	6	5(c)	—	51	3
4.	Goa	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
5.	Gujarat	26	5	20	—	—	—	1(d)	—	26	—
6.	Haryana	10	9	—	—	—	—	1(e)	—	10	—
7.	Himachal Pradesh	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
8.	Karnataka	28	23	4	—	—	—	1(f)	—	28	—
9.	Kerala	20	13	—	—	3	—	4(g)	—	20	—
10.	Madhya Pradesh	40	27	12	—	—	—	1(h)	—	40	—
11.	Madhya Pradesh	48	38	5	—	1	—	4(i)	—	48	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2	1	—	—	—	—	1(j)	—	2	—
13.	Manipur	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
14.	Meghalaya	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
15.	Mizoram	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
16.	Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	1(k)	—	1	—
17.	Orissa	21	13	—	6	1	1	—	—	21	—
18.	Rajasthan	25	13	12	—	—	—	—	—	25	—
19.	Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	1(l)	—	1	—
20.	Tamil Nadu	39	28	—	—	—	—	11(m)	—	39	—
21.	Tripura	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
22.	Uttar Pradesh	85	5	51	22	—	1	5(n)	—	84	1
23.	West Bengal	42	5	—	—	27	3	7(o)	—	42	—

II. UNION TERRITORIES

24.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
25.	Chandigarh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
27.	Daman & Diu	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
28.	Delhi	7	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1
29.	Lakshadweep	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
30.	Pondicherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
31.	Nominated*	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Total =		526	232	119	59	35	14	59	3	521	5					

* Nominated by President under Article 331.

(a) All India Majlis-e-Itehadul Muslimeen—1; Telugu Desam—13.

(b) A.S.D.M.-1; Asom Gana Parishad—1;

(c) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha—5;

(d) Janata Dal (Gujarat)—1;

(e) Haryana Vikas Party—1;

(f) Janata Party—1;

(g) Muslim League—2; Konia Congress (Mani)—1; Indian Congress (Socialist-Sarat Chandra Sinha)—1;

(h) Bahujan Samaj Party—1.

(i) Shiv Sena—4.

(j) Manipur People's Party—1.

(k) Nagaland People's Council—1.

(l) Sikkim Sangram Parishad—1.

(m) All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam—11.

(n) Janata Party—4; Bahujan Samaj Party—1.

(o) All-India Forward Block—3; Revolutionary Socialist Party—4.

B. PARTY POSITION IN RAJYA SABHA (As on 1 January 1992)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	Seats	Cong.(I)	Janata Dal (S)	CPI (M)	BJP	Janata Dal (S)	Others	Unattached	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
STATES											
1	Andhra Pradesh	18	6	1	1	—	—	10(e)	—	18	—
2	Assam	7	3	—	—	—	—	4(b)	—	7	—
3	Bihar	22	13	3	—	2	2	2(c)	—	22	—
4	Goa	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5	Gujarat	11	7	2	—	2	—	—	—	11	—
6	Haryana	5	1	—	—	1	3	—	—	5	—
7	Himachal Pradesh	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—
8	Jammu and Kashmir	4	—	—	—	1	—	2(d)	—	2	2
9	Karnataka	12	7	5	—	—	—	—	—	12	—
10	Kerala	9	3	1	3	—	—	2(e)	—	9	—
11	Madhya Pradesh	16	9	—	—	6	—	—	—	15	1
12	Maharashtra	19	13	1	—	2	1	1(f)	—	18	1
13	Mizoram	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
14	Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	1(g)	—	1	—
15	Meghalaya	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
16	Mizoram	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
17	Nagaland	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
18	Orissa	10	5	4	—	—	1	—	—	10	—
19	Punjab	7	1	—	—	—	—	1(h)	—	2	5
20	Rajasthan	10	6	1	—	1	1	—	1	10	—
21	Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	1(i)	—	1	—
22	Tamil Nadu	18	3	—	1	—	—	14(j)	—	18	—
23	Tripura	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
24	Uttar Pradesh	34	17	6	1	2	6	2(k)	1	34	—
25	West Bengal	16	—	—	11	—	1	4(l)	—	16	—

UNION TERRITORIES

26. Delhi	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
27. Pondicherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
28. Nominated	12	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Total	245	105	25	17	17	17	15	44	10	233	12								

Notes:—

- (a) Telugu Desam—10.
 (b) Asom Gana Parishad—2; Natun Asom Gana Parishad—2.
 (c) C.P.I.—1; Lok Dal—1.
 (d) National Conference—2.
 (e) Muslim League—1; C.P.I.—1.
 (f) Shiv Sena—1;
 (g) Hill State People's Democratic Party—1.
 (h) Akali Dal—1;
 (i) Sikkim Sangram Parishad—1.
 (j) A.I.A.D.M.K.—4; D.M.K.—10.
 (k) Janata Party—1; C.P.I.—1.
 (l) Revolutionary Socialist Party—2; CPI—1; and Forward Bloc—1.

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Uttar Pradesh L.C. (As on 1.10.91)	108	37	12	1	7	—	—	50(u)	—	107	1
West Bengal L.A.** (As on)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES											
Delhi Metropolitan Council@@@.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(As on)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pondichery L.A.	30	14	1	—	—	—	1	10(v)	3	29*	—
(As on 30.9.91)											

* Excluding Speaker/Chairman in case of Legislative Council.

** Information not received from the State Legislature.

@ Dissolved on 19.2.1990.

@@ Dissolved on 11.5.1987.

@@@ Dissolved on 13.1.1990.

(a) Tejgu Desam Party-72; All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen-4; Marxist Communist Party of India-1; Democratic People's Front (Independent Group)-10; Nominated-1.

(b) Janata Party-1.

(c) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-15; Indian People's Front-7; Socialist Party (Lohia)-1; Marxist Coordination Committee-2; Jharkhand Party-1; Unattached-8; Nominated-1.

(d) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-1; Unattached-1.

(e) Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party-11; Goan People's Party-8.

(f) Janata Dal (Gujarat)-85; Janata Dal (Bommai)-2; Lok Swaraj Manch-1; Yuva Vikas Party-1; Affiliation not declared by Member-1.

(g) Haryana Vikas Party-12; Janata Party-16; Bahujan Samaj Party-1; Janata Dal(H) Party-1.

(h) Janata Dal(s)-5; Himachal Congress-3.

(i) Muslim League-19; Kerala Congress(M)-9; Revolutionary Socialist Party-2; Indian Congress (Socialist-Sarat Chandra Sinha)-2; National Democratic Party-2; Kerala Congress-I; CWP-1.

- (j) Janata Dal(s)-5; BSP-2; Kranti Kari Samajwadi-1; Nominated-1.
- (k) Shiv Sena-52; Peasants' and Workers' Party-8; Republican Party of India (Khobrapada)-1; Muslim League-1; Nominated-1.
- (l) Peasants' and Workers' Party-3; Shiv Sena-4; Republican Party of India-1; Republican Party of India (Gawai Group)-1; Unattached-1.
- (m) Meghalaya United Parliamentary Front-26; United Meghalaya Parliamentary Party-26.
- (n) Mizo National Front-12; Mizo National Front(O)-2.
- (o) Nagaland People's Council-24; Unattached-2.
- (p) Janata Dal(G)-25.
- (q) Sikkim Sangram Parishad-32.
- (r) All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-164; Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-2; Pattali Makkal Katchi-1; Anna Puratchi Thalaivar Tharnizhaga Munnetra Kazhagam-1; Nominated-1.
- (s) Tripura Uplati Juba Samiti-8; Revolutionary Socialist Party-2.
- (t) Janata Party-30; Bahujan Samaj Party-12; Soshit Samaj Dal-1; Shiv Sena-1; Unattached-7.
- (u) Janata Dal(Samajwadi)-31; Shikshak Dal-6; Unattached-11.
- (v) All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-6; Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-4.

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