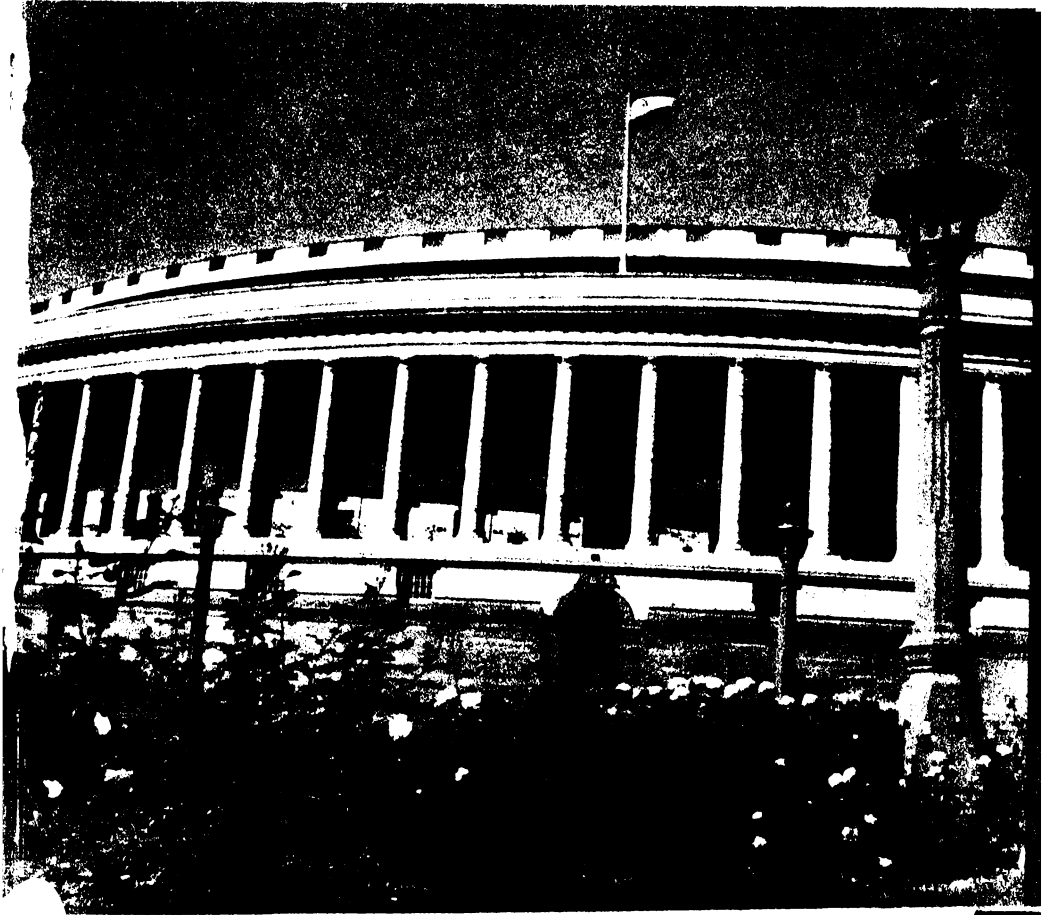


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THE JOURNAL OF PARLIAMENTARY INFORMATION

EDITOR : Dr. R. C. BHARDWAJ

The Journal of Parliamentary Information, a quarterly publication brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, aims at the dissemination of authoritative information about the practices and procedures that are continuously being evolved in Indian and foreign Legislatures. The *Journal* also purports to serve as an authentic recorder of important parliamentary events and activities and provides a useful forum to members of Parliament and State Legislatures and other experts for the expression of their views and opinions thereby contributing to the development and strengthening of parliamentary democracy in the country.

The Editor would welcome articles on constitutional, parliamentary and legal subjects for publication in the *Journal*. A modest token honorarium is payable for articles, etc. accepted for publication in the *Journal*. The articles should be type-written on only one side of the paper.

Latest standard books are reviewed in the *Journal* by members of Parliament and scholars. Books intended for review should be sent to the Editor.

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EDITORIAL NOTE

The history of our parliamentary democracy, in a way, has been inextricably linked with the Parliament House and its historic Central Hall.

Parliament House which stands out majestically in the very heart of our capital city is home to the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. The precincts of Parliament House have statues and busts of stalwarts from our history. It is a humble tribute to their sacrifices by a grateful nation which takes inspiration from their contribution to the welfare of the country and its people.

The magnificent high domed Central Hall of Parliament House has witnessed the ceremony transferring the sovereign power of the nation to the people of India. It was again in this Hall, our Constitution was debated, framed and adopted. In recent years, several momentous ceremonies of national importance have been held here. The Honourable President of India addresses the Members of both Houses of Parliament in this Hall, outlining the achievements and policies of the Government. Several visiting Heads of State and Government also address Members of Parliament in the Central Hall. This Hall is also a beehive of activity during session days as also when Parliament is not in session, with members interacting with one another on issues of national and international importance.

The Central Hall is also adorned with portraits of several leaders who have contributed immeasurably to the national cause.

The Honourable Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, at the function in the Central Hall on 20 August 1993 while unveiling the portrait of the former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, had stated that the Parliament building had more than 50 places where the statues of great political leaders, parliamentarians and eminent sons and daughters of India could be installed. A Committee, consisting of senior members of Parliament, had advised and it was decided to install statues of several prominent leaders in the parliamentary precincts. It was also agreed to display portraits of three more former Prime Ministers in the Central Hall. Already, the portraits of former Prime Ministers Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Smt. Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi adorn the Central Hall.

On 2nd of October every year we, in India, recall with reverence the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi and the former Prime Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri who happened to share their birth date. Gandhiji's portrait already adorns the Central Hall of Parliament House. The 2nd of October, 1993 was a special day for the Parliament of India. On that day, the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma unveiled the statue of Mahatma Gandhi in front of Gate No. 1 of Parliament House. Later, on the same day, the President unveiled the portrait of former Prime Minister, Lal Bahadur Shastri in the Central Hall. The function was attended by high

dignitaries, including the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil. The texts of the Addresses delivered on the occasion are reproduced in this issue of the *Journal*.

On 23 December 1993, the President of India unveiled the portrait of former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh in the Central Hall. The function was attended by dignitaries, including the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla and Shri Satya Prakash Malaviya, MP. We include in this issue of the *Journal*, the texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion.

The Commonwealth is as an association of independent sovereign states which greatly nurture and cherish the noble ideals of consultation and cooperation. The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), which has grown with the Commonwealth, provides a unique forum for regular consultation among Members of Commonwealth Parliaments. It also strives to foster understanding and cooperation among them and promote the study of, and respect for, Parliament. These goals are sought to be achieved through annual Conferences, Parliamentary Seminars, exchange of Parliamentary Delegations and various publications.

Starting 1989, a Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar has been held every year under the aegis of the CPA. The India Branch of the CPA had the proud privilege of hosting the Sixth Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar in New Delhi from 17 to 25 January 1994. The Seminar, inaugurated by the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao on 17 January 1994, was one of the largest such Seminars ever held with as many as 126 Delegates, Observers and their Spouses from 53 CPA Branches assembling in New Delhi.

Keeping in view the historic occasion, this issue of the *Journal* carries an article by the Editor titled "The Sixth Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar: An Overview". The article deals at length with the varied activities of the Seminar, including the inaugural function, business sessions, and concluding function. It also discusses the Seminar arrangements, special features of the Seminar and other sidelights. As the Editor observes, the Sixth Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar has indubitably contributed to the further strengthening of parliamentary democracy not only among member countries of the Commonwealth but the world at large.

The progress of a nation to a large extent is conditioned by the level of use of knowledge by its people. Experts are of the opinion that there is a direct relationship among the rate of literacy, spread of information and the advancement of the people. If the literacy rate is high, there is bound to be an increased demand and establishment of libraries. The ultimate goal

of a welfare state is advancement of humanity, especially in the wake of increasing democratisation and parliamentarisation of more and more countries. This cherished goal can be achieved only if every field of knowledge is available to everyone everywhere globally. Herein lies the importance of the concept of Universal Library which was the theme of the 59th General Conference of the International Federation of Libraries Associations and Organisations (IFLA) held in Barcelona, Spain from 22 to 28 August 1993.

In his article titled "Universal Library", Shri G.C. Malhotra, Joint Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, analyses the concept of Universal Library, its problems and prospects, and its efficacy in the fast changing global scenario. Shri Malhotra, who was a delegate to the 59th IFLA Conference in Barcelona, points out that the idea of Universal Library in the present day context goes beyond universal provision of library facilities and envisages the next step of narrowing the gap between the source of information and the user through information networking. As the author rightly observes, computerisation and other modernisation processes have influenced Parliaments too in a big way for managing and controlling information necessary for policy formulation and decision making as also for improving their communications with the general public.

This issue of the *Journal* carries our other regular Features, viz. Parliamentary Events and Activities, Privilege Issues, Procedural Matters, Parliamentary and Constitutional Developments, Sessional Review, Documents of Constitutional and Parliamentary Interest and Recent Literature of Parliamentary Interest.

It has been our constant endeavour to make the *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 Legislatures, scholars and others interested in the field of parliamentary political science.

—R.C. Bhardwaj
Editor

ADDRESSES AT THE UNVEILING OF THE STATUE OF MAHATMA GANDHI AND THE PORTRAIT OF SHRI LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI

A statue of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, was unveiled by the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, on 2 October 1993, in front of Gate No.1 of Parliament House. The statue has been made by the well known artist, Shri Ram Sutar.

Later, on the same day, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma unveiled a portrait of the former Prime Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The portrait has been painted by the eminent portrait artist, Shri Vidya Bhushan.

On this occasion, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma also released a book titled *Lal Bahadur Shastri and Parliament* brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

Before the function formally commenced, the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of those who lost their lives in the earthquake which ravaged several parts of the country.

The function was attended by high dignitaries, including the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil.

The Addresses delivered on the occasion are reproduced below.

—Editor.

ADDRESS BY SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL, SPEAKER, LOK SABHA

Respected Rashtrapatiji, Respected Up-Rashtrapatiji, Respected Pradhan Mantriji, Respected Giani Zail Singhji, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Members of Parliament, Honourable Members of the families of Gandhiji and Shastriji, Honourable Members of the diplomatic corps, learned members of the media, learned Officers, Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are grateful to Rashtrapatiji for unveiling the statue of Mahatma Gandhi in front of Gate No.1 of the Parliament and also for agreeing to unveil the portrait of Lal Bahadur Shastri in the Central Hall. In putting up

the statue of the Father of the Nation in the precincts of Parliament, the favourable inclination observed by us in Rashtrapatiiji and Pradhan Mantriji proved very encouraging. We thank them very sincerely for the support and advice perceived and received by us in this respect.

The Minister for Urban Development and her colleagues and officers in the Ministry and the CPWD were greatly helpful to us in arriving at the decision to install the statue. It is not an exaggeration to say that without her cooperation and that of her colleagues and officers of the Parliament, it would not have been possible to put up the statue in the short time available. We thank them very sincerely.

The Leader of Rajya Sabha, Leaders of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and Leaders of other Opposition Parties showed great understanding and extended full cooperation when the matter was brought to their notice and facilitated the installation of the statue. We thank them also very sincerely.

The statue has been made by one of the very well known artists in India, Shri Sutar. The statue is very imposing, attractive and inspiring. We would like to congratulate him for the marvellous piece of art produced by him very very sincerely.

The portrait of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastriji has been donated by the Lal Bahadur Shastri Trust. Shri Anil Shastriji played a very significant role in this respect. We would like to thank him and other members of the Trust for the donation. The portrait is painted by one of the well known portrait artists in India, Shri Vidya Bhushanji. The portrait is very beautiful and realistic. We would like to congratulate and thank the artist for the excellent work he has done.

Today is the Second of October, the day on which Mahatma Gandhi was born, and the day on which Lal Bahadur Shastriji was also born. We would like to pay our most sincere homage to the memory of Mahatma Gandhiji and that of Lal Bahadur Shastriji on this solemn occasion. Today, we have the statue of Mahatma Gandhiji unveiled by Rashtrapatiiji and the portrait will also be unveiled by Rashtrapatiiji. This has happened not by a very well-planned design, but by a surprising coincidence over which we do not appear to have full control and we accept the flow of events in this respect as they stand.

Mahatma Gandhi taught us to be true to ourselves, taught us to follow the truth, taught us to love the entire humanity, taught us the worth, value and efficacy of non-violence. His philosophy of life gave us confidence in ourselves, readiness to face the odds for truth and plan a real good life for all. The philosophy of non-violence is the real solution to the problems of conflicts and wars which can annihilate the entire humanity. This is being realised by all, though not followed by all concerned. By remembering his approach to life, individuals and nations, the hurdles in the way towards a real and purposeful life of bliss, beauty and truth can be overcome.

Lal Bahadur Shastriji was a real follower of Gandhian precepts. He was simple, straightforward, gentle and considerate and a true representative of the common human being of India. When required, he was as firm as the Himalayas are and did his duties with full confidence in himself, in the *Jawans* and *Kisans* of India, in fact in all Indian people and India's resilience and strength. He was softer than a flower and harder than steel. The mixture gave a uniqueness to his personality which reflected in his short span of stewardship of India amply making him a real darling of the people, "the Darling of the Land", *Dharti ke Lal*. By bearing in mind as to how he taught, as to how he acted, as to how he spoke, as to how he carried the people with him, as to how he overcame the difficulties, we can lead a successful and purposeful personal and political life. When we see the statues and portraits of the great human beings, we remember them in their flesh and blood. We remember their thoughts, words and actions which become the beacon light in our lives. That is why in all parts of the world, we put up these statues and display the portraits for the encouragement, guidance and inspiration of the people.

We hope and pray that the portraits in this Hall and the statues outside, and specially, the statue of Mahatma Gandhiji would keep us on the right track, encourage, guide and inspire us to do our duties towards our nation and the world as a whole.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO,
PRIME MINISTER**

Respected Rashtrapatiji, Respected Up-Rashtrapatiji, Honourable Speaker Sahab, Honourable Members, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The 2nd of October is a celebrated day in our country. It is not often that two great men who have so much in common between them, also share the same birth date. It is our proud privilege today to be witness to a historic event in which the nation pays its humble tribute to these great leaders through this Parliament.

We honour today two great Indians - one who led us to independence and the other who showed us how to defend it. Both have adorned for long the hearts and minds of our people. Today, we give to them a place of reverence in the precincts of Parliament. It will be an honour for us, Members of Parliament, to work under their benign and watchful gaze. If inspired by but a fraction of the simplicity and sincerity of such leaders, we would be ennobling ourselves and adding to the dignity of our work.

Mahatma Gandhi's message to us and the world is of eternal relevance. But today, as we struggle to keep the forces of communal fanaticism and hatred under check, his approach to religion is particularly significant. We

have to study once again his approach to religion to understand its true meaning. People who have brought religion into disrepute by dragging it into political confrontation have done it a great disservice. It is Mahatma Gandhi whose ideal of religion we have chosen as the spirit of our secularism, for that is the ethos of our tradition.

Shastriji will always remain a source of inspiration to the millions of poor and under-privileged people in our country. His rise from a lower, middle class family of slender means to the office of Prime Minister was as much a tribute to his hard work and talents as to our democratic system. Shastriji's success in life was a triumph of devotion to work and of earnest endeavour. His humility was legendary, his sincerity transparent. He was a Prime Minister in whom every Indian saw a reflection of his own personality. He not only represented them but the ethos of our culture; erudite, gentle, tolerant and conscientious. These are values we would need in abundant measure today, values which made our country great in the past and which we should preserve and promote, for in them lies our salvation.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri was a close associate of Panditji and earned his respect and admiration by his selfless devotion to work. He imbibed the teachings of Gandhiji by unfailing adherence to them in his daily life. There is a very interesting episode in his life that reveals the Gandhian spirit of his character. In 1927, when he was getting married, he refused to accept as dowry anything more than a spinning wheel and a little yarn.

Public life to both Gandhiji and Shastriji was merely a means to a noble end. Gandhiji never aspired for any political office. Shastriji's resignation after the railway accident in 1956 remains to this day the touchstone of accountability in public office. His inspired leadership, during the brief and extremely difficult period of his Prime Ministership, saw the rise of a vibrant nationhood that united the people in courage and sacrifice. Whether in office or outside, Shastriji's enthusiasm for public service never waned.

At this grave hour when a terrible natural calamity has befallen the country, we look to the humanism of these great leaders and draw inspiration so that each one of us can contribute his or her mite to provide succour to the unfortunate victims of the earthquake. The spirit of public service that Mahatma Gandhi taught us must once again permeate our actions to help us tide over this tragedy.

Government's efforts alone can never suffice in such a situation. We all have to join hands in this endeavour. The profound *mantras* of *Ishwar Allah Tero Naam* and *Jai Jawan Jai Kisan* given by these two leaders are the essence of a strong and stable India. I hope the presence of the statue and portrait of such men and leaders in our midst will serve as a constant source of inspiration and encouragement to all of us and a reminder of their teachings.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN,
VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA AND
CHAIRMAN, RAJYA SABHA**

Respected Rashtrapatiji, Honourable Prime Minister, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Giani Zail Singhji, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Members of Parliament :

The President of India has just unveiled a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in front of the Parliament House. It is a tribute by the representatives of the people of India to the Father of the Nation on his birthday. This morning, the President of India, will also unveil a portrait of Lal Bahadur Shastriji in the Central Hall of Parliament House.

Mahatma Gandhi had said that his ambition was to wipe every tear from every eye. Our hearts go out, on this occasion, to the people of Maharashtra who are, right now, groaning under the tragedy of a natural calamity. Both Gandhiji and Shastriji had devoted their lives to the service of the people and to the relief of human suffering.

We, in India, today, need the courage and spirit of self-sacrifice that Gandhiji had shown in the struggle for our independence. Gandhi had pitted his iron will, his 'soul force', as he called it, against the might of an Empire. He told a weak and an unarmed nation:

A nation of 350 million people does not need the dagger of the assassin, it does not need the poison bowl, the spear or the bullet. It needs simply a will of its own to say NO.

India has changed a great deal since those days and is stronger today. But the strength of the nation still lies in the power of the people, now over 850 million. In the new world that is emerging in which the pulls and pressures of superior force are as much a reality as global cooperation, it is necessary for us to regenerate that indomitable will of the people that Gandhiji symbolized. It was such courage and will power that Shastriji displayed in 1965, when the territorial integrity of the country was threatened from outside. The humble man of peace that he was, Shastriji rose to the challenge and gave a decisive rebuff to the aggressor.

Today, while paying homage to Gandhiji, it is the humble man, the common man of India, that comes uppermost to one's mind. Gandhiji had derived inspiration and strength from him. He once said:

In the case of an Indian villager an age-old culture is hidden under an encrustation of crudeness. Take away the encrustation, remove his illiteracy, and you have the finest specimen of what a cultured, cultivated, free citizen should be.

It is to the task of making finest citizens out of our ordinary people that he devoted his entire life.

“Whatever can be useful to the starving millions”, he said, “is beautiful to my mind. Let us give today, first, the vital things of life, and all the graces and ornaments of life will follow”. There is hardly any case of a leader in history who, in the thick of a struggle, formulated and implemented, with no instruments of State power in his hands, a constructive programme for the uplift of the masses. What it shows is that, when we have the power of the State beside us, individuals, groups and parties can do a great deal for national development, and relief of poverty and suffering, in our country.

Lal Bahadur Shastri on becoming Prime Minister, animated by Gandhian spirit, declared that his immediate priorities would be those affecting the common man, viz. food, shelter, medical care and work. In the critical war-situation in 1965, with a stroke of practical genius, he integrated the urgent defence needs of the country with the needs of the *kisan*. He declared that ‘farms to strengthen arms must be our motto and our watch-word’ and, through his magical slogan, *Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan*, he provided a rallying point for the nation.

When the war was won, he said: “We have to fight for peace with the same courage and determination as we fought against aggression”. It was in this spirit of peace that he concluded the Tashkent Agreement, as Smt. Indira Gandhi, much later, signed the Shimla Agreement after a famous victory. We owe it to Shastriji and to Indiraji, that the sacrifices of war and the gains of peace are not rendered ineffectual, under the pressure of national and international circumstances.

The Buddha-like pose of the statue of Gandhiji would constantly remind us of the philosophy of non-violence that he practised in the struggle for India’s independence. In this era of nuclear power and the threat of nuclear annihilation, the philosophy and method of Gandhiji are becoming increasingly relevant. Perhaps that is the only weapon available to non-nuclear nations in this age of nuclear blackmail. Non-violence is also the ultimate basis of real democracy. There will be no democracy within a State, if relations among people are determined by violence and there will be no democracy in the world, if relations among nations are regulated by the use or threat of use of nuclear or other kinds of superior power. This is why Gandhiji had always held that without non-violence there can be no genuine democracy and peace.

This Parliament is the temple of democracy in India. With the statue of Gandhiji in front of us in that meditating pose, it is incumbent on us to think deeply about the future of our country and also about how we, as representatives of the people, conduct our business and carry out our duties. Gandhiji believed profoundly in democracy. So did Lal Bahadur Shastriji. While paying homage to them on their birthday, let us strive to strengthen our democracy and serve our people.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA,
PRESIDENT OF INDIA***

Honourable Vice-President, Honourable Speaker, Lok Sabha, Honourable Prime Minister, Freedom Fighters, Members of Parliament and Ex-Parliamentarians, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I hope people will excuse me, but I think, speaking on this occasion of unveiling of Bapu's statue and the portrait of Shastriji here, it is but proper that I speak in the language which was made by the people who played a very large part in giving Hindi its proper place.

It is a matter of great pleasure for me to unveil the statue of Bapu in the precincts of Parliament House and the portrait of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri in the Central Hall. I welcome the installation of the statue of Bapu and the portrait of Shastriji in Parliament House.

I have just released a book titled *Lal Bahadur Shastri and Parliament*. I commend this work. I would like to congratulate the two artists who have been honoured today.

Today is the birthday of Bapu and his devoted follower Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. These two illustrious sons of India represent the great legacy of our sublime culture and thought to the world at large.

I vividly remember that when I was staying as a student in the University College hostel at Allahabad, Bapu, while coming out from Anand Bhavan, would pass my hostel. I also used to follow him. However, he would walk so briskly, that while walking behind him, I used to become breathless even at my young age. I have realised how difficult it is to follow his ideals. Yet to follow his ideals is the only way to ensure a bright future for our country. There is no other way before us.

Through his life-work and conduct, Bapu set an excellent example of love, truth, non-violence, selfless service, sacrifice and tolerance. He lived a simple life by mingling with the teeming millions of the country and by dedicating his entire life to their service, he transformed the freedom struggle into a mass movement. He was the selfless 'Karmayogi' of the Gita fully committed to his ideals and worked tirelessly with full dedication to achieve them. He was of the firm belief that the means for achieving the lofty ideals should also be pure and unblemished.

He was large hearted and broadminded, free of any kind of narrow thinking. He had an abiding faith in, and respect for, each and every religion and believed that God is one though the paths to reach Him are many.

Ekam Sad Viprah Bahudha Vadanti

*Original delivered in Hindi



The President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma with distinguished after unveiling the statue of Mahatma Gandhi
Opposite Gate No. 1 of Parliament House



Dignitaries at the unveiling of the statue of Mahatma Gandhi



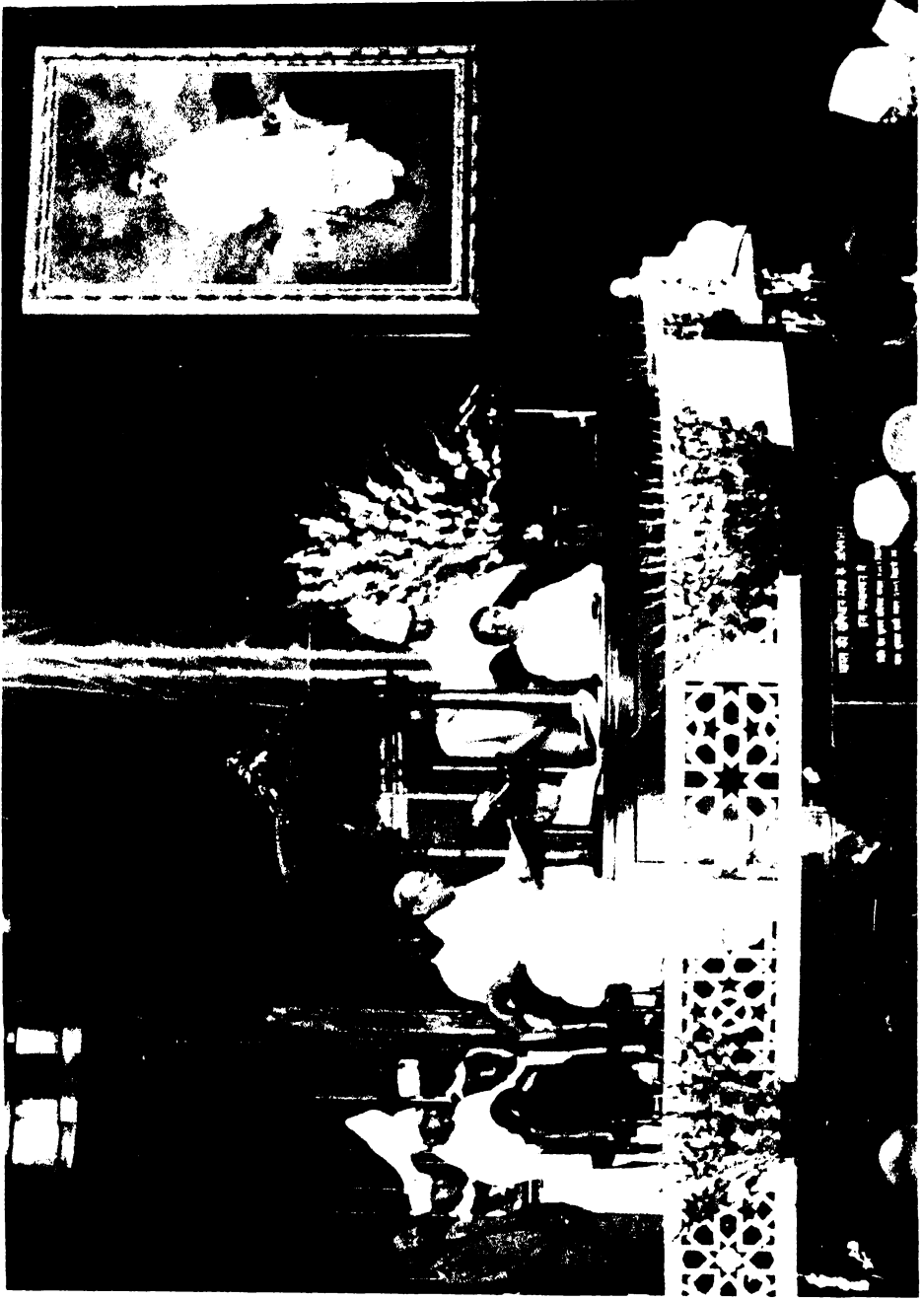
The President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma unveiling the portrait of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri in the Central Hall of Parliament House



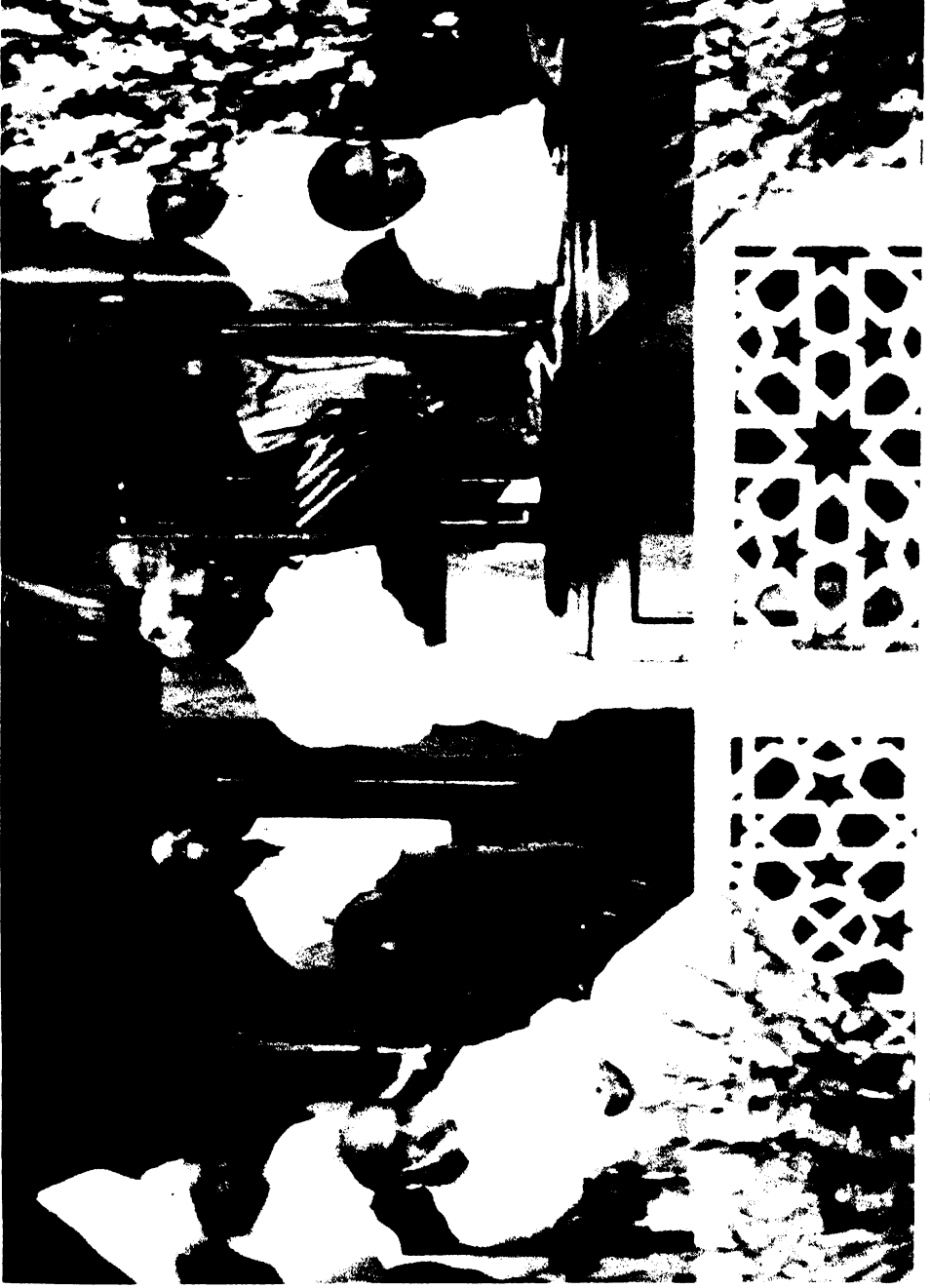
The President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma with dignitaries after unveiling the portrait of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri in the Central Hall



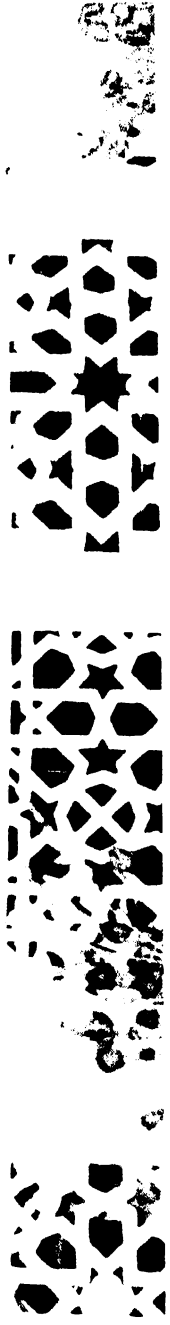
The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil addressing the gathering in the Central Hall



The Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao addressing the distinguished gathering



The Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K. R. Narayanan addressing the gathering



The President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma addressing the distinguished gathering

As has been said in the *Rigveda* and also in the *Gita*, his most cherished book,

Ye Yatha Mam Prapadyante Tanstathaiva Bhajamiaham

He wrote in the *Harijan* of 16 March 1947:

“Just as a tree had a million leaves, similiarly though God was one, there were as many religions as there were men and women....”

In fact, Bapu was a true follower of humanism and to him, service to mankind was the true religion. He considered service to be the essence of all religions. Dharmraj Yudhishtira thus spoke in the *Mahabharata*:

Na twaham Kamaye Rajyam Na Swargam Na Punarbhavam
Kamaye Dukh Taptanam Praninamarti Nashnam

Bapu was very fond of this *sloka*, whose meaning is, I want neither Kingdom, nor heaven, nor salvation; I want only to mitigate the sufferings of the distressed.

“Vaishnav Jan to Tene Kahiye Jo Peer Parayee Jane Re”, was the most favourite devotional song of Bapu. There can be no two opinions that Bapu made this song of *Bhakt* Narsi the basic tenet of his life and in this spirit he worked ceaselessly for the service of mankind till the end.

A short while ago, we adopted a resolution to express our sympathies for our earthquake affected brethren. That is why I feel that the following Bhajan of Bapu is a source of inspiration for all of us: “Vaishnav Jan to Tene Kahiye Jo Peer Parayee Jane Re.” It is proper that we pay our homage to those who have lost their lives in the recent earthquake. Bapu was ever ready to render his services at the time of such calamities. He had at the very start instituted a Relief Fund for the victims of the earthquake in 1902. However, he made the very pertinent observation then that giving financial help to the victims was not as important as it was to make them feel that the entire nation was with them in their hour of calamity. It would go a long way in healing their wounds and giving them solace. All of us are with them and I feel we, who have assembled here and represent different parts of the country, do convey a message to them that they are not alone in their grief, but that we all are with them.

Bapu had made it amply clear that the real test of any work should be to see how far the poorest of the poor living in the most remote villages were benefited. He also conveyed this fundamental point to Jawaharlal in a letter. He wrote in the *Harijan* on 18 January 1948, just 12 days before his assassination:

In the true democracy of India, the unit was the village....It had to be worked from below by the people of every village.

Bapuji did not merely preach, but also practised what he professed. There

was no dichotomy between his practice and profession. That is why his voice carried conviction and the people followed him. I had many occasions to listen to him. By present-day standards perhaps it might be said that his language was not eloquent, or that there were grammatical errors. People may say that his pronunciation was also faulty. What then, was the strength of his speeches? It was that his heart spoke, and in simple and easy language. Because he spoke from his heart, people followed him so much so that a mighty power was forced out of the country by us with the help of his weapon of non-violence.

Whatever Bapu professed for the villages, the neglected, down-trodden and exploited people of the country he put into practice also.

In this connection I would like you to recall the Resolution on Human Rights moved by the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, at the Karachi Conference in 1931. In that Resolution, a pledge was made to protect human dignity and ensure equality, social justice, secularism and primary education as also to protect the rights of children, workers, farmers and women and safeguard the culture, language and script of the minorities, after attaining independence of the country. As long as 62 years back, on 31 March 1931, while moving this Resolution concerning fundamental rights, Bapu said that through this resolution we were making it clear to our people as well as the people of the world what we would do when we came to power.

That was his word to the poor living in villages in the country on behalf of all of us. Now we must pause to think, and this statue unveiled today will serve to remind us whether, after independence, we, on our part, have fulfilled the pledge made by Bapu to the people living in the backward and far-flung villages in the country, how far we have moved towards that end and what has been our contribution in this regard.

That was the promise made by our leaders to the nation, and we have to fulfil it. I agree that much has been done in this regard but no one can deny that a lot is yet to be accomplished. Bapu believed that democracy was more a culture and way of thinking and working, than a political system. For the Mahatma, democracy meant development of the villages, uplift of the poor and inculcation of the spirit of cooperation and tolerance.

In his book *The Art of Living*, Bapu says if we want to spread the true spirit of democracy among the masses, we must eschew intolerance because intolerance is in itself a sort of violence which hinders the growth of a true democratic spirit. Similarly, he observed at the Karachi Conference that we had to infuse in our masses the feeling of tolerance.

Bapu firmly adhered to his principles. On page 52 of his book, *My Philosophy of Life*, he observes:

Eternal principles admit of no compromise and one must be prepared to lay down one's life in the practice of them.

The life of Bapu teaches us that we should not deviate from our principles, no matter how trying the circumstances. I do believe that the statue of Bapu will inspire the people's representatives, who carry their hopes into Parliament House to serve the poor to be tolerant, and convey the message of their commitment to fair means and adherence to principles.

It is a happy coincidence that today also happens to be birth date of Shastriji, although he used to hide this fact. Once he told Panditji that in celebration of the birthday of Bapu the birthday of everyone was celebrated. On this occasion, it is very appropriate that in this historic Central Hall of Parliament House where the portraits of our great leaders and torch bearers are put up, Shastriji's portrait has been unveiled today.

Shastriji was one of the important personalities among the teeming millions who have been greatly influenced by Bapu. Acknowledging the influence of Gandhiji on himself he said on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of the Gandhi Stupa at Vijayawada on 9 November 1964 thus:

I have been from my young days much impressed by Gandhiji's precept and way of life....He was not just a personality or an individual. He had become an idea.... I remember in those days whenever we heard Gandhiji we felt within ourselves that we were purified.

There are no two opinions about it that Shastriji followed the ideals of Bapu in their true letter and spirit. When he was just 17 years of age, he left his studies at the call of Bapu. In accordance with the ideas of Gandhiji he resolved to work for the uplift of the villages. He worked for the betterment of farmers and dedicated himself to the cause of the oppressed, the neglected and the down-trodden.

I have had the privilege of knowing Shastriji from very close quarters. I will ever remember his simplicity, genuineness, unflinching patriotism and dedication to the cause of the country. He identified himself with the common man and symbolised the noble values enshrined in our philosophy of life.

With my understanding of Shastriji I can say with my full confidence that simple living and high thinking as well as total dedication to the cause of the nation constituted his basic philosophy of life. He stood firm as a rock and immovable as a mountain in his commitment to his principles.

He was gifted with a unique sense of political acumen. It was a remarkable facet of his personality that he could not only maintain his equanimity during the most difficult situations but also inspire a sense of balance in others.

Only those who sacrifice their lives in the service of the people find a permanent niche in the relentless flow of history. Bapu and Shastriji were

among those who gave themselves up to the cause of others. They are among those who, in giving their all, realize their own selves. That is why they were very humble. There was not even a trace of arrogance in Shastriji. He was much influenced by a couplet of Guru Nanak Dev from his very childhood and all his life lived up to it. The couplet reads:

Nanak nanhe hoi rahen, jaisi nanhi doob
Aur rukh sub sukhihain, doob rahegi doob

He was a *Karmayogi* as defined in the *Gita*, committed to his duties and never desirous of the fruits of his labours. He served as Minister in the Government of Uttar Pradesh and in the Union Government in various capacities. He made an imprint of his abilities wherever he worked but remained indifferent to the lure of posts. He readily resigned the post of Union Minister under the Kamraj Plan. In 1956, he tendered his resignation following the Ariyallur rail accident owning moral responsibility for the same. His action was a pleasant surprise to the people of this country. I see in it positive proof of his moral courage and sense of detachment. It raised the stature of our political leaders and bred in them a deep sense of responsibility.

It should be noted here that Shastriji, though born in an ordinary family, rose to the high office of Prime Minister by dint of his hard work, honesty, sacrifice, spirit of service, determination and self confidence. I consider him to be a person in whom our posterity has reposed its full faith. He symbolises the faith of our people in the democratic system of this country and the spirit of sacrifice and service we have cherished through centuries.

Following the ideals of Bapu, Shastriji had imbibed a deep sense of service and sacrifice. How deep and natural it was can be clearly seen from the words he spoke on the Independence Day on 15 August 1964. To quote him:

I want that each and every citizen of this country, whether he is living in a village or a city, should look to his neighbour to share his woes and miseries and if we are required to share our food with them we should be prepared for that.

It appears that these are Bapu's own words.

He was a valiant freedom fighter. He took an active part in the Salt Law Agitation of 1930 and in the Quit India Movement of 1942. During that span of 12 years, he was imprisoned seven times.

During the post-independence period he held various important positions in Uttar Pradesh and at the Centre. At the Centre, he held important portfolios in the Ministries of Railways, Transport, Communication, Commerce, Industry and Home and left a mark of his administrative acumen in each of them. Two important aspects of his working impressed me very much. One was that his policies accorded top priority to the interest

of the common man of the country. Secondly, he used to infuse dynamism in his Ministry by taking personal interest. His approach in respect of the affairs pertaining to his Ministry was always essentially pragmatic and beyond formal observances. He used to bring down the barriers of redtapism. Commenting on the traits of the personality of Shastriji the then Prime Minister of the country, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had observed thus in 1956:

I can say with confidence that in Lal Bahadur Shastri, we have an honest, determined, hardworking, industrious and alert person who is faithful to his ideals.

Today, while unveiling his portrait in this temple of democracy, I consider it necessary to make a mention of his views about democracy. In his Address to the Nation on 11 June 1964, he said:

Political democracy and the way it has functioned in our country is surely a great achievement..... there is something in our older cultural heritage too. I have particularly in view that enduring strand in Indian life which can best be described as respect for human personality and the spirit of tolerance. I have no doubt in my mind that it is only by methods of persuasion and mutual accommodation and by a constant search for areas of agreement as the basis for action that democracy can work.

I think that what has been said by Shastriji with regard to democracy is not only essential and important in respect of the political sphere but also closely related with the life of the common man. Truly speaking, our political leaders have to infuse this democratic spirit in each and every person of this country. I feel that it will help us remove the barriers we are facing in our way of development and one day we will be able to build this nation on the lines that Babu, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shastri and other freedom fighters had envisaged.

Thus Babu had awakened the power of the masses of this country. Shastriji also had full faith in the organised manpower of our country. With his vigorous slogan of *Jai Jawan Jai Kisan*, he awakened this power of the country. To cope with national crises, he always relied on the strength of the masses. At all such moments, whether it was a time of short supply of foodgrains or during foreign invasion, all the people of this country stood solidly behind him.

We should remember that after the Indo-Pak war of 1965, when Shastriji was going to Tashkent as a victorious Prime Minister to attend a meet of international significance, he had taken leave of his mother by touching her feet. To me this act was symbolic of our culture as well as represented the message of universal brotherhood which he carried from our country. For that noble endeavour he laid down his life. I would like to say that he died for peace. That is my firm conviction.

Following our ancient ideals and the path shown by our great leaders, like Bapu, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Shastriji, we always seek to maintain and extend the ties of friendship and cooperation with our neighbouring countries and other countries of the world. This is our policy and it requires no proof. We have always abided by it and in that lies the welfare of the people of all the countries. They should remember that disputes lead us nowhere and they do not serve any purpose. Instead, they do great harm. This has to be realised by every person and every country, be it a neighbouring country or a distant one. We have to keep it in our mind. We should read this message in the ultimate sacrifice of Bapu and Shastriji. That is why I have stressed that for the ideal of universal brotherhood, our country has made great sacrifices. We bear no malice towards any country. We certainly want fellowship with all nations. This is not to be seen as a sign of weakness, because when the situation demands it we stand firm. It is said in the *Vedas* thus:

Vajradapi Kathorani Mriduni Kusumadapi

This characterises our country. We are always gentle and benevolent and do not hesitate to make all sacrifices for our friends but no one can pressurise us. So I would like to make it clear that the people of this country cannot be intimidated. Nobody should misconstrue our humbleness for weakness. If anyone makes this mistake he will have to pay for it. In all humbleness I would like to say that such a mistake would be sheer folly.

The spirit of peace and cooperation is truly our national heritage and cultural legacy. Our people should strengthen this spirit and rebuild this nation. I believe that to keep the memory of our leaders alive and to make our best contribution toward the development of our country, would be our truest homage to Bapu and Shastriji.

With these words, I, on behalf of the people of this country, pay my homage to Bapu and Shastriji.

Jai Hind.

ADDRESSES AT THE UNVEILING OF THE PORTRAIT OF CHAUDHARY CHARAN SINGH

A portrait of the former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh was unveiled by the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 23 December 1993.

The function was attended by high dignitaries, including the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla and Shri Satya Prakash Malaviya, MP. The Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion are reproduced below.

The portrait has been painted by the well known artist Km. Zeba Amrohawi.

—Editor

ADDRESS BY SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA, M.P.*

Esteemed President Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, Honourable Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, Honourable Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Honourable Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla, Respected Smt. Gayatri Devi, Honourable Members, former Members, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Today, on behalf of the Chaudhary Charan Singh Memorial Committee, I have the honour to present the portrait of the former Prime Minister, Chaudhary Charan Singh to the Parliament of India. The Chaudhary Charan Singh Memorial Committee is highly beholden to the Honourable Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan and the Honourable Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil for their permission to install the portrait of Chaudhary Charan Singh in the Central Hall of the Parliament House.

Chaudhary Saheb was a great freedom fighter, a popular leader and an able administrator. His contribution to India's struggle for independence and in the post-independence era towards the building of modern India is indeed invaluable. He was committed to the ideals of the Father of the

*Original delivered in Hindi

Nation Mahatma Gandhi. Lokmanya Tilak, Gandhiji and Maharishi Dayanand influenced his life a great deal. He was in favour of according agriculture the top most priority and was also a supporter of cottage industries, handicrafts and small scale industries. He fought all through his life to make Indian agriculture and farmers progressive and self-reliant and raised the issue of the gross neglect of India's rural population at the national level with all the force at his command. He was the symbol of simplicity and honesty and considered caste system the bane of Indian society.

This portrait has been painted by the artist Km. Zeba Amrohawi, who has also painted the portrait of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, which adorns this Hall.

I, on my own behalf and on behalf of the Chaudhary Charan Singh Memorial Committee, thank the esteemed President for having agreed to unveil the portrait of Chaudhary Charan Singh.

I also thank Honourable Members and distinguished guests for having graced the occasion with their presence.

**ADDRESS BY DR. (SMT.) NAJMA HEPTULLA,
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, RAJYA SABHA***

Honourable President, Sir, Honourable Prime Minister, Sir, Honourable Speaker, Sir, Shri Satya Prakash Malaviyaji and friends assembled here:

History, in the course of its onward march, chooses a person who is courageous and strong enough to face the challenges of time. India's history proudly acknowledges that it gave birth to such a man, who rode the tides of time with courage and conviction.

Chaudhary Charan Singh was one such courageous man. Agriculture was his first love from early childhood and he made it the very life of the country. He had cherished a dream as a farmer and toiled hard to make it true. He commanded as much love and affection from farmers toiling in the scorching sun as from the soldiers deployed on our borders. Any country can be proud of the courage and valour shown by them.

When Chaudhary Charan Singh entered politics, he became a favourite leader of the masses very soon. With his courage and firm determination, he proved that a farmer, from an agricultural background, can be a good politician and an able administrator.

Addressing the nation from the ramparts of the historic Red Fort, he said, and I quote, "To be a Prime Minister of the country like India is not a small achievement for an Indian farmer." This line of his speech was not merely a line, but was a truth in itself. His work as the Chief Minister of

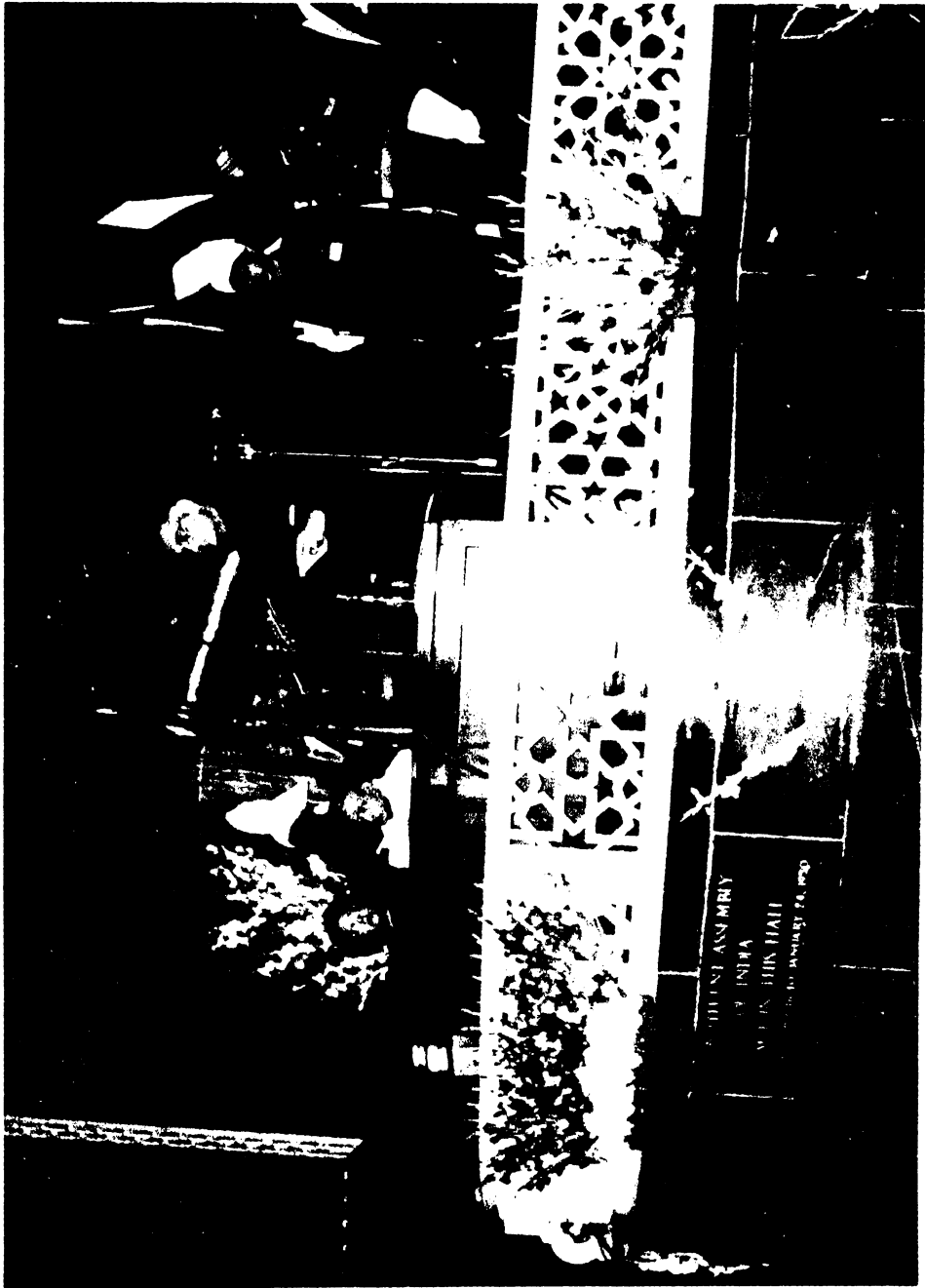
*Original delivered in Hindi



The President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma unveiling the portrait of Chaudhary Charan Singh in the Central Hall



The Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla addressing the gathering



The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivrāj V. Patil addressing the gathering



The Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao addressing the gathering





The President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma addressing the gathering



A view of the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall

Uttar Pradesh, Home Minister at the Centre and then as Prime Minister has a unique place in the history of India.

Chaudhary Saheb had his own philosophy as regards economic development. He was not opposed to urbanisation but at the same time he never wanted that villagers should be deprived of the fruits of their hard work or that the advantages should only accrue to the urban people. To this end, he followed the path and ideal shown by Gandhiji. Development and uplift of villages and rural areas was the essence of his ideology.

Significant indeed is his contribution toward abolishing Zamindari in Uttar Pradesh, and bringing forward legislation that has immensely benefited poor tillers. Personalities appear and disappear from the pages of history but a person like Chaudhary Charan Singh becomes a permanent part and parcel of history. He was fine and immortal personality. Today, on the auspicious occasion of the unveiling of his portrait, I pay my tributes to him.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL,
SPEAKER, LOK SABHA***

Esteemed and Revered Rashtrapatiji, Respected Prime Ministerji, Honourable Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Members, Smt. Gayatri Devi Charan Singhji and other members of his family, Gentlemen and Officers, Friends:

We are grateful to Respected Rashtrapatiji, Prime Minister and all of you for attending this function in this Hall. Today is the birth anniversary of late Charan Singhji. We remember him and offer respectful homage to his memory on this auspicious occasion. Today, his portrait will be unveiled in this Hall by Rashtrapatiji.

Shri Charan Singh led a very simple life. His was a true picture of a villager's life, as well as its ideals and dignity. He considered himself a companion and friend of farmers. He did a great service in Uttar Pradesh and in the country to make their life happy and prosperous. His economic philosophy was similar to that of Mahatma Gandhi. He was of the view that the progress of the country depends upon the prosperity of the villagers. In his opinion the progress of the countrymen is based on the advancement of agriculture. He wanted to make the people of India aware of these views and tried to convince them about the meaningfulness of these ideas. He was not against western and modern thoughts but did not give them as much importance as some others gave. For this reason it sometimes appeared that he did not consider that modern ideas were akin to his own. His political

*Original delivered in Hindi

life was eventful. He had his share of ups and downs, struggles and sometimes he had to encounter unpleasantness. Hardships of the under-privileged were also projected in it. His political life projected a unique image quite different from any other. But it did make one thing clear and that is that his firm determination and struggle remained enormous.

Social disparities had existed in India and these are still in existence. These have created bitterness in the minds of several people. It is difficult to say whether or not there was bitterness in the mind of Charan Singhji but he certainly felt it. Many people may feel thus. Many have worked towards lessening this bitterness, many more have to do so and are doing it. It is our duty to ensure that bitter feelings do not cross a certain limit and it is a matter of happiness that this work is being done.

At times we benefit from the ideas of certain people, sometimes the deeds of certain people guide us or the sorrow and pain of some people show us the way. We can learn also from the sentiments of some people. Our society, and all of us, can learn something from the struggle, mental agony and political acumen of Charan Singhji. We can achieve something and endeavour to make our country and society meaningful, prosperous and strong. We pray that this may be possible through this portrait.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO,
PRIME MINISTER**

Honourable Rashtrapatiji, Honourable Speaker, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shrimati Gayatriji, Members of Chaudhary Sahib's family, Malaviyaji, Ladies and Gentlemen:

This occasion of unveiling of the portrait of Chaudhary Charan Singh by Rashtrapatiji provides us an opportunity to pay homage to this great son of India, who was loved and respected by the people as Chaudhary Saheb. On this day, ninety-one years ago, Chaudhary Charan Singh was born in a small village in the district of Meerut.

Chaudhary Saheb was a staunch follower of Gandhian principles and his life's mission was to implement the Gandhian ideology of improving the lot of the villagers of India by promoting agriculture and rural industries. He was largely responsible for abolition of Zamindari in Uttar Pradesh, which set the pace of Zamindari abolition and land reforms in other parts of the country. He viewed Zamindari abolition and land reforms not merely as a matter of social justice to peasants; he laid stress on them because he believed that farm tenancy invariably reduced agricultural output and it is only through ownership of land that the Indian peasant could become an energetic participant in the country's economic progress.

Chaudhary Charan Singh authored many erudite books expounding the need for developing village industries for achieving the concept of rural self-sufficiency. He also stressed the need for technological improvements to achieve the goal. He was a great patriot who tried ceaselessly for the removal of poverty, hunger, disease and destitution of the masses of India.

Chaudhary Charan Singh was a man of deep convictions. He never made any compromises with the principles dear to his heart. There were many who differed with him but then, agreement to differ is the essence of democracy.

Moreover, those who differed with Chaudhary Charan Singh had no doubts about his honesty of purpose, his very deep sincerity, conviction and high sense of rectitude.

While paying homage to this great son of India, let me mention that the noblest contribution which any man can make for the benefit of posterity is that of a good character. Chaudhary Charan Singh was the epitome of such character because of his firm belief in some basic values of life and his deep commitment to the welfare of the people of India through a self-reliant and vibrant agrarian economy.

His portrait in the Central Hall of Parliament will be a constant reminder of all that was noble and patriotic, a fitting addition to the illustrious gallery that adorns the walls of this Hall.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY DR. SHANKER JAYAL SHARMA,
PRESIDENT OF INDIA***

It is a matter of great pleasure for me to unveil the portrait of Chaudhary Charan Singh. On this occasion, I extend my heartiest greetings to all concerned.

Chaudhary Charan Singh is one of those eminent Indians who have earned a distinct place for themselves in society by dint of their diligence, perseverance and devotion to the uplift of the common masses. Even after attaining the pinnacle of popularity, his bond with the peasantry remained unbroken. Throughout his life as an untiring leader, he fought for the uplift of Indian rural masses and the development of villages.

Chaudhary Charan Singh was born in a family which always fought for India's honour. His grandfather, Sri Badam Singh, was associated with Raja Nahar Singh in his fight against the British in 1857 and subsequently when the British annexed the State of Raja Nahar Singh with their empire, he had to take shelter in the Bhatauna village of Bulandshahar across the

*Original delivered in Hindi

river Yamuna. Later, he shifted to Nurpur where the villagers gave some land for farming to the family of Shri Charan Singh. Chaudhary Charan Singh has mentioned at several places in his writings about his circumstances when as a 5-year old he would work with his father in the fields. This childhood experience deeply influenced his life. On the occasion of Maharaja Suraj Mal's martyrdom day on 25 December, 1977, he had said in his speech :

I come from a poor farmer's family who has to live with dust and mud in a thatched hut. I have spent my childhood among peasants who braving the vagaries of weather toil in the fields.

Chaudhary Saheb had fully understood the decisive role of development of villages in the progress of the country in the early days in his life. He resolved to acquire higher education having dedicated himself to this cause. He started his legal practice in Ghaziabad in 1926 after obtaining a degree in Law from Lucknow University. This was the time when the entire nation, under the leadership of Bapu, was struggling to free itself from foreign rule. On the call of Mahatma Gandhi, Chaudhary Charan Singh too jumped into the fray. Consequently, he was jailed for participating in the Salt Satyagraha. In 1940, he was arrested as an individual Satyagrahi and in 1942 too, he was arrested during the Quit India Movement. During this period he also continued to be associated with the organisational work of the Congress Party. Even after having gone through hard struggle and painful political experience, he nursed no ill-will against any one. His fearlessness and plain speaking represent the character of our peasants. These words of his are particularly worth mentioning here :

Agriculture is an occupation in which a farmer has to take lessons in patience and hard work in his struggle with nature every day. As a result, he becomes resolute and tolerant. This build in him a character which no other occupation can.

All that Chaudhary Saheb did for the Indian farmers is of historical importance. In 1937, he was elected for the first time to the then Legislative Assembly of the United Provinces from Baghpat-Ghaziabad constituency. He was 35 years old then. One of his articles under the caption "Agricultural Marketing" appeared in two parts in the *Hindustan Times* of 31 March and 1 April 1938. His deep understanding of rural and agricultural problems is clearly reflected in this article. Following the publication of the article, Sir Chhotu Ram, the then Agriculture Minister of Punjab got passed the Mandi Samiti Act. Chaudhary Saheb wanted a similar Bill to be brought forward in the United Provinces Assembly also, but before he could do so, the Legislative Assembly was dissolved. However, he managed to get the Debt Redemption Bill passed in the Legislative Assembly in 1939. Lakhs of poor farmers in Uttar Pradesh got relief from debt following the passage of this Bill. The task of drafting the Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Bill, which was passed by the Uttar Pradesh Government in 1952 after attaining

independence, was also entrusted to Chaudhary Saheb by the Chief Minister, Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant.

Similarly Chaudhary Saheb took the initiative in enacting the Consolidation of Land Holdings Act in 1953 and the Land Conservation Act in 1954. A scientific dimension was thus added to agriculture.

Chaudhary Saheb was an untiring crusader against class and caste discrimination and a staunch votary of equality among all classes and equal respect for all religions. After his release from detention in the wake of the Civil Disobedience Movement, when Gandhiji launched a campaign for social justice in 1933-34, it was Chaudhary Charan Singh who spearheaded this campaign in the Ghaziabad region. In his book *Economic Nightmare of India: Its Causes and Cure*, describing the evils of caste system he has written thus:

It is the caste system which more than anything else, made it difficult, if not impossible, for the different religious groups of India to come closer together, socially and politically, to weld into one society.....

Besides politics, Chaudhary Charan Singh has made remarkable contributions as a free thinker and an original writer. He considered Mahatma Gandhi as his guru, so far as economic and political matters were concerned. This was why his economic philosophy appears to be closer to that of Gandhiji. His economic policy was rural oriented. Chaudhary Charan Singh always felt that cottage and small scale industries were essential for all round rural development. He believed in the concept of decentralisation of economy. He had unambiguously written in an article in 1982 that the only path from poverty to prosperity passes through villages and fields.

It is an indisputable fact that Chaudhary Charan Singh was instrumental in creating a new sense of awareness, self respect, dignity and social status among the peasants of the country. It was because of his leadership and organized endeavour that farmers and backward classes came into the national mainstream.

Chaudhary Charan Singh was very much concerned about eradicating poverty among the masses. He dedicated his whole life to this cause. He also continued to caution other political leaders in this regard. On assuming the office of Prime Minister in July 1979, he said:

Nothing could be a more patriotic objective for our political leaders than to ensure that no child will go to bed hungry, that no family will fear for its next day's bread and that the future and capacities of not a single Indian will be allowed to be stunted by malnutrition.

As a freedom fighter and an administrator, as an eminent parliamentarian and as a Minister both at the Centre and in the State and finally as occupant

of the august office of Prime Minister of the country, he has left his indelible mark on the history of our times. It is in recognition of Chaudhary Saheb's dedicated services to the nation that we are honouring him today by unveiling his portrait in this historic Central Hall of Parliament.

Our Parliament symbolises the aspirations of the citizens of this country. I hope the portrait of Chaudhary Charan Singh in the Central Hall of Parliament House, will inspire our parliamentarians to remain committed to make available the benefits of the developing economy to the rural people and backward communities living in remote areas of the country. It is a great responsibility which is to be fulfilled by the present and future generations.

With these words, I, on my own behalf and on behalf of the nation, pay tribute to Chaudhary Charan Singhji.

Jai Hind.

THE SIXTH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY SEMINAR: AN OVERVIEW

Dr. R. C. BHARDWAJ

Introduction

The Commonwealth is an association of independent sovereign states which greatly nurture and cherish the noble ideals of consultation and cooperation. It brings together nations and peoples from across the globe and, over the decades, has evolved into a bulwark of universal peace and prosperity, rule of law, freedom of the individual, and above all, the pursuit of the positive ideals of parliamentary democracy. The resurgence of democracy the world over in recent years has further underlined the efficacy of the Commonwealth as also of parliamentary democracy as a system of governance.

The CPA

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), founded in 1911 as the Empire Parliamentary Association, has grown with the Commonwealth with the avowed purpose of promoting knowledge and education about the constitutional, legislative, economic, social and cultural systems within a parliamentary democratic framework. The CPA provides a unique forum for regular consultation among Members of Commonwealth Parliaments. It also strives to foster understanding and cooperation among them and promote the study of, and respect for, Parliament. These goals are sought to be achieved through annual Conferences, Parliamentary Seminars, exchange of Parliamentary Delegations and various publications.

Seminars

The CPA's activities include hosting Seminars and helping Branches in holding Seminars for their own Members. Starting 1951, the Association and its United Kingdom Branch have been jointly hosting a Seminar on Parliamentary Practice and Procedure at the Westminster annually which is open to all Branches. The CPA activity also includes Regional Seminars on Parliamentary Practice and Procedure.

Besides, the CPA hosts another Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar held annually. The first such Seminar was hosted by Zambia in 1989. This was followed by Canada in 1990, the Isle of Man in 1991, Trinidad and Tobago in 1992 and Western Australia in 1993. The India Branch had the proud privilege of hosting the Sixth Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar in New Delhi from 17 to 25 January 1994.

Inaugural function

The Prime Minister of India, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao inaugurated the Sixth Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar on 17 January 1994 in the historic Central Hall of Parliament House. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil and the Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla also addressed the distinguished gathering. Thereafter, the Business Sessions commenced at the Vigyan Bhawan.

In his inaugural address, the Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao said that the CPA reflected in many respects the essence of the Commonwealth which was a unique experiment in interaction among sovereign states. Shri Rao observed that Parliament was an evolving and dynamic institution. While the values it symbolized and fundamental principles of its working might be of continuing validity, its general working methods and procedures had to be adjusted and adapted to the growing pace of change in contemporary society. Parliament, as the embodiment of the will of the people, must articulate the popular urges and aspirations. Through wide-ranging discussions, the essence of a common policy relevant for the whole society could be distilled in the political laboratory of Parliament.

Shri Rao emphasised that parliamentary democracy succeeded when Parliament addressed itself to the agenda of the nation. In those countries wherein modern parliamentary democracy was just taking roots, the utility of Parliament needed to be demonstrated and impressed on the people with greater clarity and deeper conviction. Refinements in the functioning of Parliaments would always be needed in order to enhance the relevance, context and purpose of parliamentary institutions.

The Prime Minister expressed the hope that the deliberations at the Seminar would be rewarding and fruitful and would come up with useful ideas and suggestions which would further help us to strengthen parliamentary institutions and procedures.

In his Welcome Address, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil said that the CPA transcended the boundaries of continents and countries, races and religions, creeds and colours. It provided freedom to the member countries to hold and subscribe to different points of view and when needed, to join hands to face and solve problems involving wider implications.

Shri Patil observed that democracy and parliamentary system had done well in our country and would do well in future too. However, to do better, they needed improvements in some respects. The kind of improvements that should be brought about should be conceived and effected with agreements among all the parties and persons concerned. Democracy and parliamentary system had to work on the basis of the views of the majority. However, if the views, aspirations and needs of the minority were neglected, they would become less viable and less productive. How to cope with this

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The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil addressing the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall at the inauguration of the Sixth Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar



The Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla addressing the distinguished gathering



The Prime Minister Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao inaugurating the Sixth Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar

New Delhi 17



The Former Speaker of the British House of Commons, Lord Bernard Weatherill with the Speaker Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil at the Seminar

problem effectively was a question which had to be answered to make the system more viable and effective.

Referring to the issue of ensuring executive accountability to the Legislature and providing for stability, Shri Patil pointed out that devices had to be found out to make Governments absolutely accountable to the Legislature and the people and at the same time comparatively and reasonably more stable. Electoral reforms to avoid the influence of money and muscle power and narrow ideologies had become essential.

Democracy was the best system prevalent in the world. However, it was not free from defects and drawbacks. It was necessary for all concerned to apply their ingenuity to understand and do away with the defects and make it more capable of coping with new challenges and demands, Shri Patil added.

In her Address, the Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla said that the revolutionary advancements in the field of transport and communication had made the world a single pluralistic society where we often saw the interplay of diverse interests. Parliamentarians had the crucial function of galvanizing and harmonising these interests which were not often diametrically opposed to each other. Dr. (Smt.) Heptulla observed that the same factors that worked for the stability of a parliamentary system domestically would ensure the stability of the world internationally. The end of the Cold War had created the necessary preconditions for a new world order by making it possible for the prosperous and powerful democracies to foster the democratic process in less favoured regions. To do this with sincerity and not for narrow and petty political ends would make these preconditions sufficient and irreversible and would give birth to a genuinely new international order, Dr. (Smt.) Heptulla added.

Seminar Sessions

After the inaugural function, the Seminar Sessions commenced at the Vigyan Bhawan. The then Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, Shri C.K. Jain, extended a hearty welcome to all the participants at the opening session which was presided over by the veteran parliamentarian and former Governor, Shri Bishma Narain Singh.

The Secretary-General of CPA, Mr. Arthur Donahoe, in his opening observations, thanked the India Branch of CPA for holding the Seminar. Mr. Donahoe said that in recent years the Commonwealth had been playing a major role in the promotion of good government and the rule of law. One area where the CPA had been providing its expertise was in the monitoring of elections in several member countries. He added that the CPA Seminars were especially useful to the newly elected legislators, particularly in the nascent democracies.

Parliamentary System in India

In his opening address, the former Union Minister Shri Inder Kumar

Gujral, MP said that a good Parliament was one which represented various shades of opinion and also one which gave ample scope to the Opposition. The success or failure of the system depended on smoothening the process of change taking place in various parts of the world. The essence of parliamentary democracy was in ensuring executive accountability to the Legislature. As regards the Constitution of India, Shri Gujral stressed that our Constitution had withstood the test of times and the various amendments made to it reflected its elasticity to cope with emerging needs.

Participating in the second session of the discussion on the same subject, the former Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Prof. G.G. Swell, MP dealt at length on the functioning of our parliamentary system and highlighted the role of Parliament in upholding the unity of the country. Our Parliament was both a mirror and a barometer of India, a variegated country. As such, there was a greater need to strengthen our parliamentary institutions which had come to stay and would continue to stay.

Later, joining the discussion, Mr. David Warner, Speaker of the Legislature of Ontario (Canada), observed that it was the concept of Parliament itself that stood between chaos and order in the troubled world. Mr. Warner emphasised that it was time that parliamentarians belonging to various countries sat together and addressed the problems before the world.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Chandrajeet Yadav, MP (India) emphasised the need to have frequent exchange of experiences among the developing countries as to how we could overcome common problems like underdevelopment and technological backwardness. For a strong parliamentary democracy, there was a greater need to overcome the corrosive elements that we were confronted with.

Shri Harnam Dass Johar, Speaker, Punjab Legislative Assembly (India), observed that it was important to prescribe certain minimum educational qualifications for members of the Legislatures as it could have a positive bearing on the functioning of parliamentary system.

In his speech, Shri Sharad Dighe, MP (India), highlighted the salient features of the Indian political system, viz. independent judiciary, amending procedure of the Constitution, Fundamental Rights of the people, adult franchise and local self-governments and observed that all these, over the years, had facilitated grassroot democracy.

The Speaker of the Punjab Assembly (Pakistan), Mohd. Haneef Ramay said that democracy gave the legislators the freedom to dissent. He emphasised the need to take measures to improve the quality of legislators and eliminate the role of money power in elections.

Shri Madhav Sinha, MLC, Bihar (India) urged that efforts must be made to provide civic amenities to the common man.

Mr. Mohammed Kamal bin Hussain, MP (Malaysia) hoped that elected representatives would be sincere and genuine to the people and stressed the need to curb the influence of money power in politics.

Dr. A.K.M. Qamaruzzaman, MP (Bangladesh) underlined the necessity to make the sessions of Parliament more serious and productive.

Dr. Kwabena Adjei, Majority Chief Whip, (Ghana) shared with the participants the experience of his country in working parliamentary democratic institutions.

Shri Hashim Abdul Halim, Speaker, West Bengal Legislative Assembly (India), said that parliamentary democracy was facing new problems such as poverty and political defection. If a Government failed to cope with the hopes and aspirations of the people then it was bound to collapse.

Winding up the discussion, former Governor and eminent parliamentarian, Shri Bhishma Narain Singh who chaired the session observed that the framers of our Constitution were indeed very farsighted in providing for the office of the Governor which was a very important seat in our constitutional scheme. The Governor acted as a friend, philosopher and guardian of the Governments in each of the States. In times of political crisis, the Office of the Governor was the focus of political action. Shri Singh also highlighted the role of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs in establishing good rapport among members belonging to both the ruling and the Opposition Parties. He added that there was no perfection in any system and as such there was always scope for improvement in every system.

Parliamentary System: Reforms to Suit Contemporary Changes

On 18 January, the Seminar took up for discussion the highly topical theme, "Parliamentary System : Reforms to Suit Contemporary Changes". The sessions were presided over by Mr. Michael Lord, M.P. (United Kingdom).

In his thought-provoking address at the Seminar, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil suggested five important steps for the revitalisation of parliamentary democracy. The most important requirement was the selection of proper candidates. Only if candidates who could understand the problems of the people and those with a national perspective were elected to the Legislature, would the parliamentary system acquire the necessary strength and resilience. Secondly, we had to ensure free and fair elections where the role of money, might and narrow ideologies would not play any major role. Thirdly, we should be able to find sufficient time to discuss important issues on the floor of House. Only national and issues having long-term significance should be taken up in the national Parliament. To ensure proper consideration of issues, we should encourage the Committee System and also provide for maximum decentralisation of power. Also in choosing between what was relevant and

what was irrelevant, proper prudence must be exercised.

The fourth requirement was that as far as possible, we should have a reasonably stable Executive. It was important that the Executive Branch had sufficient time-frame to plan and execute policies. Both Houses of the Legislature could have a say in the no-confidence motion. Opposition to the policies of the Government should be only on reasonable and objective grounds. Our common endeavour should be for the establishment of both economic and political democracy.

Yet another requirement was universal education, especially on matters of democratic processes and experiments. Distance education by using the electronic media could play a very important role in this. If we could have a T.V. channel dedicated to transmit the proceedings of the Legislatures, the public could benefit enormously, Shri Patil added.

Participating in the discussion, Shri T.N. Narasimha Murthy, MLC (Karnataka) said that purity in politics, first at the individual level and then at the societal level, was the primary requirement for the success of parliamentary democracy.

Senator R.M. Masemene (Lesotho) was of the opinion that parliamentary democracy was a tool for social change which might help in dispelling the forces of marginalisation. There was a need to strengthen economic democracy in order to have a strong parliamentary democracy because it was through the economy that politics was influenced.

Concurring with Senator Masemene, Smt. Sarala Maheshwari, MP (India) observed that parliamentary democracy had no value until we had economic democracy.

Hon. Jill Pettis, MP (New Zealand) pointed out that it was important to have better participation and involvement of women in the process of social change. The year 1994 being the International Year of the Family, efforts must be made to promote more effectively the cause of women and the family.

Shri Chandrajeet Yadav, MP (India) was of the opinion that there was not only the need to reform the system but also to encounter the challenges arising from the decline of basic human values.

Shri Hari Shanker Bhabhra, Speaker, Rajasthan Legislative Assembly (India) said that it was regrettable that the sittings of Legislatures were decreasing day by day. Public funding of election expenses was perhaps not practicable in India, he added.

Shri Partha De, MLA, West Bengal (India) emphasised that the trend of policies being formulated outside the purview of the Legislature was not very encouraging.

Senator R.J. Shenton (Jersey) said that the attitude of political parties

to ask their members to follow a particular line was not an encouraging sign. Elections should be free and unfettered. The Press should not indulge in publishing the private lives of individuals, he added.

Mrs. Jean Corston, MP (U. K.) said that there was a decline in the role of the individual members in checking the Executive. The growing role of multinational companies, private sector and international agencies like the World Bank and IMF had great implications for decision-making as power had now been moved from the political level to those who were not accountable to the Legislatures.

During the afternoon session, Mr. Ian F. Osborn, MLA (Western Australia) said that the value of caution was of utmost importance. Changes once made were very difficult to unmake. The cure must be appropriate to our problems. There was no parliamentary system to cope with failure of integrity.

The former Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Prof. G.G. Swell, MP (India) observed that political system today was facing many challenges, both national and international. The major task was to identify the challenges and changes and to see whether these changes could be accommodated.

Shri Sumer Chand Bhatt, Deputy Speaker, Haryana Vidhan Sabha (India) said that what was required was that we should make necessary modifications within the framework of the Constitution to suit our contemporary needs.

Mr. Mohd. Haneef Ramay, Speaker, Punjab Assembly (Pakistan) pointed out that there was a need for better regional understanding and co-operation, a synthesis of democracy and socialism, political stability vis-a-vis economic development and friendship among nations.

Dr. Kashinath Jhalmi, MLA, Goa (India) pleaded for reasonable stability of the Executive. Parties should not be formed on the basis of local or regional issues. Nomination fees should be increased so that the number of candidates in the elections could be reduced, he suggested.

Shri Vijay More, MLA, Maharashtra (India) felt that the present system of parliamentary democracy needed to be changed as certain drawbacks prevailing in the election system were corroding its efficacy.

Shri Ram Parichhan Sahu, the Minister of State for Science and Technology, Bihar (India) observed that for effecting betterment of the present situation, we needed to change the mind of the people.

Joining the discussion, Mr. J. Richard Face, MP, Northern Territory (Australia) stated that the various new Committees introduced in their Legislature were contributing substantially in ensuring executive accountability, financial control, eliminating corruption, overseeing Subordinate Legislation, electoral reforms, etc.

According to Mr. Geoffrey P. Connard, MLC, Victoria (Australia) a strong judiciary and a strong and free law enforcement agency were essential for the successful functioning of parliamentary democracy. Equally important was to have at least minimum literacy among all the electorate.

Participating in the discussion on 19 January, the former Union Minister and eminent parliamentarian, Shri Vasant Sathe (India) said that necessary political environment should be created to foster faster economic development. Mushrooming of political parties would adversely affect the political system; the resultant confusion could tempt non-political agents like the military to seize power, he cautioned. Shri Sathe emphasised that electoral reforms were a must. Only recognised political parties should be permitted to field candidates. Elections should be validated only if there was at least 50 per cent of popular participation in the electoral process. A candidate should secure not less than 50 per cent of the votes polled to get elected. He felt that the French political system had inherent qualities for ensuring better stability. Parliamentary democracies could make structural adjustments by borrowing good points from other systems, Shri Sathe added.

In his speech, Shri Jagesh Desai, MP (India) stressed the important role of Presiding Officers in ensuring effective utilisation of the time of the House. Governmental assurances should be fulfilled so as to decrease chaos and confusion in the House, he added.

Shri Harnam Dass Johar, Speaker, Punjab Vidhan Sabha (India), felt that if the Constitution remained inflexible and aspirations of the people were not met, the result could be collapse of the system.

Shri Kaul Singh Thakur, Speaker, Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha (India) said that the absence of members and Ministers from the House should be seriously taken note of. As regards electoral reforms, he maintained that a candidate must contest only from one constituency; regional parties should be discouraged; identity cards should be issued to all voters; and election expenses should be met by the Government.

Mr. E. Walwyn Brewley, MLC, Leader of the Opposition (British Virgin Islands), suggested that those with extended years of legislative experience should leave the field for younger elements. Efforts to cling to power by any means should be discouraged. Qualities of honesty and integrity should be cultivated, he added.

Shri Dornick Fernandes, MLA, Goa (India) felt that there was an urgent need for electoral reforms. Election Commission should be a multi-member body. Simultaneous elections should be held to all elected bodies. He also called for a system to recall elected representatives, if the need arose.

Smt. Roshan Warjri, MLA, Meghalaya (India) said that the multiplicity

of parties should be checked and independent candidates should not be encouraged.

Mr. Clarel Malherbe, MP (Mauritius) dealt at length on the political and economic development achieved by Mauritius since independence in the light of full and complete literacy, steady economic development, independent judiciary which was above criticism, bringing about a healthy political culture and constant and continuous dialogue within and outside the organs of Government.

In his speech, Dr. A.K.M. Qamaruzzaman, MP (Bangladesh) said that only parties which could field candidates in one-fourth constituencies be allowed to contest elections. Failure to win at least 5 per cent of the seats should invite de-recognition.

Shri Hitendra Nath Goswami, MLA, Assam (India) felt that regional autonomy, especially in financial matters, should be provided for. He also called for the setting up of Upper Houses in all States to accommodate talents.

Mr. G.K. Mandandi, MP, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Security (Zambia) observed that a member should be an instrument of development. Effective measures, including at the Commonwealth level, should be initiated to address to the problem of political corruption.

Summing up the discussion on the subject, Mr. Michael Lord, MP (UK) who chaired the sessions said that the Commonwealth helped to share one another's problems and in finding solutions for them. He appreciated the enormity of the problems faced by legislators in India, especially in the context of population explosion. Mr. Lord pointed out that education necessarily led to higher expectations. In such a scenario, political leadership should be able to live up to those higher expectations. He advised that there was a need for introspection before going in for structural adjustments.

The Secretary-General of CPA, Mr. Aruthur Donahoe thanked the Chairman and all the participants for their effective participation in the discussion on the subject. The then Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, Shri C.K. Jain, joined Mr. Donahoe in expressing gratitude to the Chairman in guiding the course of the debate and all the participants for their meaningful contributions.

Role of Parliament in Policy Formulation and Execution

The Seminar took up for discussion in the afternoon session of 19 January another topical subject, "Role of Parliament in Policy Formulation and Execution" with Dr. Kwabena Adjei, Majority Chief Whip (Ghana), in the Chair.

Speaking on the subject, veteran parliamentarian Shri Indrajit Gupta,

MP (India) said that policy making was essentially a prerogative of the Executive. Parliament, however, could keep a vigil and supervision and thus influence the actions of the Executive. The Indian Parliament performed the supreme function of harmonising diversities and facilitating grievance redressal. Shri Gupta pointed out that minority Governments in a parliamentary democracy had to consult the Opposition. Various policies of the Government had to be discussed and approved in Parliament. The Constitution of the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) was a new initiative of our Parliament in ensuring executive accountability. Follow-up action of JPC recommendations was also essential. The alternative to representative democracy was frightening because it was parliamentary institutions which had held the country together, Shri Gupta added.

Mr. Mpande Paul Siachimbo, MP (Zimbabwe) said that the Executive had a free hand in policy formulation. Parliament's role in this regard was more responsive in nature than initiative. In policy execution, Parliament's role was that of a supervisor. Executive was thus accountable to Parliament for its omissions and commissions.

Speaking on the subject, Shri D. Sripada Rao, Speaker, Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly (India) observed that a major part of the powers of Legislatures was exercised in acting as a watchdog over the Executive. Discussions and deliberations in the Legislature had their bearing on the policies of Government.

Shri H. Chuba Chang, Deputy Speaker, Nagaland Legislative Assembly (India) said that integrity of parliamentarians was very important for the sustenance of parliamentary democracy. Legislators should not only represent the people, they should also lead the people by setting examples for them.

Mr. Ferdinard Obure, MP (Kenya) said that the guiding objectives of parliamentarians were: to make the world a better place to live in; to enhance peace in the world; and to shape the future of the societies.

Shri Ram Parichhan Sahu, Minister of State for Science and Technology, Bihar (India) was of the opinion that accountability was the basic principle of parliamentary Government. If the Executive did not respect the principle of accountability, it would not be able to sustain itself in power for long.

Mr. Jyrone C. Estwick, Deputy Speaker (Barbados) felt that the permanent civil servants played a crucial role in the implementation of policies. If the Opposition was weak, the Prime Minister could effectively become a dictator, he cautioned.

Dr. Kashinath Jhalmi, MLA, Goa (India) said that legislators played a crucial role in policy formulation and execution. By using the right to information legislators could influence the outcome of policies.

Shri P.T. Thomas, MLA, Kerala (India) stressed that public opinion was an important factor in the formulation of policies. The broad framework of the policies were provided in the election manifestoes of respective parties and Governments in power were only required to carry them out.

When the discussion resumed on 20 January, Mr. David Warner, Speaker, Ontario (Canada) said that the political system in Canada was facing a dilemma. Government had a right to govern; on the other hand, the Opposition had a responsibility to oppose. There was a growing public feeling in favour of less confrontation and more cooperation among various agencies. He added that we should utilise the strength of CPA in strengthening democracy everywhere.

Smt. Sarala Maheshwari, MP (India) observed that Parliament occupied a pivotal position in a democratic polity. She felt that the reality of life often did not get reflected in Parliament. Such laws should be enacted which realised the ideals and objectives of our Constitution.

Senator R.J. Shenton (Jersey) emphasised that there was a need for members to work together. They should always be accessible to their constituents. Problems faced by peoples and nations were connected more with successes than failures, Mr. Shenton added.

Mr. Ghous Bux Khan Maher, Speaker, Sindh (Pakistan) stressed that the importance of a Legislature depended on the level of influence it had on the Executive. In a hung Parliament, there was always a possibility of the Government being subjected to blackmailing to accommodate diverse interests.

In his speech, Shri Sharad Dighe, MP (India) said that the primary duty of the Executive was to frame policies and implement them. Parliament played an important role in policy formulation. The Executive needed feedback from the people for they were answerable to them. Parliament, thus, was the best forum for providing the necessary feedback to the Executive.

Shri Bhogendra Jha, MP (India) asserted that Standing Committees were effective instruments in policy formulation and execution. He suggested the setting up of Committees at constituency-level to monitor formulation and implementation of policies.

Smt. Urmila Patel, MP (India) was of the opinion that the role and scope of Parliament was changing with the tremendous changes taking place in society. She felt that globalisation was leading to a new form of colonialism. There was a need for a grouping of Afro-Asian and Latin American countries to confront this trend, she added.

Mr. J. Richard Face, MP, New South Wales (Australia) pointed out that Parliament should reflect the aims and aspirations of the common man and the community as a whole. Opposition also had a heavy responsibility in

policy formulation and execution, Mr. Face added.

Shri Bimal Singha, Speaker, Tripura Legislative Assembly (India) observed that Parliament had to truly reflect the hopes and aspirations of the people. Formulation and execution of policies depended on the level of public consciousness.

In his speech, Shri Abdul Jalil Ragibi, MLA, Assam (India) emphasised that policy execution was more important than policy formulation. Our system would have meaning only if we chalked out programmes for the amelioration of the lot of the poor.

Participating in the discussion on 21 January, the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah stressed that parliamentary democracy got strengthened if the Legislature, Executive, Judiciary and the Press played their respective roles effectively. If the Executive was sincere, the benefits of parliamentary democracy would accrue to the people at large. Our efforts should be to provide the basic amenities of life to every citizen. Legislators should necessarily respond to the needs of their constituencies. Bureaucracy also had an important role to play in the implementation of various policies. The setting up of Standing Committees could further ensure Executive accountability to Legislature, Shri Mallikarjunaiah added.

Shri Sumer Chand Bhatt, Deputy Speaker, Haryana Vidhan Sabha (India) said that the formulation of the policies on national issues should be the prerogative of the Parliament as it represented the sovereign will of the people.

Shri Harnam Dass Johar, Speaker, Punjab Vidhan Sabha (India) was of the opinion that policy formulation and its execution was the first and foremost role of Parliament. Parliamentary devices provided for discussion which effectively contributed towards influencing policy formulation.

Shri Chandrajeet Yadav, MP (India) was of the view that the Standing Committees had an important role to play, especially in policy formulation and execution.

Smt. Roshan Warjri, MLA, Meghalaya (India) emphasised that policies must be made keeping in mind the interests of the people to ensure the implementation of popular will.

Shri Tako Dabi, MLA, Arunachal Pradesh (India) said that policies had no meaning unless they were properly implemented. For implementation of policies people's cooperation was a prerequisite.

In his speech, Mohd. Kamal bin Hussain, MP (Malaysia) pointed out that Committees were not initiators of policies but only reviewers. Their power to amend policies was very limited. He added that Committees should act, rather than confining themselves to reacting.

Shri Madhav Sinha, MLC, Bihar (India) said that our Constitution

provided directions and guidelines regarding all aspects of national life. There was an imperative need to talk more about duties than privileges.

Shri T. N. Narasimha Murthy, MLC, Karnataka (India) was of the opinion that reports of Committees should be respected and honoured. He suggested that it was desirable to have a common policy in all Commonwealth Parliaments on discussions of reports of Committees.

Mr. Ariya B. Rakawa, MP (Sri Lanka) said that policies contained in the election manifestoes of the ruling party were deemed to have been accepted by the people in the elections. Necessarily, these policies should be implemented by the Executive.

Shri Abdul Mannan, MLA, West Bengal (India) observed that Legislatures were instruments for meaningful legislation. The statutory authority of Committees should be increased to ensure better involvement of Parliament in policy formulation and execution.

Summing up the discussion on the subject, the Chairman, Dr. Kwabena Adjei, Majority Chief Whip (Ghana) said that Governments should be run on the principle of accountability. Policies should be implemented within a set time-dimension. The Executive was answerable to people only through Parliament which had a crucial role in influencing the contents of policies and in ensuring that they reflected the needs and aspirations of the people. Dr. Adjei observed that in certain common areas like policies on education, agriculture, social welfare, etc., Parliament could have a more assertive role. In certain others areas like policies relating to defence, foreign affairs, etc., Parliament could have more of a scrutinising role. Dictatorial tendencies of party executive needed to be checked so that parliamentarians could conduct themselves freely and fearlessly. Dr. Adjei stressed the need for a proper and constant dialogue between ruling and Opposition parties for evolving consensus on various issues so that the Opposition views were also accommodated. It was essential that parliamentarians be able to subject private interests to public interests. They should utilise their time constructively, both inside and outside the House, Dr. Adjei concluded.

Parliament and the Press

The afternoon Session of 21 January took up for discussion another topical subject "Parliament and the Press". The Session was chaired by the Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources and the Leader of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla.

Participating in the discussion, the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah said that Press was the fourth pillar of democracy. Through investigative journalism, the Press unearthed truth. Even events in remote areas got highlighted in the Press and were discussed in Parliament. Thus, the relationship between Parliament and Press should be deep-rooted, he added.

In his speech, Shri Inder Jit, MP (India) said that parliamentary democracy was rule of law where Parliament and the Press were supplementary and complementary to each other. Without the Press, Parliament was lameduck and vice versa. There was a need for a healthy Press for a healthy parliamentary democracy. In our country, the Press Gallery Committee was independent of the Government. A greater sense of responsibility should be displayed during 'Zero Hour' in Parliament. Expunging of certain words from proceedings should not be done. Whoever makes unparliamentary remarks should voluntarily withdraw such remarks, he added.

Prof. G.G. Swell, MP (India) felt that without a free Press, it was not possible for an ordinary member even to raise a question as it was the major source of information. Parliament and a free Press should function in close cooperation and with a sense of responsibility.

Shri Sharad Dighe, MP (India) emphasised that the Press had a crucial role in parliamentary democracy. Press had to help in enhancing the credibility of representative institutions. Press should give a correct assessment to the people regarding the performance of their representatives, he added.

Shri Chandrajeet Yadav, MP (India) said that at times, members became very sensitive about their privileges. Press had its own sense of freedom; this had to be respected by Parliament. In India, Parliament and Press had developed a close and cordial relationship, based on mutual respect and recognition.

Dr. A.K.M. Qamaruzzaman, MP (Bangladesh) stressed that if the literacy rate was low, even complete freedom of the Press would not serve the desired purpose. He suggested that incorrect or distorted reporting should be made accountable by the Press Council.

Mr. J. Richard Face, MP, New South Wales (Australia) pointed out that in his country historically Press and Parliament had a cordial relationship. The quality of journalism had improved over the years. Ultimately, the Press and the Parliament had a responsibility to the public.

Senator R. M. Masemene (Lesotho) observed that Press played the role of scrutinising the Parliament itself; it had to inform the public about what transpired in Parliament in an impartial manner. He was of the opinion that Press should find time for the marginalised groups rather than confining to reporting on special interests.

Shri Hari Shanker Bhabhra, Speaker, Rajasthan Legislative Assembly (India) said that if Parliament was the life of the nation, Press was the oxygen. The only organ that could exercise any control over the Parliament was the Press. He added that the concept of contempt and privileges should not be arbitrarily used; they should be judiciously exercised.

Mr. Nicholas M. Dondas, Speaker, Northern Territory (Australia) stressed the need to be careful about the power of the Press. At times, Press gave more coverage to disasters than to stories on developmental activities. He, however, did not subscribe to the view that Press was being controlled by capitalists.

Shri Kuldip Kumar, Deputy Speaker, Himachal Pradesh (India) pointed out that people had a right to know as to what was happening in Parliament; this was best possible through Press. He suggested that the proceedings of State Assemblies should also be telecast.

Mr. Michael Lord, MP (United Kingdom) emphasised that a totally free Press was vital for democracy to flourish and survive. In U. K., efforts were being made to strike a balance between freedom and censorship. There was, however, an increasing intrusion into the private lives of people. Private lives of MPs had been publicised and dominated the front page of newspapers which did no good at all. Television often dramatised and trivialised serious issues. People behind televising must be made responsible for accuracy and veracity of the facts of their programmes, Mr. Lord added.

Shri Mani Ram Keharwala, MLA, Haryana (India) described Press as the fourth pillar of democracy. As it enjoyed full freedom, it could help the oppressed by reporting faithfully about their conditions.

Dr. Raman Kumar, MLA, Madhya Pradesh (India) said that in a democracy Parliament was the heart and the spirit and the Press the mirror. There was need for better cooperation between Parliament and the Press.

Mr. Jarrette Narine, MP, Parliamentary Secretary, Minister of Works and Transport (Trinidad and Tobago) observed that Press had contributed in improving the standard of debates in Parliament; it had also helped in improving the parliamentary language.

Mr. Ian F. Osborne, MLA, Western Australia, was of the view that the Press often gave superficial coverage of Parliament and at times even trivialised issues. Television also often indulged in sensationalism; entertainment took precedence over information. He also said that the Media should not intrude into the private lives of parliamentarians unless it had a bearing on their public life.

Shri Raosaheb R. Patil, MLA, Maharashtra (India) described Press as the fourth pillar of democracy. There was a love-hate relationship, not reaching the point of breaking up, between Parliament and Press. Press and Parliament should play a complementary role in serving the people.

Participating a second time in the discussion, Shri Inderjit, MP (India) said that instead of using the terms Parliament and the Press, we should now say Parliament and the Media. Openness should go forward and the scope of televising of parliamentary proceedings should be widened.

Greater openness would also entail greater responsibility. He observed that with the introduction of television, there is marked improvement in the conduct of the House. Press and Parliament were not ends in themselves; they were only means to ensure greater glory to parliamentary democracy and the nation at large, Shri Inder Jit added.

Shri Vidyacharan Shukla, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources and Leader of the Indian Delegation to the Seminar, observed in his concluding remarks that Zero Hour was the time when there was intense interaction between Parliament and the Press. Shri Shukla also thanked the delegates for their useful participation in the Seminar. The then Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, Shri C.K. Jain thanked Shri Shukla for chairing the Sessions and the delegates for their meaningful contributions.

Committee System

The Seminar Sessions resumed after a two-day break on 24 January and took up for discussion yet another topical subject, "Committee System". The former Union Minister and veteran parliamentarian, Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, MP (India) chaired the Sessions. In his introductory remarks, Shri Mirdha said that Committees had always been an integral part of the parliamentary system in India. Subject Committees were first introduced in Kerala and later in West Bengal. Discussions in the House were of a general nature. Serious discussions, with members rising above party lines, took place within the Committees, Shri Mirdha added.

In his speech, the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah said that the Committees should have a two year-tenure so that they could study subjects in detail. They should also be able to do on-the-spot studies. The larger purpose of the Committee System was to deliver the goods to the public, Shri Mallikarjunaiah added.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Inder Jit, MP (India) said that in India, we had various Committees right from the beginning. But they were mainly doing a post mortem of various Governmental measures. Committee System paved the way for decentralisation of power, which effectively ensured accountability. There was more openness in the Committees. He suggested that proceedings of Committees should be open to the public and the Press. Rules should be framed to ensure that the Government reported back on the follow-up action regarding Reports. Regular discussion of Reports of Committees was essential, Shri Inder Jit added.

Mr. Sefhiri Enoch Motanyane, MP, Government Chief whip (Lesotho) was of the opinion that Parliament should not only be accountable but also transparent. Committees were created by Parliament; so they were accountable to the Parliament only and not to the public. If the Committees met during the adjournment of Parliament, members were failing in one important respect, *i.e.* in reporting back to the constituents.

The former Union Minister, Shri P. Upendra, MP (India) felt that the Committee System had distinct advantages: the time devoted for a discussion was short: so Committees could make use of the time adequately; legislations were discussed thoroughly by those who had specialised knowledge; a non-partisan approach was possible in the Committees; it also ensured greater Executive accountability to Legislature and in turn to the people. He said that there was the need for a Committee on Committees to monitor the follow-up action on the recommendations of the Committees. All policy documents and Bills should be routed through the Committees to the Parliament.

Mr. Robert Macmillan Robertson, MLC (St. Helena) described the nature of the Committee System in his country. There were five Committees in St. Helena. The Chairmen of these Committees also formed part of the Executive Council which dealt with the day-to-day affairs of the Islands.

Mr. Mpande Paul Siachimbo, MP (Zimbabwe) was of the view that Committees helped members in the efficient discharge of their role as parliamentarians. Committees, however, were not a substitute for Parliament.

Shri Sumer Chand Bhatt, Deputy Speaker, Haryana Vidhan Sabha (India) stressed that the Committee System represented the very core of the functioning of parliamentary democracy. There was a need to make Committees more functional and operational.

Dr. A.K.M. Qamaruzzaman, MP (Bangladesh) dealt at length on the Committee System in his country. There were Parliamentary Committees to cover all Ministries and Departments. Each Committee had five members from the Treasury Benches and five from the Opposition. The Member Secretary to the Committee was a bureaucrat. The Minister was the Chairman. Since a Minister was the Chairman he might not be able to provide sufficient time for the Committee, making it often difficult for the Committee to meet regularly. The presence of a bureaucrat, as a Member-Secretary, also created some problems. The Speaker should play a more assertive role to ensure better functioning of the Committees, he added.

Smt. Roshan Warjri, MLA, Meghalaya (India) described the Committee System as a major step forward in the strengthening of parliamentary democracy. All State Legislatures also should introduce Committee System, she suggested.

Shri Ram Parichhan Sahu, Minister of State for Science and Technology, Bihar (India) said that the introduction of Committee System and televising of proceedings were praiseworthy initiatives. Recommendations of Committees should be implemented. Besides, experts should help members in Committee work.

Mr. G. Masusu, MP (Botswana) pointed out that the enormous increase

in parliamentary work had necessitated the introduction of Committees. He also described the salient features of the Committee System in Botswana.

In his speech, Shri P. T. Thomas, MLA, Kerala (India) said that the Indian State of Kerala set the model for India when in March 1980, Subject Committees were introduced in the State. In Kerala, Ministers were also Chairmen of Committees; this should not be so. In fact they should not even be members of Committees, Shri Thomas added.

Begum Nasim Wali Khan, MiPA (Pakistan) expressed the view that parliamentary system was the only system that could represent the interests of all sections of society. Committee System should be regularised and should be an open system.

Mrs. Jean Corston, MP (United Kingdom) observed that the Committee System was a stimulus to the reconsideration of Government policy. Committee Reports were essentially reactive. A Government with a small majority was often threatened by the Select Committee Reports since these Committees were functioning without any party considerations. She was of the view that the Select Committees should have opportunities for cross-departmental examination. Committees should also be able to study and make reports on White Papers as well as Green Papers.

Mr. M.R. Muskafantu, MP (Zambia) emphasised that the Chairman of the PAC should always be from the Opposition to ensure greater accountability. The Press should be allowed to attend the proceedings of the Committees. Constituency character represented by individual members should be reflected in their nomination to various Committees, he suggested.

Summing up the deliberations, the Chairman, Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, MP asserted that the Committee System should be strengthened to make parliamentary system more effective.

Role of Presiding officer

The afternoon session of 24 January discussed another topical subject, "Role of Presiding Officer" with Mr. David Warner, MPP, Speaker, Ontario (Canada) in the Chair.

In his highly thought-provoking address in this Session, the former Speaker of the House of Commons, Lord Bernard Weatherill observed that the role of Speaker was a difficult one and was becoming more arduous with the changing times. The Speaker was the conductor of the orchestra in the House, and the music of Parliament was often improvised by him. Parliamentary debates should embody the central tenet of democracy, which was freedom of expression. Drawing from his rich and varied experience, Lord Weatherill said that the Speaker should permit each member a fair time in the House, for the heart of parliamentary system lies in his right to be heard in the House. The indicator of the health of

parliamentary system was the manner in which it was conducted. He pointed out that rational argument and not physical means should be used to raise matters. However, there were some occasions when indignation and anger became necessary; it was better to have the explosion of verbal anger to take place in the House than in public. In this sense, Parliament acted as a safety valve.

Lord Weatherill stressed that proceedings of the House should be made relevant to the age in which we lived. Democratic rights and privileges were the hallmark of parliamentary democracy. As for parliamentarians he advised: If we propose we must explain; if we promise, we must deliver; if we ask for sacrifice, we should be the first ones to do so. We must provide people with a vision that was attainable. If we succeeded in this endeavour, we would be privileged parliamentarians, Lord Weatherill added.

Participating in the discussion, the former Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Prof. G.G. Swell, MP (India) said that the role of Speaker was going to be more important in the years to come, especially in the context of formation of coalition Governments. The Speaker should go not only by rules but also by articulation, moral authority, knowledge and intelligence.

Mohd. Haneef Ramay, Speaker, Punjab Assembly (Pakistan) was of the view that the Speaker should try to bring the Treasury and Opposition benches to work together. In developing countries, the role of the Speaker was one of a monitor, especially in monitoring legislations and governmental assurances.

Shri D. Sripada Rao, Speaker, Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly (India), advocated the concept 'once a Speaker, always a Speaker'. The Speaker's task became easier if there was discipline in the House.

Shri Vijay H. More, MLA, Maharashtra (India) expressed the view that the Speaker should be impartial. The Speaker was the kingpin with every member revolving around him.

Shri Ram Parichhan Sahu, Minister of State for Science and Technology, Bihar (India) said that uproarious scenes in the Legislature were a by-product of members' desire to get publicity. This put undue pressure on the Speaker.

Mr. Michael Lord, MP (United Kingdom) pointed out that back-benchers had to necessarily depend on the Speaker more. If members made longer speeches, they would find it difficult to catch the Speaker's eye later. Regarding the observation that the Speaker had to be from the majority party, Mr. Lord said that this need not necessarily be so. In Britain, Madam Speaker Betty Boothroyd belonged to the Opposition and was doing an admirable job.

Responding to queries and observations from several speakers, Lord Weatherill said that the Speaker should be elected by consensus and

agreement among all political parties. Once elected Speaker, the incumbent should give up politics for ever. An ideal Speaker should be one who was firm, fair and friendly, Lord Weatherill added.

Summing up the deliberations, the Chairman for the Session, Mr. David Warner stressed that the Speaker performed the role of an administrator and a diplomat. He was the chief administrator in the proceedings of the House. As a diplomat, he interacted with the community of diplomats regarding issues of common concern. Mr. Warner said that the Speaker should be impartial and objective. He should protect the interests of the minority in the House as the majority was capable of taking care of itself. India had a great future as there was a dynamic spirit prevailing in the country and the will to keep the nation together, Mr. Warner added.

Role of Opposition

The highly topical subject, "Role of Opposition" came up for discussion in the forenoon Session of 25 January. Veteran parliamentarian Shri Somnath Chatterjee, MP presided over the Session. In his introductory remarks, Shri Chatterjee said that parliamentary democracy was essentially a game of numbers; in such a scenario minority views had to be aired and also respected. A responsible Government had also to be a responsive Government. To be responsive it should have the benefit of different shades of opinion. Thus it should arrive at a consensus or make a cooperative venture inside the House. Shri Chatterjee felt that even if the Opposition may have little representation in the House, it nevertheless had to play an important role. The primary task of the Opposition was to minimise the secrecy of the Government, as parliamentary system was an open system. The Opposition and ruling party should keep the interests of the nation uppermost, Shri Chatterjee added.

Participating in the discussions, Mr. E. Walwyn Brewley, MLC, Leader of the Opposition, British Virgin Islands said that the Opposition should not only be a shadow Government, but a people's watchdog in every sense of the term. They should be able to provide a viable alternative to governmental policies. Mr. Brewley added that an effective Opposition with an efficient leader could keep the Government on its toes.

Mr. Sephiri Enoch Motanyane, MP, Government Chief Whip, Lesotho pointed out that Lesotho was not a one-party State but it had a single party Parliament. Opposition was the Government in waiting. There was a need for Opposition since it was the basic right of every individual to air his or her views. He felt that to force MPs to follow party-lines was not healthy for the system.

Dr. Mozammel Hossain, MP (Bangladesh) was of the view that formulation of policies in Parliament depended on the quality of political parties. The ruling and Opposition parties should play a constructive role in an atmosphere of mutual trust. The Opposition also had to provide an

alternative to the people.

Mr. Nassir M. Arte, MP (Kenya) pointed out that the Opposition was the mirror and the eye of the people. A good Opposition should ensure that the concept of checks and balances was maintained. He emphasised that the quick fixing prescriptions and structural adjustments recommended by international agencies and the role of multinational corporations were detrimental to democracy because they would not take into consideration the background of individual countries.

In his speech, Shri Chandrajeet Yadav, MP (India) observed that the major role of the Opposition was to oppose the wrong policies of the Government and to have an alternative policy; they should be prepared to take over the reins of Government if need arose.

Smt. Karuna Shukla, MLA, Madhya Pradesh (India) stressed that both the ruling and Opposition parties had an equal responsibility in a parliamentary polity. They were like two sides of the same coin.

Mrs. Di McCauley, MLA, Queensland (Australia) stressed that the Opposition had several objectives, including participating in the proceedings in a competitive manner, mobilising public opinion, exposing weaknesses in administration, etc. These were achieved by suggestions, scrutiny and seeking clarifications. The Opposition had to assist the Government in implementing policies for the betterment of the people. Opposition also had to make the Executive accountable to the Legislature. In Parliamentary Committees too, the Opposition had a key role to play, Mrs. McCauley added.

In his speech, Shri H. Chuba Chang, Deputy Speaker, Nagaland Legislative Assembly (India) said that the first-past-the-post system prevailing in India was not a healthy trend. On national issues, we should have consensus. Every segment of the House should get sufficient time to raise issues in the House.

Shri Pushpraj Singh, MLA, Madhya Pradesh (India) said that the Opposition had a distinct and separate identity in Parliament. At a time when we were struggling to preserve basic values, Opposition should extend its support to the ruling party.

Shri T.N. Narasimha Murthy, MLC, Karnataka (India) was of the view that the Opposition should have a constitutional place in a parliamentary polity. A good Government was possible only if there was a strong Opposition.

Shri D. Sripada Rao, Speaker, Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly (India) opined that for the strengthening of democracy Opposition should resort to only constructive criticism. What should be uppermost in the minds of parliamentarians should be the welfare of the people.

Shri Ram Parichhan Sahu, Minister of State for Science and Technology, Bihar (India) said that minority Governments today was a common phenomenon. A strong Opposition was a must in a parliamentary democracy.

Shri Abdul Jalil Ragibi, MLA, Assam (India) felt that the Opposition should support the ruling party in implementing developmental programmes. He also shared the view that there was a need for constructive Opposition.

Mohammad Haneef Ramay, Speaker, Punjab Assembly (Pakistan) pointed out that an unresponsive Government made the role of Opposition very crucial. The Opposition should not necessarily be opposing the Government all the time. They should search for areas of consensus, in spite of different political perceptions. He suggested the setting up of national Governments with proportional representation of all political parties in countries like India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. This would enable the fulfilment of the aspirations of the people. Parliamentarians should play the role of statesmen as they acted as bridges of understanding, Mr. Ramay added.

Smt. Chandrika Jain, MP (India) observed that without an Opposition there cannot be democracy. A strong Opposition was necessary to uphold the ideals and principles of parliamentary democracy. It should resort to a studied approach to constructively criticise the Government. It should also help in ensuring the effective utilisation of the valuable time of the House.

Shri Tako Dabi, MLA, Arunachal Pradesh (India) was of the opinion that the Speaker should give sufficient time to the Opposition. The Opposition should have concern for the people and national interests.

In his address, Shri Inder Jit, MP (India) pointed out that the world of parliamentary democracy faced a crisis; we had many politicians, but few statesmen. Politicians think of today whereas statesmen think of tomorrow. We need statesmen both in Government and in the Opposition. Shri Inder Jit said that the Opposition should have an adequate say in various matters as the Government has the way. Opposition should get adequate time to raise matters of national interest. Government and the Opposition were supplementary and complementary to each other, Shri Inder Jit added.

Summing up the discussions, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, MP who chaired the Session, said that the Opposition should be vigilant and vibrant. It should be articulate and voice the aspirations of the teeming millions. Opposition helped in ensuring accountability, which was essential in a parliamentary democracy. Shri Chatterjee voiced the view that the Opposition should encourage constructive criticism. We should have statesmen-like qualities in the Opposition. The Opposition should strive for consensus and the Government must pay heed to their viewpoints. He cautioned that the Government should not steamroll the Opposition by its majority. The Government and the Opposition should work with the ultimate

objective of the betterment of the people at large, Shri Chatterjee concluded.

Valedictory Function

The valedictory function of the Sixth Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar was held later in the afternoon. Speaking at the function, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha, thanked the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao for inaugurating the Seminar. He also thanked Mr. Collin Shepherd, MP, Chairman of the Executive Committee, CPA, Mr. Arthur R. Donahoe, Secretary-General, CPA, the Chairmen and Presiding Officers, Secretaries-General of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and officers and media persons for the success of the Conference. He specially thanked Rt. Hon. the Lord Bernard Weatherill, the former Speaker of the House of Commons for his participation on the subject on the Role of the Presiding Officers.

Shri Patil appreciated the gesture of the delegates who had travelled a long distance to attend the Seminar. The contributions made by the delegates were very thought-provoking. Shri Patil expressed the hope that their presence and contributions would be greatly remembered.

The Chairman of the Executive Committee of the CPA, Mr. Collin Shepherd thanked the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, and the then Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, Shri C.K. Jain for organising the Seminar successfully. He particularly thanked Shri Patil for his supervision in conducting the Seminar in an impeccable manner. Mr. Shepherd added that the Seminar had been enormously successful in its objective: in sharing experiences and in getting to know one another.

The Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha, Smt. V.S. Rama Devi, in her speech, recalled the valuable contributions made by the delegates and participants and hoped that we should have more such meaningful dialogue.

Shri C.K. Jain, the then Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, in his speech, expressed his gratitude to Shri Patil for his inspiration and encouragement for the success of the Seminar. He also thanked Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah, Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Members of Parliament and the Officers and Staff of the Secretariat for the success of the Seminar.

Later, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil addressed the Press and highlighted the achievements of the Seminar.

The Seminar, which discussed seven subjects spread over 12 sessions, had in all about 135 speeches delivered by eminent parliamentarians representing many of the Commonwealth countries. Of these, as many as 14 speeches were delivered by 10 women delegates. The women delegates who made their contributions in the Seminar are the Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla (India); Smt. Sarala

Maheshwari, MP (India); Smt. Urmila C. Patel, MP (India); Smt. Karuna Shukla, MLA, Madhya Pradesh (India); Smt. Roshan Warjri, MLA, Meghalaya (India); Mrs. Jean Corston, MP (UK); Mrs. Jill Pettis, MP (New Zealand); Begum Nasim Wali Khan, MPA (Pakistan); Mrs. Di McCauley, MLA (South Australia); and Smt. Chandrika Jain, MP (India).

During the course of the week, delegates had an opportunity for a local sight-seeing tour of Delhi on the afternoon of 20 January. The Host Branch had also organised a visit to the historic city of Agra on 23 January.

Delegates were also guests of honour at Receptions/Banquets hosted by various dignitaries. The president of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma hosted a Reception in the Rashtrapati Bhavan on 26 January. Banquets/Receptions were also hosted by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Dinesh Singh; the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla; and the Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla. Delegates were also taken to the Rajpath on 26 January to witness the Republic Day Parade. Several cultural programmes were also arranged.

The Seminar was given extensive coverage both by the electronic and print media. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil held two Press Conferences, on 16 January and 25 January. The inaugural function of the Seminar in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 17 January was telecast live by the Doordarshan. The Doordarshan and the AIR as also the print media gave wide coverage of the proceedings daily. The Bulletin Desk of the Host Branch Secretariat issued daily Press Releases as also 10 Daily Bulletins, covering all activities of the Seminar. A Library and Reference Counter functioned at the venue of the Seminar to attend to on-the-spot information requirements of delegates. Reception and Information Counter and Sales Counter were also functional right through the Seminar days. Expert medical assistance was available round the clock.

The Parliament Library Information System (PARLIS) and the National Informatics Centre (NIC) had set up a full-fledged Computer Centre at Vigyan Bhavan to provide a variety of on-line information to delegates, Observers and others at the Seminar venue. The Computer Centre put to use state-of-the-art computer and communication technology for storage and retrieval of information for this purpose. The Centre was linked to the Satellite-based NICNET. The host Computer stored information about the countries being represented, *bio-data* of delegates and their arrival and departure details.

A Closed Circuit Television System (CCTV) was also installed in the Vigyan Bhavan to telecast proceedings of the Seminar. It also displayed information regarding names of the Chairmen, speakers, etc. of the different Sessions. About 20 Television sets, installed at vantage points in the Vigyan Bhavan, also regularly displayed details of cultural programmes, Banquets hosted by dignitaries, sight-seeing programmes, etc.

Conclusion

The Sixth Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar has indubitably contributed to the further strengthening of parliamentary democracy not only among member countries of the Commonwealth but the world at large. The deliberations at the Seminar displayed a remarkable commitment on the part of the delegates towards the promotion of democratic ideals everywhere. The discussions threw light on the varied aspects of the functioning of the system in different countries which indeed helped all participants to get an insight into its operational dynamics and gain valuable understanding from one another's experiences. As the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil said in his Address at the inaugural function on 17 January :

Democracy is the best system that we have. However, it is not free from defects and drawbacks. Changing times are making new demands on it and creating more aberrations in its working. Therefore, it is necessary for all of us who practice it to apply our ingenuity to understand and do away with the defects and make it capable of coping with the new challenges and demands.

The New Delhi Seminar certainly enabled delegates from various Commonwealth countries to focus attention on this crucial area.

UNIVERSAL LIBRARY

G.C. MALHOTRA

The progress of a nation is determined by the degree of use of knowledge by its people. There is a direct relationship between the rate of literacy, use of library, spread of information and the advancement of the people. Higher literacy leads to increased demand and establishment of libraries. Their greater use results in accumulation of wisdom which propels man to greater heights of success, and society to higher levels of development. The developed society, in turn, is in a position to make higher investment for better infrastructure of education. The converse relationship between the poor literacy and poverty of a country is equally established in the quagmire of a vicious circle inasmuch as illiteracy affects, at least, one out of every three adults in the developing countries and two out of three in the least developed countries. (The national literacy rate in India for the population aged seven and above was 52.21 percent in 1991).

Historical Perspective

At the beginning of civilisation, when human beings were cave dwellers, or were living in the open, migrating from place to place, one of them might have discovered fire accidentally. The information about the discovery was passed on to other fellow beings and then from generation to generation. Likewise, in ancient times, information about other discoveries, events and activities was shared between people through the media of cave paintings, writings on tree leaves, stones, clay tablets, animal skin, etc. Evidence of such sources is available in the ruins of Nalanda, Takshshila and the Mesopotomian Valley. As civilisation progressed, the need for information enhanced and multiplied.

Flow of knowledge and information from generation to generation and from nation to nation was thus a great thrust for the creation of the advanced world we live in today. Great events like the Industrial Revolution and their influence the world over became a reality due to this flow of information.

Global Democratisation

Advancement of humanity is the ultimate goal of every Welfare State which is more pronounced today, particularly in the context of the increasing democratisation and parliamentarisation of more and more countries of the world. In order to accomplish this avowed goal, every field of knowledge has to be available to everyone everywhere on the planet and this is possible through the concept of Universal Library which was the theme of the 59th General Conference of the International Federation of Libraries

Associations and Organisations (IFLA) held in Barcelona, Spain from 22 to 28 August 1993.

The term Universal Library refers to the universal provision of library facilities. It expresses the concept that all information and the media that convey it, must be available on a global scale to all who wish to extend their knowledge. In other words, it envisages sharing of information by mutual exchange of resources. The concept of Universal Library in the present day context goes beyond universal provision of library facilities and envisages the next step of narrowing the distance between the source of information and the user through genuinely global information networks. Such a stupendous task is now in the realm of accomplishment.

Monopoly of the Written Text

During the last few centuries, we have been living in a world where writing and the written text held a monopoly of information and knowledge transmission. It has been estimated that over 90 percent of what we know as formal knowledge still exists only as print on paper. Whether in schools, homes, factories or offices around the world, it is still the printed word in a book that carries the major burden of transmitting the world's cultures from one generation to the next. Books are found everywhere as they travel all routes using every form of transportation. Even the new information technologists depend on manuals and textbooks which introduce and guide new users to the benefit of their products and services. The technological instrument of information dissemination and knowledge transmission and audio visual media should not, therefore, be taken as competitors of the written text but as collaborators serving the humanity.

Technological Revolution

The recent technological revolution in the field of communication has accelerated unbelievably the speed of transportation of words and images. This technological revolution has had a direct impact on information. In terms of the volume, speed and flexibility of data processing and transmission, the contemplated computerised systems promise a veritable revolution in the organisation and exchange of knowledge.

Information Society

A beneficial effect of the technological revolution has been the manifold increase of our capacity for retrieving and acquiring the specialised information we need at any time. This enables us to proceed with our business or our research in the sure knowledge that we are not wasting energies. Modern libraries, linked up to each other in the form of the now emerging universal library, are a prerequisite for this development. In his Key Note Address on the theme of Universal Library at the 59th IFLA Conference, Prof. Salvador Giner, Director of the Institute for Advanced Social Studies, Spanish Higher Council for Scientific Research, said that

the information of all sorts of libraries and data banks is now part of the so-called information society. In fact the term 'information society' has become often synonymous with modern and advanced society. It is a society whose prosperity is based on the competitive edge it obtains from the highest and most coveted of resources - knowledge based on controlled and appropriated information. " We thus look upon those countries which still have not managed to join the rush towards general information and computerisation as backward or 'less developed' or as 'developing'" observed Prof. Giner. Be that as it may, it would appear that universal library could still be the definite answer to the difficulties generated by the cultural and educational isolation that has till now endemically plagued so many people, even as libraries proliferated. Now the smallest, humblest library anywhere in the world can be linked up to the rest, and supply its readers with the most precious of human goods - knowledge.

Computerisation and other modernisation processes have influenced Parliaments too in a big way for managing and controlling information necessary for policy formulation and decision making as also for improving their communication with the general public.

Barriers

The enthusiasm for a universal library, however, needs to be submitted to sober scrutiny. According to Mr. Robert Wedgeworth, President of IFLA, there are serious obstacles to achieving the universal library and global information networks. There are barriers of cost, language, copyright, censorship and technology. Ignorance of what is available continues to deprive much of the world's population of information they need and want.

More than 65 percent of the reported output of new books and even higher percentages of films, videos, and computer disks originate from the industrialised world and are marketed in hard currencies. The single most significant obstacle to wider access to information is therefore cost. In those instances where an individual, or a library may be able to afford to purchase a foreign book, access to foreign currencies may be an obstacle. Translations of books and computer software or other adaptations to local markets also add significantly to their cost. Nevertheless, a number of methods have been employed to reduce the cost of books and other materials. Low cost or student editions of well-known texts and classic works have brought them within the reach of their potential market. Besides the aforesaid barriers mentioned by Mr. Wedgeworth, Prof. Giner refers to the widespread revolt against universalism through the revival of particularism in values and outlooks. Thus, the authorities and the librarians facing the task of building a universal library must develop, first and foremost, a universal information and library language that is concomitant and compatible with the diversity of cultures at the levels of the national, religious and other communities. It is here that lies the universal library's greatest challenge. The technical problems involved in linking up every

corner of the earth through an information network with libraries and electronic archives at its nodal points, considerable as they are, pale into near insignificance before the moral and political ones. The technical task of a world library calls for persistence, know-how, ingenuity and a budget. The intellectual task, on the other hand, involves also vision, goodwill, a determination to overcome one's own tribe and an even greater will to fight the current inequalities of the newly globalised order.

PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Inter-Parliamentary Conference on 'North-South Dialogue for Global Prosperity' : An Inter-Parliamentary Conference on 'North-South Dialogue for Global Prosperity' was held in Ottawa (Canada) from 18 to 22 October, 1993 under the auspices of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

The Indian Delegation to the Conference was led by Shri P. Upendra, MP. The other members of the Delegation were Smt. Geeta Mukherjee, MP; Shri Harin Pathak, MP; and Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, MP. Shri M. Rajagopalan Nair, Joint Director, Lok Sabha Secretariat was Secretary to the Delegation.

The Conference mainly discussed the following subjects: (i) Trade and Development ; (ii) Financial resources and debt questions ; (iii) Managing the world economy.

During the conference, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, MP was appointed Rapporteur of the Drafting Committee. *Unveiling of the Statue of Mahatma Gandhi and the Portrait of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri* : The President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma unveiled the Statue of Mahatma Gandhi on 2 October 1993 opposite Gate No. 1 of Parliament House. Thereafter, the President unveiled the Portrait of the former Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri in the Central Hall of Parliament House.

At the outset, Members stood in silence for a while in memory of those who lost their lives in the earthquake that devastated many villages in Maharashtra and other adjoining States.

Besides the President Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan, the Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil addressed the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall.

Shri Ram Sutar, Sculptor of Mahatma Gandhi's Statue and Shri Vidya Bhushan who painted Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri's Portrait were felicitated on the occasion.

A book titled "Lal Bahadur Shastri and Parliament", brought out by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, was also released by the President of India at the function.

Unveiling of the Portrait of Chaudhary Charan Singh : The President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma unveiled the Portrait of the former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh at a function held on 23 December 1993

in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil and Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla addressed the gathering on the occasion.

A booklet containing a profile of Chaudhary Charan Singh, prepared by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, was also brought out on the occasion.

Birth Anniversaries of National Leaders :

On the birth anniversaries of those national leaders whose Portraits adorn the Central Hall of Parliament House, a function is organised under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) to pay tributes to the memory of those noble sons and daughters of India. During the period 1 October to 31 December 1993 the birth anniversaries of the following national leaders were celebrated :

Sardar Vallabhai Patel : On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel, a function was held on 31 October 1993 in the Central Hall of Parliament House where his portrait is put up. Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha ; Dr. Manmohan Singh, Minister of Finance ; Shri S.B. Chavan, Minister of Home Affairs ; Shri C.K. Jaffar Sharief, Minister of Railways; Smt. Sheila Kaul, Minister of Urban Development; Shri Vidyacharan Shukla, Minister of Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs; Shri K.V. Thangka Balu, Minister of State in the Ministry of Welfare; Shri P.M. Sayeed, Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs ; Shri Uttambhai Patel, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development; Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar, Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare ; Members of Parliament ; former Members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to Sardar Patel.

A booklet containing a profile of Sardar Patel, prepared by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, was also brought out on the occasion.

Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das : On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das, a function was held on 5 November 1993 in the Central Hall of Parliament House, where his portrait is put up. Shri Arjun Singh, Minister of Human Resource Development ; Shri S.B. Chavan, Minister of Home Affairs ; Shri Rameshwar Thakur, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development ; Shri Uttambhai Patel, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development ; Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar, Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare ; Members of Parliament ; former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to Shri Chittaranjan Das.

A booklet containing a profile of Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das, prepared by the Research and Information Division of Lok Sabha

Secretariat, was also brought out on the occasion.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad : On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, a function was held on 11 November 1993 in the Central Hall of Parliament House where his portrait is put up. Dr. Manmohan Singh, Minister of Finance; Shri S.B. Chavan, Minister of Home Affairs; Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heputulla, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha; Members of Parliament; former Members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to Maulana Azad.

A booklet containing a profile of Maulana Azad, prepared by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, was also brought out on the occasion.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru : On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, a function was held on 14 November 1993 in the Central Hall of Parliament House where his portrait is put up. Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha; Dr. Manmohan Singh, Minister of Finance; Shri S.B. Chavan, Minister of Home Affairs; Dr. Balram Jakhar, Minister of Agriculture; Shri Dinesh Singh, Minister of External Affairs; Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar, Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; Members of Parliament; former Members of Parliament; Smt. Sonia Gandhi and others paid floral tributes to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

A booklet containing a profile of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, prepared by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, was also brought out on the occasion.

Smt. Indira Gandhi : On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Smt. Indira Gandhi, a function was held on 19 November 1993 in the Central Hall of Parliament House where her portrait is put up. Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha; Dr. Manmohan Singh, Minister of Finance; Shri S.B. Chavan, Minister of Home Affairs; Smt. Sheila Kaul, Minister of Urban Development; Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heputulla, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha; Shri Rameshwar Thakur, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development; Members of Parliament; former Members of Parliament; Smt. Sonia Gandhi and others paid floral tributes to Smt. Gandhi.

A booklet containing a profile of Smt. Indira Gandhi, prepared by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, was also brought out on the occasion.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad : On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr. Rajendra Prasad, a function was held on 3 December 1993 in the Central Hall of Parliament House where his portrait is put up. Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha; Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar, Minister of Agriculture; Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism; Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha; Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heputulla, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha; Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah, Deputy

Speaker, Lok Sabha; Smt. Basava Rajeshwari, Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development; Shri Rameshwar Thakur, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development; Shri Uttambhai Patel, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development; Members of Parliament; former Members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

A booklet containing a profile of Dr. Rajendra Prasad, prepared by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, was also brought out on the occasion.

C. Rajagopalachari : On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri C. Rajagopalachari, a function was held on 10 December 1993 in the Central Hall of Parliament House where his portrait is put up. Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha; Shri S.B. Chavan, Minister of Home Affairs; Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha; Shri K.P. Singh Deo, Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; Shri K.V. Thangka Balu, Minister of State in the Ministry of Welfare; Shri Rameshwar Thakur, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development; Shri Uttambhai Patel, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development; Members of Parliament; former Members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to Shri C. Rajagopalachari.

A booklet containing a profile of Shri C. Rajagopalachari, prepared by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, was also brought out on the occasion.

Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya : On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, a function was held on 25 December 1993 in the Central Hall of Parliament House where his portrait is put up. Shri S.B. Chavan, Minister of Home Affairs; Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha; Shri K.V. Thangka Balu, Minister of State in the Ministry of Welfare; Shri Rameshwar Thakur, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development; Members of Parliament; former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to Pt. Malaviya.

A booklet containing a profile of Pt. Malaviya, prepared by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, was also brought out on the occasion.

PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS VISITING INDIA

Australia : On the invitation of the Parliament of India, a 9-members Australian Parliamentary Delegation, led by Mr. Henry Jenkins, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, visited India from 21 to 27 November 1993.

The Delegation called on the President of India, the Speaker, Lok

Sabha and the Minister of Finance on 22 November. The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha hosted a dinner in their honour the same day. They called on the Chairman, National Human Rights Commission and the Minister of State for External Affairs on 23 November. A meeting between the visiting Delegation and members of our Parliament was also held the same day. The Delegation called on the Prime Minister on 25 November.

Besides Delhi, the Delegation visited Agra, Calcutta and Faridabad.

Germany : On the invitation of the Parliament of India, a 13-member German Parliamentary Delegation, led by Prof. (Dr.) Rita Suessmuth, President of the German Bundestag, visited India on 8 and 9 October 1993. They called on the Prime Minister, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, the Minister of External Affairs and the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha on 8 October. The Speaker, Lok Sabha hosted a dinner in their honour the same day. They called on the President of India on 9 October.

Kazakhstan : A 13-member Kazakh Parliamentary Delegation, led by Mr. Serikboisyn Abdildaevich Abdildin, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Kazakhstan, visited India from 1 to 5 December 1993. They called on the Prime Minister and the Speaker, Lok Sabha on 1 December. A discussion between the Delegation and Members of our Parliament was held on 2 December. The Speaker, Lok Sabha hosted a banquet in their honour later in the evening on that day. They called on the President of India and the Minister of State for External Affairs on 3 December.

The Delegation visited Agra on 4 December.

Visit of Rt. Hon'ble Lord Mackay of Clashfern, Lord Chancellor of UK: The Rt. Hon'ble Lord Mackay of Clashfern, Lord Chancellor of U.K., and Lady Mackay visited India from 28 December 1993 to 1 January 1994. They called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, the Prime Minister, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, and the Chairman, National Human Rights Commission on 30 December. The Chief Justice of India hosted a reception on the same day. The Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha hosted a banquet in their honour later in the evening on that day. They called on the President of India on 31 December.

Besides Delhi, they also visited Bangalore and Mysore.

Kuwait : On the invitation of the Parliament of India, a 9-member Kuwaiti parliamentary Delegation, led by Mr. Ahmed Abdul-Aziz Al-Saadoon, the Speaker of the National Assembly of Kuwait, visited India from 1 to 5 October 1993. The Delegation called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha on 1 October. They called on the President of India, the Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha and the Minister of State for External Affairs on 4 October.

Presentation of Speaker's Chair to the National Assembly of Mauritius : At

a function held in Port Louis, Mauritius, on 15 November 1993, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj, Minister of State for Law, Justice and Company Affairs, formally handed over to the Speaker of the national Assembly of Mauritius Mr. Iswardeo Seetaram, the Speaker's Chair gifted by the Lok Sabha. The presentation was made by Shri Bhardwaj on behalf of Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha. The Minister also read out a message from the Speaker, Lok Sabha. The Prime Minister of Mauritius, Sir Anerood Jugnauth, the Deputy Prime Minister, Dr. Prem Nababsing, members of the Cabinet, the Leader of the Opposition, Dr. Navin Ramgoolam and members of the National Assembly were present on the occasion. The function was held on the eve of the resumption of the sittings of the Mauritius National Assembly. The Speaker of the National Assembly of Mauritius, Mr. Iswardeo Seetaram thanked the Lok Sabha and Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha for India's generosity in presenting the Speaker's Chair to Mauritius. He also thanked Shri H.R. Bhardwaj, Minister of State for Law, Justice and Company Affairs, who made the formal presentation. The ceremonial Speaker's Chair was custom-built by the Karnataka State Handicrafts Development Corporation.

BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING (BPST)

During the period 1 October to 31 December 1993, the following Programmes/Courses were organised by the BPST:

Ninth Parliamentary Internship Programme : The Ninth Parliamentary Internship Programme for foreign parliamentary officials which started on 22 September 1993 concluded on 9 November. The Programme was designed to meet the special needs of officers of foreign Parliaments and to enable them to study the working of parliamentary institutions in India and their processes and procedures. It was attended by 9 parliamentary officials from various Afro-Asian countries, including Indonesia, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Laos and Philippines.

Ninth Training Programme in Legislative Drafting : The Ninth Training Programme in Legislative Drafting was organised from 24 November 1993 to 3 February 1994. Eight foreign officers from Afro-Asian countries (one from Indonesia, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, Swaziland, Thailand, Uganda and Zambia), one official each from Maharashtra and Karnataka Legislature Secretariats and one officer from the Rajya Sabha Secretariat participated in the Programme. The Programme was designed to meet the long-felt need of equipping parliamentary officials with the basic concepts, skills and techniques required for drafting a legislation so that they could render assistance to Private Members when called upon to do so. *Appreciation Courses in Parliamentary Processes and Procedures*: During the period, the following Appreciation Courses were organised:

- (i) Appreciation Course for Audit Officers (11-15 October 1993);

- (ii) Appreciation Course for Probationers of Indian Railway Services of Signal Engineering (18-22 October 1993);
- (iii) Appreciation Course for Probationers of Indian Railway Service of Engineers (8-11 November 1993);
- (iv) Appreciation Course for Audit Officers (6-10 December 1993);
- (v) Appreciation Course for middle-level Defence Services Officers (13-17 December 1993); and
- (vi) Appreciation Course for Indian Police Service Probationers (20-24 December 1993)

Attachment Programme: An Attachment Programme for foreign participants undergoing Training Course at the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India was organised from 27 to 29 October 1993.

In-Service Training Courses for Officials/Staff of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats: During the Period, the following Training Courses were organised for Officers and Staff of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats to enable them to effectively discharge their functions :

- (i) Training Course for Research Assistants of Lok Sabha Secretariat (4-8 October 1993); and
- (ii) Training Course for Junior Clerks of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariats (8-11 November 1993)

Study Visits : At the request of various training and educational institutes, thirteen Study Visits of one-day duration each were organised. Participants were briefed about the working of Parliament, shown video films on parliamentary subjects and taken to the two Houses of Parliament to watch the proceedings during sessions.

NEW SECRETARY-GENERAL OF LOK SABHA

Consequent on the retirement of Shri C.K. Jain on 31 May 1994, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj, Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, assumed charge of the functions of the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha and Lok Sabha Secretariat with effect from 1 June 1994.

Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj - A Life-sketch

Born on 19 September 1935, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj has had an outstanding academic career. He obtained his M.A. (Political Science) degree with First Class, First, from Rajasthan University, and was awarded Ph.D. by the Punjab University.

As a Parliamentary Fellow of the Institute of Constitutional And Parliamentary Studies (ICPS), New Delhi, 1968-69, Dr. Bhardwaj acquired the Diploma in Parliamentary Institutions and Procedures. Later, he went to the U.K. for professional training at the Royal Institute of Public Administration (RIPA), London.

Serving the Lok Sabha Secretariat in different capacities with distinction since 1956, Dr. Bhardwaj has been closely associated with several renowned departmental publications of the Secretariat, including 'The Sixth General Elections to Lok Sabha' and the treatise 'Practice and Procedure of Parliament' by M.N. Kaul and S.L. Shakhder. Recently, he did pioneering work on the televising of parliamentary proceedings and published an authoritative book on the subject. He has also to his credit scripts and production of several films on parliamentary subjects.

Dr. Bhardwaj played a significant role in the successful organisation of two prestigious international Conferences, viz. the 37th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference and the 89th Inter-Parliamentary Conference in New Delhi in 1991 and 1993, respectively, besides some of the annual Conferences of Presiding Officers/Secretaries of Legislative Bodies in India.

Widely travelled in India and abroad, Dr. Bhardwaj has accompanied several Indian Parliamentary Delegations to Inter-Parliamentary Conferences in various countries. He has also been Secretary to various other goodwill Parliamentary Delegations.

PRIVILEGE ISSUES

LOK SABHA

Request received from the Station House Officer, Police Station Tughlak Road, New Delhi, for handing over the original documents in connection with a complaint from a member: The Station House Officer (SHO), Police Station Tughlak Road, New Delhi, in his letter addressed to the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, stated that on 27 January 1993, Shri Hari Kewal Prasad, a member, had complained to the SHO, Tughlak Road, mentioning therein that Shri Ajit Singh, another member, had submitted a memorandum in Lok Sabha Secretariat in the month of August 1992 in which his signature was forged and the same was reported still pending in the Lok Sabha Secretariat. Shri Hari Kewal Prasad had desired legal action on his complaint. It was, therefore, requested that if considered necessary, the memorandum and the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) result, if obtained (both in original), may be sent to the SHO, so that legal action on the complaint of Shri Hari Kewal Prasad, MP, could be initiated.

The request of the SHO was placed before the Speaker, Lok Sabha for his consideration. On 28 August 1993, the Speaker directed that : (i) the SHO may be informed of the procedural points; (ii) he may take the photocopies; (iii) the case may be referred to the Privileges Committee; and (iv) it may then be put up to the House along with the Report of the Privileges Committee for its decision and direction.

Accordingly, the SHO was informed of the position on phone. On 4 November 1993, the SHO and an ACP of that area came to the office. The procedural points were explained to them and they were informed of the Speaker's order that they may take the photocopies of the documents, if they so desired. After inspecting the original documents, they stated that the photocopies would not serve their purpose and insisted that the original documents were required for investigation purposes. They also stated that they did not require the photocopies of the documents at that stage.

The matter also stood referred to the Committee of Privileges accordingly.

The Committee of Privileges, in their Third Report, presented to the Speaker on 20 December 1993 and laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 21 December 1993, noted *inter alia* that the procedure for production in courts of documents connected with the proceedings of the House or its Committees had been laid down in the First Report of the Committee of

Privileges of the Second Lok Sabha which was adopted by that Lok Sabha on 13 September 1957. That Committee had made the following recommendations:

....The Committee are of the opinion that no member or officer of the House should give evidence in a Court of Law in respect of any proceedings of the House or any Committee of the House or any other document connected with the proceedings of the House or in the custody of the Secretary of the House without the leave of the House being first obtained.

When the House is not in session, the Speaker may in emergent cases allow the production of the relevant documents in Courts of Law in order to prevent delays in the administration of justice and inform the House accordingly of the fact when it reassembles. In case, however, the matter involves any question of privilege, especially the privilege of a witness, or in case the production of the document appears to him to be a subject for the discretion of the House itself, he may decline to grant the required permission and refer the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination and report.

The Committee recommend that whenever any document relating to the proceedings of the House or any Committees thereof is required to be produced in a Court of Law, the Court or the parties to the legal proceedings should request the House stating precisely the documents required, the purpose for which they are required and the date by which they are required. It should also be specifically stated in each case whether only a certified copy of the document should be sent or an officer of the House should produce it before a Court of Law.

When a request is received during sessions for producing in a Court of Law, a document connected with the proceedings of the House or Committees or which is in the custody of the Secretary of the House, the case may be referred by the Speaker to the Committee of Privileges. On a report from the Committee, a motion may be moved in the House by the Chairman or a member of the Committee to the effect that the House agrees with the report and further action should be taken in accordance with the decision of the House.

The present Committee also noted that in a similar case in 1988, requests were received from the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Special Investigation Cell, for handing over of two letters in original addressed to the then Speaker by Shri S. Thangaraju, MP, for the purpose of investigation of a CBI case. The Committee of Privileges (Eighth Lok Sabha), to whom the matter was referred by the

Speaker, in their First Report which was adopted by the House on 6 May 1988, *inter alia* observed/recommended as follows :

The Committee find that there is no indication in the request received from the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Central Bureau of Investigation, that the documents in question are required to be produced in a Court of Law. The procedure laid down in the First Report of the Committee of Privileges (Second Lok Sabha) relates to the documents required to be produced in a Court of Law.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that instead of handing over the required documents in original, the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Central Bureau of Investigation, Special Investigation, Cell-II, New Delhi, may be asked to come and inspect the relevant documents as also to take photocopies thereof, if he so desires. If at a later stage, the original documents are required for production in a Court of Law, a proper request may be made in accordance with the procedure laid down in the First Report of the Committee of Privileges (Second Lok Sabha).

Subsequently, separate requests from the Deputy Inspector General of Police, CBI, Special Investigation Cell, and Superintendent of Police, CBI were again received for handing over of a letter addressed by Shri S. Thangaraju MP, to the Speaker and certain other documents in original, relating to Shri Thangaraju's letter. The Committee of Privileges (Eighth Lok Sabha), to whom the requests were again referred, in their Second Report which was adopted by the House on 5 September 1988 *inter alia* observed as follows:

The Committee note that there is still no indication in the requests received from the Central Bureau of Investigation that the documents are required to be produced in a Court of Law. The Committee have, therefore, no reason to change the view expressed by them in their First Report adopted by the House on 6 May 1988, reiterating the recommendation made by the Committee of Privileges (Second Lok Sabha) in their First Report, namely that the original documents may not be handed over unless the same were required to be produced in a Court of Law...

It is not the intention of the Committee to hinder or stop any investigation; the facility of inspection and examination of the original documents which has already been extended to and availed of by an officer of the Central Bureau of Investigation on the basis of recommendation contained in the First Report of the Committee is still available to the investigating agency and

they can depute one of their officers to come and inspect and examine the original letter dated 24 February 1988.

The present Committee noted that the instant case was akin to the above case. The police officers had already been afforded the opportunity of inspecting the documents in question and taking photo copies thereof and they had availed of the opportunity of inspecting the documents.

The Committee saw no reason to make a departure from the procedure laid down by the Committee of Privileges (Second Lok Sabha) in their First Report and the Committee of privileges (Eighth Lok Sabha) in their First and Second Reports. The Committee were of the opinion that the original documents may not be handed over to the police unless the same were required to be produced in a Court of Law.

The Committee, therefore, recommended that an officer, not below the rank of Deputy Commissioner of Police, may still come and inspect the documents in question, namely, the application submitted to the Speaker by Shri Ajit Singh and 19 other MPs on 7 August 1992 and the report of the CFSL once again and take photocopies thereof, if he so desired. If at a later stage the original documents were required for production in a Court of Law, a proper request may be made in accordance with the procedure laid down in the First Report of the Committee of Privileges (Second Lok Sabha).

The House adopted the Report of the Committee on 22 December 1993.

A copy each of the Third Report of the Committee was forwarded to the Commissioner of Police, Delhi, the Assistant Commissioner of Police, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi and the SHO, Police Station Tughlak Road, New Delhi. The Commissioner of Police, Delhi, was also requested to depute an officer, not below the rank of Deputy Commissioner of Police, to come and inspect the documents in question once again and take photocopies thereof if so desired.

Non-intimation of the alleged rearrest and release of a member by police to the Speaker : On 8 April 1993, a written communication was received from the Superintendent of Police, CBI, New Delhi, forwarding therewith a fax message received from Deputy Superintendent of Police, CBI (camp at Lucknow), intimating about the arrest and lodgement of Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, member, on 8 April 1993. This intimation was published in Bulletin Part II of the Lok Sabha dated 13 April 1993.

On 10 April 1993, a wireless message was received from the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Lucknow, intimating about the arrest and lodgement of Shri Singh on 9 April 1993. This intimation was also published in Bulletin Part II dated 10 April 1993.

On 19 April 1993, a written communication was received from the Chief

Judicial Magistrate, Gonda, Uttar Pradesh, intimating about the issuance of production warrant against Shri Singh by him, on the report of Police Station Nawabganj, District Gonda.

On 22 April 1993, Shri Singh gave notice of a question of privilege regarding alleged non-intimation to the Speaker, Lok Sabha of his rearrest and release by police at Lucknow on 17 and 20 April 1993.

The member stated in his notice of question of privilege, *inter alia*, as follows:

I was arrested on 8.4.1993 by CBI and lodged in the police lock-up at Lucknow. I was not produced before a Magistrate within 24 hours but only after 29 hours. Thus I was kept in illegal custody for 29 hours. CBI Magistrate of Lucknow accepted my bail on 16.4.1993. The bail was given on 17.4.1993. In spite of that I was not released, I was produced before the Court of Special Judge (Gangster Act), Faizabad, on 20.4.93 for police remand. But the Court rejected the request for remand under Gangster Act and released me.

But no intimation regarding my bail on 16.4.1993, rearrest under Gangster Act and release on 20.4.1993 has been given to the Lok Sabha by the authorities concerned.

On 23 April 1993, Shri Singh raised the matter in the House. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, another member, also raised the matter. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, observed that he would look into it.

On 12 May 1993, Sarvashri Lal Krishna Advani, Satya Deo Singh, Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, Chandra Shekhar and Bhogendra Jha, all members also raised the matter in the House. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, observed that he would look into it.

On 14 May 1993, the Speaker referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges examined in person Sarvashri Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, member, B.R. Saroj, Station Officer, Police Station Nawabganj, District Gonda (Uttar Pradesh), Shivnath Singh, the then Circle Officer, Gonda, G.P. Sharma, Superintendent of Police, Gonda, J.M. Tripathi, Inspector of Police, Lucknow, B.D. Ram, District Magistrate, Gonda, H.P. Choudhury, Second Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Gonda and Yaduvendra Shukla, Superintendent of District Jail, Lucknow and also considered all the relevant documents. The Committee, in their Second Report presented to the Speaker and laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 7 December 1993, *inter alia* found that though bail was granted to Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh in the CBI case on 16 April 1993 and his release order was delivered in the District Jail, Lucknow, on 17 April 1993, he was not released from jail on that day and was detained in jail

on the basis of Production Warrants against him in two other cases. The Committee were therefore of the view that in spite of the fact that technically speaking the member had been released on bail in the offence in which he was lodged in jail, he was not physically released from jail.

The Committee also felt on the same analogy, that since Shri Singh was not physically released from jail, he continued to be under custody in the District Jail, Lucknow. As such, the Committee felt the member could not have been rearrested on 17 April 1993.

Under the circumstances, no intimation was received in the Lok Sabha Secretariat regarding the so called release or rearrest of the member on 17 April 1993. Keeping in view the fact that the member was not physically released, and could not, therefore, ostensibly have been rearrested, the Committee were disinclined to hold that any breach of privilege or contempt of the House was committed in not sending any intimation to the Speaker, Lok Sabha, regarding the alleged release and rearrest of the member on 17 April 1993

The Committee noted that it was apparent from the evidence tendered by the concerned officers before the Committee that while on the one hand the officers were not sure whether intimation regarding release of a member is also required to be given to the Speaker, Lok Sabha, like the intimation regarding his arrest or detention is given, on the other hand there appeared to be a fair amount of confusion in their minds as to who should give the intimation.

The Committee, after carefully going through the documents on record and the evidence tendered before them, concluded that there had been avoidable lapses and mistakes of omission and commission in this case. The Committee were, however, inclined to hold that the non-intimation of the release of Shri Brij Bushan Sharan Singh, on 21 April 1993 was more of a combined and cumulative effect of unintended mistakes of omission and commission, rather than a premeditated or wilful disregard of the requirement of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

The Committee noted that the then Circle Officer, Gonda, and the Superintendent of Police, Gonda, admitted before the Committee their ignorance of the fact that intimation regarding release of a member of Parliament is also required to be given to the Speaker, Lok Sabha. The Committee were of the view that no responsible Government Officer - least of all police officers - should plead ignorance of law or rules and regulations as an excuse. The Committee took a very serious note of the ignorance

* Rule 230. When a member is arrested after conviction, released on bail pending an appeal or otherwise released, such fact shall also be intimated to the Speaker by the authority concerned in the appropriate form set out in the Third Schedule

of the relevant provisions of Rule 230* of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha shown by the concerned police officer.

While holding, in the light of the discussion above, that a breach of privilege and contempt of the House had been committed in not sending intimation to the Speaker, Lok Sabha, about the release of Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, MP, on 21 April 1993 at Gonda, the Committee, keeping in view the totality of the facts and circumstances of the case and the unconditional apologies tendered by the Circle Officer, Gonda, the Superintendent of Police, Gonda, the District Magistrate, Gonda, and the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Gonda, felt that no further action be taken in the matter and it be dropped.

The Committee desired that suitable instructions be issued to all concerned to ensure that established procedure regarding transfer of detenus from one jail to another - particularly when members of Parliament were involved - was strictly followed and meticulously adhered to. The Committee also desired, even at the risk of stating the obvious, to reiterate that the need to be extra careful and cautious by all concerned when dealing with members of Parliament could hardly be overemphasized.

The Committee observed that there was some doubt and misconception in the minds of officers who appeared before them as to whether intimation regarding the release of members of Parliament was also required to be given to the Speaker, Lok Sabha, like the intimation of arrest and detention, etc. of members. The Committee desired that the provisions of rule 229* and 230 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha be brought to the notice of all the concerned authorities and suitable instructions be issued to ensure that these are complied with in letter and spirit.

On the question of whether Shri Brij Bushan Sharan Singh, MP, was rearrested at Gonda on 21 April 1993 and kept in lock-up at the local police station during the night and, if so, whether it amounted to a breach of privilege and contempt of the House, the Committee were unable to reconcile the contradictory statements made by the member on the one hand and the concerned officers on the other.

The Committee noted that the notice of question of privilege given by Shri Singh referred only to his alleged rearrest on 17 April 1993 and release on 20 April 1993. There was no mention in his notice, of his alleged rearrest

* Rule 229. When a member is arrested on a criminal charge or for a criminal offence or is sentenced to imprisonment by a court or is detained under an executive order, the committing judge, magistrate or executive authority, as the case may be, shall immediately intimate such fact to the Speaker indicating the reasons for the arrest, detention or conviction, as the case may be, as also the place of detention or imprisonment of the member in the appropriate form set out in the Third Schedule.

on 20 April 1993 and his confinement in police lock-up for the night. Moreover, the member did not even refer to the issue of his being kept in police lock-up when he raised the matter on the floor of the House on 23 April 1993. Technically speaking, therefore, this issue was beyond the terms of reference of the Committee.

The Committee, therefore, preferred not to pursue this aspect of the matter further.

The Committee recommended that no further action need be taken by the House in the matter and it be dropped.

Notice to the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, from the Supreme Court of India in connection with a Writ Petition (Civil) No. 246 of 1993: On 17 March 1994, the Speaker, Shri Shivraj V. Patil observed in the House as follows:

I have to inform the House that on 9th March, 1994, a notice has been received from the Assistant Registrar of the Supreme Court of India in the matter of Writ Petition Civil No. 246 of 1993, requiring the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, to appear before the Supreme Court personally or through counsel to show cause against the admission of the Writ Petition. The Writ Petition seeks to challenge, *inter alia*, the constitutional validity of Section 8A of the Salary, Allowances and Pensions of Members of Parliament Act, 1954 as amended till 1982, *vide* the Salary, Allowances and Pensions of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 1982.

As per well-established practice and convention of the House, the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, has been asked not to respond to the notice. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs is being requested to take such action as he may deem fit to apprise the Supreme Court of India of the correct constitutional position and the well established conventions of the House.

RAJYA SABHA

Alleged arrest of a member and non-intimation thereof to the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, by the authority concerned; and alleged misbehaviour with a member by the police: On 7 July 1992, Shri Bhupinder Singh Mann, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege against certain officials of the Punjab Police for allegedly arresting him along with some other farmers on 20 June 1992 at Dera Bassi Police Station and for keeping him in custody for about 25 hours without informing him of the reasons of his arrest. According to the member, the next day, the police officials took him and the others to Fatehgarh Sahib in a truck on the pretext of producing

them before the Duty Magistrate. However, on reaching there, the officials asked them to get down from the truck to take meals. As soon as they got down and started taking meals, the police party ran away in that truck leaving them behind. According to the member, the intimation regarding his arrest was not furnished to the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, by the authority concerned.

On 2 December 1992, Shri Mann gave another notice of question of privilege against the police authorities of Batala Town in Punjab and the SDO (Civil) at Batala for allegedly illegally arresting him in Batala on 10 October 1992 and deliberately keeping him in 'C' class jail as against his entitlement of 'B' class as a member and for causing harassment and humiliation to him.

The Chairman referred the matters to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges considered the comments of Shri Mann and examined in person Sarvashri Kulchinder Singh, the then Officer-in-charge of Dera Bassi Police Station, Suresh Arora, the then Senior Superintendent of Police, Patiala, K.P.S. Gill, Director-General of Police, Punjab and Ajit Kumar, Principal Secretary, Department of Home Affairs and Justice, Government of Punjab. The Committee, in their Thirty-fourth Report presented to the House on 30 December 1993, reported, *inter alia* that Shri Kulchinder Singh submitted before the Committee that on 20 June 1993 the police had received information from the headquarters that some Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU- Mann) workers would carry a tractor-trolley loaded with wheat to Haryana through Lalru Barrier on that day in protest against the ban order on the carriage of wheat from Punjab to other States. When the police party reached there they saw a tractor-trolley with some people coming in that direction. Seeing the police these people slipped away in different directions leaving the trolley full of wheat there. As there were no documents on the trolley, it was taken into custody. After some time, Shri Mann came to the Police Station along with his supporters and demanded the release of the trolley. On being refused, Shri Mann insisted that he be arrested and sat on a *dharna* along with others at the Police Station. The Police official tried to persuade Shri Mann not to sit on *dharna*, but failed. Shri Singh denied the allegation that Shri Mann was arrested but admitted that the next day, to remove him, he told him a lie that he (Shri Mann) had been arrested and was being taken to Fatehgarh Sahib for being produced before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM). However, on reaching Fatehgarh when Shri Mann went to a Gurudwara to take his meals, the police party, as per his instructions, came back leaving Shri Mann there.

In his oral evidence, Shri Suresh Arora, Senior Superintendent of Police, Patiala, denied that he or any of his subordinate officers had advised Shri Kulchinder Singh to do so (i.e., tell a lie).

During the examination of these officials, the Committee learned that there was no ban on movement of wheat from Punjab to other States, as was stated in the report of the State Government. However, both Shri Kulchinder Singh and Shri Suresh Arora expressed regret and tendered unconditional apology in the matter.

Shri K.P.S. Gill, Director-General of Police, Punjab, tendered an unconditional apology and assured that he would instruct his staff suitably to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future.

Shri Ajit Kumar, Principal Secretary, admitted that the State Government did not check the veracity of the facts contained in the report sent to the Committee as a result of which there were contradictions in the report vis-a-vis the statements given by the police officials and expressed regret for the same. He also assured to issue necessary instructions to all District Magistrates and District Police chiefs to ensure that such kind of incidents did not happen in future and to apprise the Chief Minister of the correct position.

The Committee noted that the Chief Minister of Punjab, in his letter to the Chairman of the Committee, had assured that members of Parliament were treated with utmost respect and courtesy by the State Administration. He had also stated that if any harassment had been caused to any member and the treatment which had been meted out was not in accordance with the standards of courtesy and politeness, it was a matter of great regret. He had also admitted that there was a lacuna in the instructions on the subject or providing appropriate class in jail to those who were entitled to it and stated that the concerned Superintendent of Jail had been warned.

The Committee noted from the letter of the Chief Secretary of the Government of Punjab, that instruction had been issued to all the District Magistrates and Senior Superintendents of Police in the state, to extend utmost respect and courtesy to members of Parliament, members of Legislative Assemblies, etc. They had been advised to convey the message right upto the lowest level functionaries of Government that extreme caution and care should be exercised while dealing with MPs, MLAs, etc. so that their privileges and prerogatives were properly respected.

The Committee were constrained to observe that the concerned police officials had not treated Shri Mann with courtesy and dignity which was due to him as a member of Parliament. The Committee also expressed its displeasure over the casual and perfunctory manner in which the State Government had sent the report to the Committee without verifying the facts.

However, in view of the steps taken by the State Government to check the recurrence of such incidents in future and the regrets expressed and unconditional apologies tendered by all concerned, the Committee recommended that the matter need not be pursued further.

Nonetheless, the Committee desired that the Government of Punjab should take appropriate steps to familiarise its officials with the relevant instructions so that all the functionaries in the field followed the correct procedure with respect to members of Parliament and were made fully aware of the penalties incumbent upon any breach of privilege.

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

Alleged arrest of a member and non-intimation thereof to the Chairman, Rajya Sabha by the concerned authority; and alleged misbehaviour with the member by the Police Officers: On 25 November 1992, Shri Ish Dutt Yadav, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege against Shri Manoj Kumar, District Magistrate, Deoria, Uttar Pradesh; Shri Devnarayanan Tripathi, Deputy Collector, Deoria; Shri Ranbir Singh Rathi, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Deoria; and Shri Banwari Lal, Station House Officer, Police Station, Ghoshi, District Mau, Uttar Pradesh for allegedly arresting him without assigning any reasons, on the night of 7 and 8 October 1992, at the PWD Inspection Bungalow in Deoria and also for misbehaving with him while being taken away from Deoria to the Central Jail, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The member also alleged that the intimations regarding his arrest and release were not sent to the Chairman, Rajya Sabha by the concerned authority.

In his notice of question of privilege, Shri Yadav stated *inter alia* that on 7 October 1992 he was in Deoria to gather information about the police firing on sugarcane growers at Ramkola Sugar Mill. On the night of 7 October 1992, when he was sleeping in the Dak Bungalow of PWD at Deoria, the District Magistrate, Deoria arrived at the Dak Bungalow along with a few other subordinate officers and arrested him without assigning any reasons. According to the member, he was also misbehaved with by the said officer who ordered his subordinate officers to take him to Central Jail, Varanasi, in the night itself. The member further alleged that when he was being taken to Varanasi Jail he was insulted and humiliated by the Deputy Collector, Deoria, the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Deoria, and the Station House Officer, Police Station, Ghoshi. The member was lodged in the Central Jail, Varanasi on 8 October 1992 and released on 14 October 1992.

The matter was also raised in the House by Shri Ish Dutt Yadav and some other members on 1 and 22 December 1992.

On 23 December 1992, the Chairman referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges considered all relevant documents and examined in person Shri Manoj Kumar, District Magistrate, Deoria, Shri Vinod Shankar Srivastava, Executive Magistrate, Deoria, Shri Devnarayanan Tripathi, Deputy Collector, Deoria, Shri Ranbir Singh Rathi, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Deoria and Shri Banwari Lal, Station House

Officer, Police Station, Ghoshi. The Committee, in their Thirty-sixth Report presented to the House on 30 December 1993, reported *inter alia* that Shri Ish Dutt Yadav's complaint had raised two issues: one, regarding non-intimation of his arrest and release and the other regarding misbehaviour towards him by the concerned officials. On the first issue the Committee, on perusal of relevant documents found that though the information about the arrest of Shri Yadav was sent to the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, by the District Magistrate, Deoria, through a radiogram, the same did not appear to have reached its destination. The loss of the message appeared to have occurred due to its being passed through several hands. The Committee noticed that the District Magistrate and the Executive Magistrate, Deoria, failed to intimate the release of Shri Yadav from the Central Jail, Varanasi to the Chairman, Rajya Sabha.

As regards the complaint of misbehaviour towards Shri Yadav, in view of the regrets expressed and unconditional apologies tendered by all concerned, the Committee recommended that the matter need not be pursued further.

Nonetheless, the Committee desired that the Government of Uttar Pradesh should take appropriate steps to ensure due compliance with the instructions issued by the Central Government from time to time in respect of modalities of official interaction with members of Parliament, so that complaints of the nature dealt with in this report did not recur.

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

Alleged casting of aspersions on a member and the House by a newspaper: On 11 August 1992, Shri Ghufan Azam, a member, gave a notice of question of privilege against the Editor and a reporter of *Dainik Jagran*, a Hindi daily published from Kanpur for allegedly casting aspersions on the members and the House in a news report published in its issue dated 28 May 1992, under the caption "Sansad Mein Prashno ke Zariye Swarth Poorti Karne Wala Giroh Sakriya".

Shri Azam, *inter alia*, contended in his notice that the said news item mentioned that a gang was involved in making members of Parliament ask questions for their personal benefit, which implied wilful involvement of members and thus affected their image not only in the eyes of others members but also in the eyes of the people. Shri Azam also charged the paper with indulging in malicious propaganda against him personally through the said news item.

On 12 August 1992, the Chairman referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges considered the written explanation of Shri Narendra Mohan, the Editor and Dr. Ramesh Verma, the reporter of *Dainik jagran* and examined them in person. The Committee, in their Thirty-fifth

Report presented to the House on 30 December 1993, reported that the Editor, in his comments dated 22 August 1992, had *inter alia* stated that the impugned news item was published at the instance of his local reporter, Dr. Ramesh Verma on the basis of information supplied by the local police intelligence and two of the local MLAs without seeking any permission from any of his superiors and without the knowledge of the Editor, Printer or Publisher. His explanation was sought and he was reprimanded for the lapse. He was no longer in the employment of the said newspaper, having already resigned. The Editor averred that the news item was published without any ill intention or motive to defame or to cast any reflection on Shri Ghufraan Azam or any member of Parliament and offered an unconditional apology and prayed for condonation of the lapse.

Dr. Ramesh Verma submitted that he had filed the impugned news item on the basis of a complaint made by the Kanpur Hotel Restaurant Association and the information provided by two local MLAs. Refuting the version of the Editor, he stated that the same was published with the knowledge and consent of the local Editor, Shri B.K. Sharma. He, however, admitted that he did not check the veracity of the contents of the news item before publishing the same and expressed his regrets and tendered unconditional apology for his writing in derogatory words about members of Parliament.

The Editor reiterated his earlier version and submitted that Dr. Ramesh Verma who was overall in charge of the local news section, had published the impugned news without consulting the local Editor, Shri B.K. Sharma. He also expressed his sincere regrets and tendered unqualified apology in the matter.

The Committee felt that the impugned news item was derogatory and grossly unfair to members of Parliament. It was apparently published without the necessary verification and attention to facts expected from any newspaper of standing. However, having regard to the regrets expressed and apologies offered by the Editor as well as the concerned reporter, the Committee recommended that the matter may be treated as closed.

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

GUJARAT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Alleged obstruction to a member in carrying out his parliamentary duties : On 23 August 1991, Shri Lekhraj Bachani, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege regarding alleged obstruction caused to him in carrying out his parliamentary duties by disconnecting his telephone installed at his residence at the MLA quarters by the Telephone Office.

In his notice of question of privilege, Shri Bachani *inter alia* stated that he had paid in time all dues of his telephone bills upto June 1991 to the

Telephone Office in respect of telephone numbers allotted to him as a member of the Legislative Assembly on 24 November 1990. However, in the bill for the month of June 1991, an amount of Rs. 8500/- was shown as outstanding for the period before which he was allotted this telephone, i.e., bills for the period prior to 24 November 1990. As he was not liable to pay the bills for the period prior to which he was allotted the telephone, he did not pay the bills and his telephone was disconnected by the Telephone Office in August 1991. As a result of it, he was deprived of telephone facility which caused him hindrance in performing his duties as a member.

The Speaker referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges considered the explanation received from the General Administration Department and the Telephone Office and examined in person the Principal Secretary of the General Administration Department. The Committee, in their Second Report presented to the House on 9 March 1992, reported *inter alia* that under the provisions of the Members' Pay and Allowances Act, the State Government provided telephone facility to members at their residence in their native places and at the MLA quarters in Gandhinagar. The Government bore the rental charges of these telephones. The main intention behind giving such telephone facility was to help members to remain in contact with their constituencies and to put forth more effectively the problems of their constituencies either in the House or before the Committees and thereby to enable them to perform their duties more smoothly and more easily. Thus a telephone was a very useful and essential instrument available to the members in carrying out their parliamentary activities. The position would be otherwise in case of a member who did not require such facility in performing his duties or who did not take sufficient care in shouldering his responsibility. However, in case of members who needed such facility and who were habituated to use it, if such a facility was suddenly withdrawn for no fault on their part, obstruction or inconvenience was caused in performing their duties towards the House. Hence, discontinuance of the telephone facility of a member constituted a breach of privilege of the member and a contempt of the House. The Committee was of the opinion that by suddenly discontinuing the telephone facility provided to Shri Lekhraj Bachani at his residence in the MLA quarters for no fault of his own, contempt of the House and breach of his privilege had occurred.

On the basis of the literature received from General Administration Department by the Committee and from examination of the Principal Secretary of the General Administration Department in person, the Committee felt that before the telephone was allotted to Shri Lekhraj Bachani it was allotted to the Personal Secretary to the ex-Minister for Water Resources. A proposal to permit unlimited free call facility to the

Personal Secretary was made by the Minister for Water Resources to the Government on 27 September 1990 which was rejected by the Government on 1 December 1990. The General Administration Department had requested the said Personal Secretary to make payment for the calls made in excess of the limit and the correspondence in this regard continued till the connection of the member's telephone was cut off. As the outstanding previous bills of this telephone were not paid and in view of the standing instructions of the General Administration Department to recover from the telephone holder the amount of previous outstanding bills, the telephone department had cut off the telephone connection of the member. Of course, as per the explanation given by the General Administration Department, till 6 February 1991 it was not aware of the fact that the Roads and Buildings Department had allotted this telephone to Shri Bachani. If the General Administration Department had not allotted to the member such a telephone having unpaid previous bills or if it had first paid the amount of previous outstanding bills of this telephone and then undertaken the procedure of recovering this amount from the Personal Secretary of the ex-Minister for Water Resources, the telephone of the member would not have been cut off and the member would not have been deprived of the telephone facility at the commencement of the session of the House and no inconvenience would have been caused to the member in performing his duties as an MLA. Taking into consideration all these facts, the Committee gathered the impression that no one in the General Administration Department had taken this matter seriously.

The Committee had taken into consideration the written explanation sent by the Principal Secretary of the General Administration Department and also the oral evidence given by him in person while he appeared before the Committee in this matter. In his written explanation he had stated that disconnection of the member's telephone was an unhappy event. He had admitted that for want of co-ordination between various Departments of the Government and for want of co-ordination between various branches of the General Administration, such an undesirable and unhappy event had taken place. Moreover, he had personally expressed his regrets for the inconvenience caused to the member in performing his duties as an MLA. He also assured the Committee to make all efforts to see that such a situation did not arise in future. He further assured that he would hold a meeting of the officers of the General Administration Department, Finance Department and the Roads and Buildings Department and discuss therein the issue of allotting telephones to members and prepare exhaustive guidelines. Responsibility of the officer concerned also would be fixed. He promised to issue these guidelines in the form of a Government Resolution so that the possibility of the members' telephone connections being cut off without any lapse on their part would be totally eliminated.

Taking into consideration the regret expressed by the Principal Secretary of the General Administration Department and the assurance

given by him to the Committee, the Committee came to the conclusion that no action need to be taken against the delinquents in this matter.

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

KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Alleged misbehaviour by a Police Officer with members : On 8 October 1991, Shri S. Sarma and Shri B. Raghavan, members, raised in the House a question of privilege regarding alleged misbehaviour with them by the Assistant Commissioner of Police, Thrikkakara, Ernakulam City, on 27 September 1991 at the University Campus, Cochin.

The same day, while raising the matter, Shri S. Sarma and Shri B. Raghavan, members, stated that they were attacked by a mob when they reached the campus of Cochin University of Science and Technology to conduct an interview for the post of Sweeper-cum-Cleaner. They were forced to seek refuge in the Mathematics Department of the University and that Shri James George, Assistant Commissioner of Police, arrived on the scene only after Shri Sarma conveyed information about the attack to the Police Commissioner at Ernakulam. On arrival, Shri Raghavan asked Shri James George why the police party did not arrive at the University earlier despite the receipt of prior information about the interview. The Police Officer addressed the members in an abusive manner and replied curtly that he was there not to see them or to listen to what they had to say. The member also accused the Police Officer of not having heeded to their request to be taken to a hospital.

The Speaker referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges, after considering all relevant documents and written submission of Shri James George and after taking evidence of several witnesses, in their Second Report presented to the House on 11 February 1993. Reported *inter alia* that it had been proved beyond doubt that Shri George had used abusive language towards the members. He, therefore, deserved to be censured for his behaviour.

Before the House could take any action on the Report of the Committee, Shri James George filed a petition in the High Court of Kerala on 11 March 1993, alleging that the conclusion of the Privileges Committee was in utter disregard of the principles of natural justice and fairplay because the Committee took evidence in his absence and he was not given a copy of the evidence tendered against him. He also alleged that he was not allowed to cross examine those witnesses who had given evidence against him.

On 25 March 1993, the High Court of Kerala dismissed the petition

stating that the original petition was premature as the proceedings were only initiated and were pending before the House. Ultimately it was for the House to decide as to whether the recommendation of the privileges Committee had to be accepted or not and added that it was not proper for the Court to intervene at that stage when the proceedings had already commenced and were pending before the House.

On 31 March 1993, the House considered the Second Report of the Committee and adopted it in an amended form, resolving the Shri James George might be asked at express regret for his rude behaviour in the presence of the Speaker, Leaders of Legislature Parties and the said two members. On 11 June 1993, Shri James George appeared in the Speaker's Chamber and expressed regrets for his behaviour in the presence of all the above-mentioned.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Members can seek clarifications from Ministers on statements made by them: On 9 December 1993, on a statement made by the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan regarding the judicial remand of Shri L.K. Advani, MP and others by the Special Magistrate, CBI, Lucknow, some members sought clarifications and the Minister then replied thereto.

On 13 December, on a statement made by the Minister of Railways, Shri C.K. Jaffar Sharief regarding the unmanned level crossing gate accident involving the 7304 Sahyadri Express and a bus on the Miraj-Pune BG Single Line section of the South Central Railway, some members sought clarifications and then the Minister replied thereto.

On 21 December, on a statement made by the Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Arjun Singh regarding the Education For All Summit, some members sought clarifications and then the Minister replied thereto.

Member permitted to speak on the same resolution in different Sessions: Prof. Malini Bhattacharya, a member, who had commenced her speech on 6 August 1993 on the resolution regarding Uniform Civil Code moved in the House and who was not present to resume her speech on 20 August 1993, was permitted, as a special case, to speak again on the same resolution when further discussion on the resolution was resumed on 10 December 1993 during the next Session.

House adjourned on the demise of a sitting member in New Delhi even though his body was taken outside Delhi for cremation: Shri Shiva Sharan Sinha, a sitting member, died on 18 December 1993 in New Delhi. His body was taken to his home town the following day for cremation. On 20 December, after obituary references were made, the House was adjourned for the day without transacting any business.

Matters relating to individual industries not to be raised in the House: On 22 December 1993, a member, Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde, while raising a matter, stated that the Government of Andhra Pradesh had terminated the lease agreements of M/s Vijayalakshmi Minerals Trading Company. The Speaker, thereupon, observed :

I am not allowing pleading of somebody on the floor of the House. This is not correct... I do not want MPs to take the cause of Individual industries on the floor of the House.

Discussion held in a Consultative Committee meeting cannot be

referred to in the House: On 23 December 1993, a member, Shri Inder Jit raised the matter regarding harassment being faced by the Bengali speaking people in Delhi and demanded an assurance from the Central Government to stop such incidents. Another member, Shri Manoranjan Bhakta stated that the issue was also discussed at the meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Speaker, thereupon, observed:

You cannot refer to the discussion held in the Consultative Committee meeting, in the House.

PARLIAMENTARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

(1 October to 31 December 1993)

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

Developments involving the Election Commission : On 1 October, the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma issued an Ordinance appointing two more Election Commissioners thus making the Election Commission into a three-member body. Shri Manohar Singh Gill and Shri G.V.G. Krishnamurthy were appointed Election Commissioners with immediate effect. On 27 October, the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Shri T.N. Seshan moved the Supreme Court challenging the Presidential Ordinance.

On 15 November, the Supreme Court, in its interim order, ruled that the CEC alone would issue directions regarding the conduct of elections and be in complete and overall control of the Election Commission. It also ordered that the CEC may ascertain the views of the two Commissioners but their views would not be binding on him.

On 13 December, the Lok Sabha passed the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1993 seeking to make the Election Commission a multi-member body. The Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 20 December.

Death of Members : Shri Frank Anthony, nominated by President to the Lok Sabha to represent the Anglo-Indian Community, passed away on 2 December.

Shri Shiva Sharan Sinha, Janata Dal member of Lok Sabha who represented the Vaishali constituency, passed away on 18 December.

Resignation of Minister : On 2 December, the President accepted the resignation of the Minister of State for Science and Technology,

Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development, and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri P.R. Kumaramangalam from the union Council of Ministers. Subsequently, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi was given additional charge of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Science and Technology. The Minister of State for chemicals and Fertilizers, Shri Eduardo Faleiro was given additional charge of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and the Department of Ocean Development.

Resignation of Members : On 3 December, the Speaker, Shri Shivraj V. Patil announced in the Lok Sabha that he had accepted the resignation from the House of Shri Sharad Pawar who represented the Baramati constituency with effect from 3 September. He also accepted the resignation of Shri Madan Lal Khurana who represented the South Delhi constituency with effect from 2 December.

Ten MPs join Congress (I) : The Janata Dai (A), headed by Shri Ajit Singh, formally merged with the Congress (I) on 30 December, with the following 10 members of Lok Sabha joining the party : Sarvashri Ajit Singh, Satyapal Singh Yadav, Ram Nihore Rai, Ram Badan, Ram Awadh, Rajnath Sonker Shastri, Harpal Panwar, Arjun Singh Yadav, Shivsharan Verma and Surya Narain Yadav.

Yashwant Sinha joins BJP : Shri Yashwant Sinha, MP who dissociated himself from the SJP and the Janata Dal on 9 November, joined the BJP on 14 November. He also announced his resignation as a member of Rajya Sabha. The resignation was accepted with effect from 14 November.

MP's election set aside : On 19 November, the Supreme Court upheld the Bombay High Court verdict of 30 March 1993 quashing the election of Congress (I) nominee Shri Yashwantrao Patil (Y.K. Gadakh) to the Lok Sabha from the Ahmednagar constituency on charges of corrupt electoral practices. It, however, set aside the High Court's order declaring Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil elected in his place. Accordingly, the Ahmednagar seat in the Lok Sabha fell vacant with effect from 19 November.

AROUND THE STATES

ANDHRA PRADESH

Cabinet Changes : The Minister of Health, Dr. D.L. Ravinder Reddy and the Minister for Roads and Buildings, Shri J.C. Diwakar Reddy resigned from the Cabinet on 15 December.

On 16 December, Shri R. Chenga Reddy and Shri T. Purushottam Rao were sworn in as Cabinet Ministers. Shri Reddy was given the charge of Cooperation while Shri Rao got Roads and Buildings. Some changes in the

portfolios of other Ministers were also effected. Accordingly, Finance Minister K. Rosaiah was given charge of Medical and Health; Shri K. Yanadi Reddy, Endowments; Shri S. Chandrashekhar, Power; Ch.V. Harirama Jogaiah, Andhra Pradesh Handicrafts Development Cooperation; Shri P. Shankar Rao, Ground Water and Andhra Pradesh State Irrigation Development Cooperation.

Death of Minister : The Minister for Higher Education, Shri Pati Rajan passed away on 19 December.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

New Governor : On 11 October, Shri Mata Prasad was appointed the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh. He was sworn in on 21 October.

DELHI

Election results : Delhi went to the polls on 6 November for elections to the 70-member Legislative Assembly. The party position following the elections is as under : BJP- 49; Congress (I)-14; Janata Dal-4; and Independents-3.

Ministry constituted : On 2 December, Shri Madan Lal Khurana of the BJP was sworn in as the Chief Minister. Six more Ministers were sworn in on 3 December. The Council of Ministers and the portfolios were as under : Shri Madan Lal Khurana : **Chief Minister** ; Shri Sahib Singh Verma: *Rural Development, Agriculture, Revenue, Education and Technical Education, Irrigation and Flood Control, Environment and Forests, Cooperative Societies*; Shri Jagdish Mukhi : *Finance, Sales Tax, Planning*; Shri Harcharan Singh Balli : *Industries, Labour, Jails, Gurudwara Elections*; Dr. Harsh Vardhan: *Health, Law and Justice, Legislative Assembly Affairs and Legislation*; Shri Surendra Pal Ratwal : *Harijan Welfare, Social Welfare and Tourism*; and Shri Lal Bihari Tiwari : *Food and Civil Supplies; Employment, Elections and Passport Verification*.

Election of Speaker/Deputy Speaker : On 15 December, Shri Charti Lal Goel of the BJP was elected Speaker of the Delhi Legislative Assembly. Shri Alok Kumar was elected Deputy Speaker on 17 December.

GUJARAT

Resignation of Minister : On 26 October, the Minister of Home and Irrigation, Shri C.D. Patel resigned from the Cabinet after he was relieved of the charge of the Department of Home by the Chief Minister, Shri Chimanbhai. Patel.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

New Governor : Shri Gulsher Ahmed resigned as Governor of Himachal Pradesh on 22 November. The Governor of Punjab, Shri Surendra Nath was given additional charge as Governor of Himachal Pradesh also.

Election Results : Polling for the 68-member State Legislative Assembly was held on 9 November. The party position following the elections is as under : Congress (I)-52 ; BJP-8; CPI (M)-1 ; Independents-7.

Ministry constituted . Shri Virbhadra Singh of the Congress (I) was sworn in as Chief Minister on 3 December. Nine Cabinet Ministers and two Ministers of State were sworn in on 11 December. The Ministers and their portfolios are as under :

Shri Virbhadra Singh (**Chief Minister**) : *Home, General Administration, Finance, Health Power, Personnel, Public Relations and all Departments not allocated to any other Minister.*

Cabinet Ministers : Shri Sant Ram : *Forests and Excise and Taxation;* Shri J.B.L. Khachi : *PWD, Housing and Local Self Government;* Shri N.C. Parashar : *Education, Language and Art and Culture;* Shri Chander Kumar: *Irrigation and Public Health, Science and Technology, Technical Education, Vocational and Industrial Training;* Shri R.R. Rao : *Industries, Parliamentary Affairs, Labour, Employment and Training;* Shri Gangu Ram Musaffir : *Rural Development and Panchayati Raj;* Shri Gulab Singh: *Revenue and Planning;* Shri Man Chand Rana : *Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries.*

Ministers of State : Shri Vidya Dhar : *Social Welfare and Women's Welfare (attached to the Chief Minister for the Health and Family Welfare portfolio);* Shri Anil Sharma : *Youth Services and Sports (Independent Charge) (attached to Shri Sant Ram for Forest Farming and Conservation).*

On 13 December, Shri Kaul Singh Thakur resigned from the Council of Ministers.

Election of Speaker/Deputy Speaker : Shri Kaul Singh Thakur of the Congress(I) was elected Speaker of the State legislative Assembly on 15 December. Shri Kuldip Kumar was elected Deputy Speaker on 17 December.

Death of Member-elect : Shri Jagdev Chand of the BJP, who was elected to the State Legislative Assembly from the Hamirpur constituency passed away on 6 December.

KARNATAKA

Removal of Minister : On 23 October, the Chief Minister Shri Veerappa Moily dropped the Revenue Minister, Shri M. Rajasekhara Murthy from the

Council of Ministers.

Bangarappa expelled from Congress(I) : On 20 December, the former Chief Minister, Shri S. Bangarappa was expelled from the Congress (I) for six years for anti-party activities. On 31 December, he formed a new regional party under the name, Karnataka Congress.

KERALA

Split in Kerala Congress(M) : On 10 December, the Kerala Congress(M) split with Shri T.M. Jacob, Minister of irrigation and three other MLAs - Sarvashri P.M. Mathew, Johny Nelloor and Mathew Stephen - being expelled from the party by the faction led by the Revenue Minister, Shri K.M. Mani.

MADHYA PRADESH

Election results : Madhya Pradesh went to the polls for elections to the 320-member Legislative Assembly on 24 and 27 November. The party position following the elections is as under :

Election held : 319; Congress(I) : 174; BJP: 117; Janata Dal: 4; BSP: 11; CPI: 2; CPI(M): 1; Chattisgarh Mukti Morcha : 1; Krantikari Samajvadi Manch: 1; Independents: 8.

Ministry constituted: On 7 December, Shri Digvijay Singh of the Congress(I) was sworn in as the Chief Minister. The Cabinet was constituted on 14 December. There are two Deputy Chief Ministers, Shri Subhash Yadav and Shri Pyarelal Kunwar.

The Ministers and their portfolios are as under : Shri Digvijay Singh (**Chief Minister**) : *General Administration, Home, Public Relations, 20-Point programme Implementation, Science and Technology*; Shri Subhash Yadav (**Deputy Chief Minister**): *Agriculture, Cooperatives, Narmada Vikas and Rehabilitation*; Shri Pyarelal Kunwar (**Deputy Chief Minister**) : *Revenue. Cabinet Ministers*: Sarvashri Rajendra Prasad Shukla: *Water Resources, Law and Parliamentary Affairs*; Hazarilal Raghuvanshi: *PWD*; B.R. Yadav: *Forests, Environment and Development* ; Tanwant Singh Keer: *Local Bodies Government and Bhopal Gas Tragedy Department*; Narendra Kumar Nahta: *Commercial Taxation*; Ajay Narain Mushran: *Finance*; Ramji Mahajan: *Backward Classes, Labour and Jails*; Ashok Rao : *Health and Family Welfare*; Vijaya Laxmi Sadho: *Tourism and Culture*; Mahendra Singh Kalukheda: *School Education*; Jamuna Devi: *Social Welfare*; Mohan Lal Chaudhry: *Animal Husbandry and Fisheries*; Harbans Singh : *PHED*; Pratap Singh Baghel : *Panchayat and Rural Development* ; Kantilal Bhuria: *Adimijati and Scheduled Tribes*.

Ministers of State (Independent Charge) : Sarvashri Charan Das Mahant : *Commercial Taxation*; Rajendra Kumar Singh: *Commerce and Industry*; Prem Narain Thakur : *Transport*; Narmada Prasad Prajapati : *Energy*; Mukesh Naik: *Higher Education, Sports and Youth Welfare*; Indrajit Kumar : *Housing*; Ratnesh Soloman: *Food and Civil Supplies*.

Ministers of State : Sarvashri Shiv Netam; Jageshwar Sahu; Dayal Singh Tumrachi; Chaneshram Rathia; Dehru Prasad Dhritlahre; Ibrahim Qureshi; Prem Sai Singh; Bisahulal Singh; Ram Niwas Rawat; and Urmila Singh.

Election of Speaker/Deputy Speaker : Shri Shri Niwas Tiwari of the Congress(I) was elected Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly on 24 December. The BJP member Shri Bhairulal Patidar was elected Deputy Speaker on 28 December.

MANIPUR

President's rule imposed: On 31 December, Manipur was placed under President's rule and the State Legislative Assembly put under suspended animation.

MEGHALAYA

Election of Speaker : On 12 October, Shri J.D. Rymbai of the Congress (I) was elected Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly in succession to Shri R.C. Laloo who was inducted into the Council of Ministers.

MIZORAM

Election results : Polling for the 40-member State Legislative Assembly was held on 30 November. The party position in the State Legislative Assembly following the elections is under: Congress(I): 16; Mizoram Janata Dal (JD): 8; Mizo National Front: 14; Independents: 2.

Ministry constituted: Shri Lalthanhawla of the Congress(I) was sworn in as Chief Minister heading a coalition with the MJD on 8 December. The Council of Ministers and their portfolios are as under:

Cabinet Ministers: Sarvashri Lalthanhawla (**Chief Minister**) : *Vigilance, Political and Cabinet, Public Works, School Education, Information and Public Relations, Planning and Programme Implementation*; J. Lalsangzuala: *Home, Industries, District Council Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs*; Lalhmingthanga: *Finance, Public Health Engineering, Excise and Taxation and Secretariat Administration*; C.L. Ruala: *Food and Civil Supplies, Power and Electricity*; Saikapthianga: *Health and Family Welfare*,

Art and Culture; Liansuama: Development, Personnel, Administrative Reforms and General Administration; Chawngkunga: Agriculture, Cooperation, Trade and Commerce; P.C. Bauritluanga: Settlement and Sericulture; and Zosiama Pachuau: Environment and Forests and Higher and Technical Education.

Ministers of State (Independent Charge): P.C. Zoramsangliana: *Social Welfare, Sports and Youth Services*; and P. Lalbiaka: *Animal Husbandry and Veterinary and Relief and Rehabilitation.*

Ministers of State: C. Valluaia: *Law and Judicial, Horticulture, Labour and Employment*; S.T. Rualyapa: *Local Administration, Printing and Stationery*; H. Thangkima: *Transport and Fisheries*; and Nirupom Chakma: *Soil and Water Conservation and Tourism.*

Speaker elected: Shri Vaivenga of the Congress(I) was elected Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly on 10 December.

RAJASTHAN

Election results: Elections to the 200-member State Legislative Assembly was held on 11 November. The Party position following the elections is as under: Elections held: 199; BJP: 95; Congress(I): 76; Janata Dal: 6; CPI (M): 1; Independents: 21.

Ministry constituted: On 4 December, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat of the BJP was sworn in as the Chief Minister. The Ministers and their portfolios are as under:

Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat (Chief Minister): *Finance, Home, General Administration, Cabinet Affairs, Power Industries, Forests, Public Undertakings, Excise, Planning, Public Relations, Election Department, Policy Planning, Parliamentary Affairs, Mines, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Personnel and all the other Departments not allocated to any other Minister.*

Cabinet Ministers: Shri Bhanwar Lal Sharma: *Local Self Government, PHED, Youth Affairs and Sports*; Shri Lalit Kishore Chaturvedi: *PWD, University, College and Technical Education and Science*; Shri Devi Singh Bhati: *Irrigation*; Shri Golab Chand Kataria: *Primary Education, Sanskrit, Linguistics and Devsthan*; Shri Sujan Singh Yadav: *Cooperatives.*

Ministers of State: Shri Nathu Singh Gurjar: *Rural Development and Panchayati Raj*; Shri Rajendra Rathore: *Medical, Health and Family Planning*; Shri Rohitash Kumar: *Transport*; Shri Jaswant Singh: *State Insurance, State Lotteries*; Shri Kishan Songara: *Khadi, Home Guards and Prisons*; Shri Gyan Singh Choudhary: *Agriculture and Development*; Smt. Shashi Somdutt: *Law, Government Undertakings*; Shri Nand Lal Meena: *Tribal Area Development, Labour and Employment*; Smt. Narendra Kanwar: *Tourism, Art, Culture, Information and Public Relations (with Chief*

Minister); Shri Ram Pratap : *Food and Civil Supplies*; Shri Anang Kumar Jain: *Integrated Rural Development, Finance and Excise* (with Chief Minister); Shri Madan Dilawar: *Social Welfare*; Shri A. Chalaram Meghwal: *Ayurveda*; Shri Sanwar Lal Jat: *Relief and Rehabilitation*.

Deputy Ministers: Shri Gurjat Singh: *Irrigation and Power*; Shri Mangla Ram Kohli: *Urban Development, Local Self-Government*.

Shri Arjun Singh Deora was sworn in as Minister of State on 22 December and given charge of Animal Husbandry, Sheep and Wool.

The Chief Minister won a vote of confidence in the State Legislative Assembly on 31 December.

New Speaker: Shri Harishankar Bhabhra of the BJP was re-elected Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly on 30 December.

Split in Janata Dal : On 15 December, the Janata Dal Legislature Party split with two of its legislators - Shri Brijpal Singh and Shri Nasru Khan - forming a new party called Bharatiya Janata Dal and extending their support to the BJP Government.

SIKKIM

Minister inducted: Shri Karma Topden was inducted into the Cabinet as Minister without portfolio on 20 November, raising its strength to 13.

TAMIL NADU

MP expelled from DMK: On 11 November, Shri V. Gopalsamy, MP (Rajya Sabha) was expelled from the DMK for anti-party activities.

Split in PMK: The Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK) split on 6 December with the Party Administrative Council expelling its lone MLA, Shri P.S. Ramachandran from its primary membership.

UTTAR PRADESH

Election results: Elections to the 425-member State Legislative Assembly were held in two rounds - on 18 and 21 November. The party position following the elections is as under : Election held: 421; BJP: 176; Samajwadi Party(SP): 108; Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP): 68; Congress(I): 28; Janata Dal: 28; CPI: 3; CPI(M): 1; Independents: and others: 9.

Ministry constituted: On 4 December, a 27-member SP-BSP coalition Government headed by Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav was sworn in. The Ministers and their portfolios are as under:

Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav (**Chief Minister**): *Home, Finance,*

Housing, Law, Judiciary, Information, Industry, Sugar Mills and Energy.

Cabinet Ministers: Sarvashri Bani Prasad Verma: *PWD and Parliamentary Affairs*; Mohd. Azam Khan: *Cooperatives, Muslim Waqfs and Haj Department*; Ramshanker Kaushik: *Urban Development*; Bhagavati Singh : *Forests*; Balram Yadav: *Medical Health and Medical Education*; Babu Ram Yadav: *Revenue*; Manohar Lal: *Veterinary and Fisheries*; Avdhesh Prasad: *Jails, Home Guards and Pensions*; Raj Bahadur: *Social and Women's Welfare*; Ram Lakhan Verma: *Panchayati Raj*; R.K. Choudhary: *Transport*; Masood Ahmed: *Secondary, Basic and Adult Education*; and Sri Ram Yadav: *Rural Development and Minor Irrigation.*

Ministers of State : Sarvashri Surendra Pal Verma: *Transport*; Sharadanand Anchal: *Secondary and Basic Education*; Ram Dhani . *Rural and Regional Development*; Dinanath Bhaskar: *Medical Health and Medical Education*; Sri Ram Pal: *Animal Husbandry and Fisheries*; Sant Bux Rawat : *Urban Development* ; Surendra Singh Baghel : *Social Welfare* ; Sukhram Yadav : *Public Works and Parliamentary Affairs* ; Ashok Kumar Singh : *Panchayati Raj* ; Sukhdev Raj : *Cooperatives and Muslim Wakfs* ; and Vishambhar Nath Nishad : *Revenue.*

Deputy Ministers : Shri Ram Kishore Bind: *Jails and Home Guards*; and Shri Lalji Chauhan : *Forests.*

Election of Speaker : On 14 December, the SP-BSP combine candidate Shri Dhani Ram Verma was elected Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly.

CM retains Shikohabad : On 9 December, Chief Minister Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, who got elected to the State Legislative Assembly from three constituencies, announced his decision to retain the Shikohabad seat, and resigned the Jaswantnagar and Nidhauri Kalan seats.

WEST BENGAL

Death of MLA : Congress(I) MLA, Shri Arun Goswami passed away on 12 October.

DEVELOPMENTS ABROAD

AZERBAIJAN

New President : Mr. Gaider Aliev was elected President of Azerbaijan winning over 98 per cent of the votes polled in the elections held on 3 October.

CANADA

Election results : In the elections to the House of Commons, held on

25 October, the Liberal Party won 177 seats followed by the Bloc Quebecois with 54 seats, the Reform Party with 52 seats, New Democrats 9 and independents 1. Mr. Jean Chretien of the Liberal Party took over as the Prime Minister on 5 November.

CHILE

Presidential elections : According to the results announced on 12 December, the ruling Centre Left coalition candidate Mr. Eduardo Frei was elected President winning over 57 per cent votes in the elections.

EGYPT

President re-elected : According to an official announcement on 5 October, the President Mr. Hosni Mubarak was given a third six-year term in a national referendum winning 96.2 per cent of the votes polled.

PM re-appointed : President Mr. Hosni Mubarak re-appointed Mr. Atef Sedki as the Prime Minister on 14 October.

FIJI

Death of President : President Mr. Rati Penaia Ganilau passed away on 16 December. The Vice-President Ratu Sir Kamisese Mera would be the Acting President.

GREECE

PM sworn in : Prime Minister Mr. Andreas Papandreou and his Socialist Cabinet were sworn in on 13 October.

HAITI

Minister Killed : Justice Minister Mr. Guy Malary was shot dead by unidentified gunmen on 14 October.

Resignation of PM : Prime Minister Mr. Robert Malvel resigned from office on 16 December.

HUNGARY

Death of Prime Minister : Prime Minister Dr. Josef Antall passed away on 12 December.

IVORY COAST

Resignation of PM : Prime Minister Mr. Alassane Onattara resigned from office on 9 December.

KAZAKHSTAN

Parliament dissolved : On 10 December, the Parliament voted to disband itself and permitted the President Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev to rule by decree till a new House was elected in March 1994.

KYRGYSTAN

New PM : On 14 December, following the dismissal of Prime Minister Mr. Tursunbek Chingushev in a secret parliamentary vote, President Mr. Askar Akayev appointed Mr. Alas Dzhumagulov as the new Prime Minister.

MALDIVES

President re-elected : President Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom won his fourth consecutive term, securing over 92 per cent of the votes cast in a referendum held on 1 October.

NIGERIA

Political developments : The Interim Government resigned on 18 November and Gen. Sani Abacha took over as President. On 19 November, the President banned all political parties and dissolved all elected bodies. On 22 November, the Constitution of 1979 was reinstated and a Provisional Ruling Council was set up. A new Cabinet was installed on 26 November.

PAKISTAN

Political developments : The following is the party position in the National Assembly consequent upon the elections held on 5 October : Pakistan People's Party (PPP) : 86 ; PML (Nawaz) 72; PML (Chatta) : 6; IJM: 4; Pakistan Islamic Front: 3; Pakhtokhwa Mili Awami party : 3 ; Awami National Party : 3 ; Muttahida Dini Mahaz: 2 ; Balochistan National Movement (Hasil): 1 ; Balochistan National Movement (Mengal) : 1 ; National Alliance : 1 ; Independents and Others : 19.

On 18 October, Mr. Yusuf Raza Gilani, supported by PPP-PML (Chatta) alliance was elected Speaker of the National Assembly. Mrs. Benazir Bhutto, who defeated Mr. Nawaz Sharief by 131 to 105 votes in the

Assembly, was sworn in as Prime Minister on 19 October. She won a vote of confidence in the National Assembly on 27 October.

On 20 October, PPP nominee Mr. Mian Manzoor Wattoo was elected Chief Minister of Punjab.

On 13 November, Mr. Farooq Leghari was elected the new President defeating acting President Mr. Wasim Sajjad by 171 to 168 votes in the electoral college consisting of members from the National Assembly and the Senate.

RUSSIA

Political development : Following the on-going tussle between President Mr. Boris Yeltsin and the Russian Parliament, the President, on 21 September 1993 had dissolved the Parliament and called for elections in December. The Constitutional Court, however, had declared the order as illegal on 22 September. The Russian guards had surrounded the Parliament House on 24 September. The Government had issued an ultimatum to the hardliners holed up inside to surrender by 4 October. Clashes broke out in Moscow on 2 October and emergency was clamped there on 30 October. Armed forces stormed the Parliament House on 4 October. The deposed Vice-President Mr. Alexander Rutskoi and the Speaker of the dissolved Parliament Mr. Ruslan Khasbulatov were arrested along with many of their supporters. On 7 October, President Yeltsin disbanded the Constitutional Court. Emergency clamped on Moscow was lifted on 18 October. The ban on the Communist Party and several other Opposition groups was also lifted on 20 October.

On 9 November, President Yeltsin signed the final draft of the new Constitution.

The country went to the polls to elect the members to the 450-seat Duma, the Lower House of Parliament, on 12 December. The Central Election Commission announced the results of one-half of the seats on 25 December which were contested by the various political parties. The other seats were contested by individual candidates whose party affiliation would become clear only when the Parliament convened on 11 January, 1994

According to the results announced, the Liberal Democratic Party led by Mr. Vladimir Zhirinovskiy got 59 seats ; the pro-Yeltsin coalition, Russia's Choice, won 40 seats ; Communist Party 32 seats ; Women of Russia 21 seats ; Agrarian Party 21 seats ; Yavlinsky-Boldyrev-Lukin Bloc 20 seats ; Party of Unity and Accord 18 seats ; and Democratic Party of Russia 14 seats.

SOUTH AFRICA

New Constitution : The Parliament, on 22 December, approved by 237

votes to 45 votes a new Constitution granting equal rights to all citizens.

SOUTH KOREA

New PM : Following the resignation of Prime Minister Mr. Hwang Insung on 16 December, the President Mr. Kim Young Sam appointed Mr. Lee Hoi Chang as the New Prime Minister.

TAJIKISTAN

Resignation of PM : On 19 December, Prime Minister Abdullajanov resigned from office.

USA

Resignation of Defence Secretary : The Defence Secretary, Mr. Les Aspin resigned on 16 December.

VENEZUELA

New President : In the Presidential election held on 5 December, former President Mr. Ratael Caldera was declared elected.

DOCUMENTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST

The President's Emoluments and Pension (Amendment) Bill, 1993, sought to provide that Former Presidents would be entitled to free travel anywhere in India, accompanied by one person, by the highest class by Air, Rail or Steamer. Under Section 2 of the President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951, retired Presidents are entitled to the use of a furnished residence without payment of rent, a telephone and a motor car free of charge and Secretarial Staff consisting of a Private Secretary, a Personal Assistant and a Peon. They were, however, not entitled to free travel, except for travel undertaken by them for medical attendance. The Bill proposed to amend the Act of 1951 with a view to providing the retired Presidents with this facility of free travel. The Bill was passed by Lok Sabha on 13 December and Rajya Sabha on 21 December respectively and received President's assent on 26 December, 1993.

The Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1993 sought to amend the Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1958 with a view to enabling the Bar Council of India and the State bar Councils to function more effectively for the betterment of the legal profession. On the basis of various proposals made by the Bar Council of India and certain other bodies and the experience gained in the administration of the Advocates Act, 1961 (25 of 1961), it was found necessary to amend the Act. The Bill was passed by Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 11 and 21 December, respectively and received President's assent on 26 December 1993.

The Public Records Bill, 1993, sought to regulate the management, administration and preservation of Public Records of the Central Government, Union territory Administrations, Public Sector Undertakings, statutory bodies and corporations and Commissions and Committees of the Central Government or the Union territory Administrations which are at present governed by executive instructions. Since such instructions are subject to change without any notice, they affect the functioning of that Government, Union territory Administration and statutory bodies, etc. as also the presentation of facts of history in their proper perspective. The Bill sought to provide legal cover for the responsibilities of the records creating agencies and the archives with respect to the arrangement, management, custody, disposal, deposit and preservation of and access to the public records so that our public records are not only authentic but also

throw light on many grey areas of our history.

It also sought to constitute the Archival Advisory Board to advise the Government on matters relating to Public Records and proper administration of the provisions of the Bill. The Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 23 February, 1993 and by Lok Sabha on 9 December, 1993 and received President's assent on 21 December, 1993.

We reproduce here the text of the above Acts.

—Editor

THE PRESIDENT'S EMOLUMENTS AND PENSION (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1993

An Act further to amend the President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951.

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Forty-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows :-

1. *Short title.* This Act may be called the President's Emoluments and Pension (Amendment) Act, 1993.

2. *Amendment of Section 2 of Act 30 of 1951.* In section 2 of the President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951, in sub-section (2), after clause (c), the following clause shall be inserted, namely :-

"(d) to travel anywhere in India, accompanied by one person, by the highest class by air, rail or steamer."

THE SUPREME COURT JUDGES (CONDITIONS OF SERVICE) AMENDMENT ACT, 1993

An Act further to amend the Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1958

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Forty-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows :-

1. *Short title.* This Act may be called the Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1993.

2. *Amendment of section 23.* In section 23 of the Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1958 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act),-

(a) after sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be inserted,

namely :-

“(1A) Where a Judge does not avail himself of the use of an official residence, he may be paid every month an allowance of three thousand rupees.” :

(b) for sub-section (4), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely :-

“(4) Sub-sections (1), (2) and (3) shall be deemed to have come into force on the 26th day of January, 1950 and sub-section (1A) shall be deemed to have come into force on the 9th day of May, 1986 and any rule made under any of the said sub-sections may be made so as to be retrospective to any date not earlier than the commencement of the respective sub-section.”

3. *Amendment of section 23D.* In section 23D of the principal Act, in clause (a), after the word and figures “section 23”, the words, brackets, figure and letter “or the allowance paid to him under sub-section (1A) of the section” shall be inserted and shall be deemed to have been inserted with effect from the 9th day of May, 1986.

THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT, 1993

An Act to regulate the management, administration and preservation of public records of the Central Government, Union territory Administrations, public sector undertakings, statutory bodies and corporations, commissions and committees constituted by the Central Government or a Union territory Administration and matters connected therewith or incident thereto.

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Forty-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows :-

1. *Short title and commencement.* (1) This Act may be called the Public Records Act, 1993.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

2. *Definitions.* In the Act, unless the context otherwise requires :-

(a) “Board” means the Archival Advisory Board constituted under sub-section (1) of section 13;

(b) “Director General” means the Director General of Archives appointed by the Central Government and includes any officer authorised by that Government to perform the duties of the Director General ;

(c) “head of the Archives” means a person holding the charge of the Archives of the Union territory Administration,

(d) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act;

(e) "public records" includes-

(i) any document, manuscript and file ;(ii) any microfilm, microfiche and facsimile copy of a document ;

(iii) any reproduction of image or images embodied in such microfilm (whether enlarged or not) ; and

(iv) any other material produced by a computer or by any other device, of any records creating agency ;

(f) records creating agency includes,-

(i) in relation to the Central Government, any ministry, department or office of that Government ;

(ii) in relation to any statutory body or corporation wholly or substantially controlled or financed by the Central Government or commission or any committee constituted by that Government, the offices of the said body, corporation, commission or committee ;

(iii) in relation to a Union territory Administration, any department or office of that Administration ;

(iv) in relation to any statutory body or corporation wholly or substantially controlled or financed by Union territory Administration or commission or any committee constituted by that Administration, the offices of the said body, corporation, commission or committee ;

(g) "records officer" means the officer nominated by the records creating agency under sub-section (1) of section 5.

3. Power of the Central Government to coordinate, regulate and supervise operations connected with administration, management, etc., of public records. (1) Central Government shall have the power to coordinate, regulate and supervise the operations connected with administration, management, preservation, selection, disposal and retirement of public records under this Act.

(2) The Central Government in relation to the public records of the records creating agencies specified in sub-clauses (i) and (ii) of clause (f) of section 2 and the Union territory Administration in relation to the public records of the records creating agencies specified in sub-clauses (iii) and (iv) of the said clause, may, by order, authorise the Director General or the head of the Archives, as the case may be, subject to such conditions as may be specified in the order, to carry out all or any of the following functions, namely :-

(a) supervision, management and control of the Archives :

(b) acceptance for deposit of public records of permanent nature after such period as may be prescribed ;

(c) custody, use and withdrawal of public records ;

(d) arrangement, preservation and exhibition of public records ;

(e) preparation of inventories, indices, catalogues and other reference media of public records ;

(f) analysing, developing, promoting and coordinating the standards, procedures and the techniques for improvement of the records management system ;

(g) ensuring the maintenance, arrangement and security of public records in the Archives and in the offices of the records creating agency;

(h) promoting utilisation of available space and maintenance of equipments for preserving public records ;

(i) tendering advice to records creating agencies on the compilation, classification and disposal of records and application of standards, procedures and techniques of records management ;

(j) survey and inspection of public records ;

(k) organising training programmes in various disciplines of Archives administration and records management ;

(l) accepting records from any private source ;

(m) regulating access to public records ;

(n) receiving records from defunct bodies and making arrangement for securing public records in the event of national emergency ;

(o) receiving reports on records management and disposal practices from the records officer ;

(p) providing authenticated copies of, or extracts from, public records;

(q) destroying or disposal of public records ;

(r) obtaining on lease or purchasing or accepting as gift any document of historical or national importance.

4. *Prohibition against taking of public records out of India.* No person shall take or cause to be taken out of India any public records without the prior approval of the Central Government :

Provided that no such prior approval shall be required if any public records are taken or sent out of India for any official purpose.

5. *Records officer.* (1) Every records creating agency shall nominate one of its officers as records officer to discharge the functions under this

Act.

(2) Every records creating agency may set up such number of records rooms in such places as it deems fit and shall place each record room under the charge of a records officer.

6. *Responsibilities of records officer.* (1) The records officer shall be responsible for-

(a) proper arrangement, maintenance and preservation of public records under his charge;

(b) periodical review of all public records and weeding out public records of ephemeral value;

(c) appraisal of public records which are more than twenty-five years old in consultation with the National Archives of India or, as the case may be, the Archives of the Union territory with a view to retaining public records permanent value;

(d) destruction of public records in such manner and subject of such conditions as may be prescribed under sub-section (1) of section 8;

(e) compilation of schedule of retention for public records in consultation with the National Archives of India or, as the case may be, the Archives of the Union territory;

(f) periodical review for downgrading of classified public records in such manner as may be prescribed;

(g) adoption of such standards, procedures and techniques as may be recommended from time to time by the National Archives of India for improvement of record management system and maintenance of security of public records;

(h) compilation of annual indices of public records;

(i) compilation of organisational history and annual supplement thereto;

(j) assisting the National Archives of India or, as the case may be, the Archives of the Union territory for public records management;

(k) submission of annual report to the Director General or, as the case may be, head of the Archives in such manner as may be prescribed;

(l) transferring of records of any defunct body to the National Archives of India or the Archives of the Union territory, as the case may be, for preservation.

(2) The records officer shall act under the direction of the Director General or, as the case may be, head of the Archives while discharging the responsibilities specified in sub section (1).

7. *Records Officer to take appropriate action in the event of*

unauthorised removal, destruction, etc., of public records in his custody.

(1) The records officer shall, in the event of any unauthorised removal, destruction, defacement or alteration of any public records under his charge, forthwith take appropriate action for the recovery or restoration of such public records.

(2) The records officer shall submit a report in writing to the Director General or, as the case may be, the head of the Archives without any delay on any information about any unauthorised removal, destruction, defacement or alteration of any public records under his charge and about the action initiated by him and shall take action as he may deem necessary subject to the directions, if any, given by the Director General or, as the case may be, head of the Archives.

(3) The records officer may seek assistance from any government officer or any other person for the purpose of recovery or restoration of public records and such officer or person shall render all assistance to the records officer.

8. *Destruction or disposal of public records.* (1) Save as otherwise provided in any law for the time being in force, no public record shall be destroyed or otherwise disposed of except in such manner and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed.

(2) No record created before the year 1892 shall be destroyed except where in the opinion of the Director General or, as the case may be, the head of the Archives, it is so defaced or is in such condition that it cannot be put to any archival use.

9. *Penalty for contraventions.* Whoever contravenes any of the provisions of section 4 or section 8 shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees or with both.

10. *Public records bearing security classification.* No public records bearing security classification shall be transferred to the National Archives of India or the Archives of the Union territory.

11. *Receipt of records from private sources.* (1) The National Archives of India or the Archives of the Union territory may accept any record of historical or national importance from any private source by way of gift, purchase or otherwise.

(2) The National Archives of India or, as the case may be, the Archives of any Union territory may, in such manner and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, make any record referred to in sub-section (1) available to any *bona fide* research scholar.

12. *Access to public records.* (1) All unclassified public records as are more than thirty years old and are transferred to the National Archives of

India or the Archives of the Union territory may be, subject to such exceptions and restrictions as may be prescribed made available to any *bona fide* research scholar.

Explanation. - For the purposes of this sub-section, the period of thirty years shall be reckoned from the year of the opening of the public record.

(2) Any records creating agency may grant to any person access to any public record in its custody in such manner and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed.

13. *Archival Advisory Board.* (1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute an Archival Advisory Board for the purposes of this Act.

(2) The Board shall consist of the following members, namely :-

(a) *Chairman, ex officio* ; Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Central Government dealing with culture

(b) *Members, ex officio* ; one officer, not below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India, each from the Cabinet Secretariat, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension

(c) *Members* ; two representatives not below the rank of Joint Secretary in the Union territory Administrations to be nominated by the Central Government

(d) *Members* ; three persons to be nominated by the Central Government for a period not exceeding three years, one being an Archivist and two being Professors in the Post-graduate Department of History in any recognised University.

(e) *Member-Secretary, ex officio.* Director General

(3) The members nominated under clause (d) of sub-section (2) shall be paid such allowances as may be prescribed.

14. *Functions of the Board.* The Board shall perform the following functions, namely :-

(a) advise the Central Government and Union territory Administrations on matters concerning the administration, management, conservation and use of public records ;

(b) lay down guidelines for training of Archivists ;

(c) give directions for acquisition of records from private custody ;

(d) deal with such other matters as may be prescribed.

15. *Power of the Director General to lay down norms and standards*

for courses in archival science. The Director General shall have the power to lay down norms and standards for courses curricula, assessment and examinations relating to the training in archival science and other ancillary subjects.

16. *Protection of action taken in good faith.* No suit, prosecution or other legal proceedings shall lie against any person in respect of anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act or the rules made thereunder.

17. *Power to make rules.* (1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely :-

(a) the period after which public records of permanent nature may be accepted under clause (b) of sub-section (2) of section 3 ;

(b) the manner in which and the conditions subject to which public records can be destroyed under clause (d) of sub-section (1) of section 6;

(c) the manner in which periodical review of classified public records for downgrading shall be undertaken under clause (f) of sub-section (1) of section 6 ;

(d) the manner in which the records officer will report to the Director General or the head of the Archives under clause (k) of sub-section (1) of section 6 ;

(e) the manner in which and the conditions subject to which public records may be destroyed or disposed of under sub-section (1) of section 8;

(f) the manner in which and the conditions subject to which records of historical or national importance may be made available to research scholar under sub-section (2) of section 11;

(g) exceptions and restrictions subject to which public records may be made available to a research scholar under sub-section (1) of section 12;

(h) the manner in which and the conditions subject to which any records creating agency may grant to any person access to public records in its custody under sub-section (2) of section 12;

(i) the allowances payable to members of the Board under sub-section (3) of section 13;

(j) the matters with respect to which the Board may perform its

functions under clause (d) of section 14;

(k) any other matter which is required to be or may be prescribed.

18. *Laying of rules before Parliament.* Every rule made under this Act shall be laid as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

SESSIONAL REVIEW

TENTH LOK SABHA EIGHTH SESSION

The Winter Session (Eighth session) of the Tenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on 2 December 1993, was adjourned *sine die* on 30 December 1993. The House was prorogued by the President of India on 7 January 1994. The House had 20 sittings in all. A brief resume of the important business transacted during the period is given below.

A. MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS/STATEMENTS

Implications of the Dunkel Draft Text on trade negotiations, with special reference to its effect on India's interests: Moving the motion on 6 December 1993, under Rule 342 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, the Minister of Commerce, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, said that India's developmental schemes concerning agriculture, including research, extension, irrigation, soil conservation, etc. would be totally exempt from any restraints. There would also be no obligation to undertake any reduction commitments in respect of any of the input subsidies to farmers. There was, moreover, no dispute whatsoever with India's continuance of its Public Distribution (PDS) system, Shri Mukherjee added.

As regards patents, the Minister assured the House that there would be no obligation for India to patent seeds. Government intended to shortly draft suitable legislation which would incorporate the farmers' right to retain seeds from one crop to another and to exchange seeds in the traditional manner.

Referring to the draft agreement on textiles as a source of great disappointment, the Minister said that Government were trying to obtain enhanced market access in textiles.

Participating in the discussion on 7 December, Shri Indrajit Gupta queried whether the treaty-making powers of the Union could be allowed to adversely affect the right of the farmers to get unrestricted supply of seeds. As regards the entry of foreign supplies of services, according them the most favoured treatment would create a setback for the domestic companies. Shri Gupta also voiced concern over the possibility of dumping and the rise in prices of medicines, drugs and pharmaceuticals and hoped that Government would take into account the views, criticisms and apprehensions expressed by Members.

Continuing on 7 December, Shri P.G. Narayanan urged the Government to re-negotiate on the Dunkel package, after identifying all the unacceptable points in the draft package, whose acceptance might result in curbing India's economic sovereignty and frustrate the pursuit of its development priorities.

Participating in the discussion on 9 December, Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde emphasised that the traditional right of farmers to exchange or sell seeds of their produce must be protected. He said that Government appeared to be very keen to do away with subsidies. However, without subsidy, the cost of production would go up, and we might not be able to compete in the world market. By accepting the existing provisions of the Draft the Government should not mortgage the interests of the farmers and the common people of the country.

Replying to the debate* on 10 December, the Minister of Commerce, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, stated that it would be easy to come out of the GATT but difficult to gain re-entry. It was for the country to decide because the afore-mentioned proposals would not be implemented automatically, but through legislation. In case India did not sign the Dunkel Draft, the transition period of ten years would not be available to us.

Conclusion of Uruguay Round: Making a statement on 16 December 1993, the Minister of Commerce, Shri Pranab Mukherjee said that with the conclusion of the Uruguay Round talks, the overall agreement covering Trade in Goods, Trade in Services, Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights, Trade Related Investment Measures, Trade in Textiles and Trade in Agricultural Commodities had been crystallised for adoption by the Governments of the 117 countries involved in the negotiations. As Governments had clarified in parliament, India was a consistent supporter of an orderly multilateral trading system. Such a system conferred the benefits of the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment to all members, benefits of reduced tariffs and increased market access and the protection of a Multilateral Dispute Settlement Mechanism.

It was expected that the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round would result in significant expansion in world trade as a result of which India should be able to increase its own exports by US \$ 1.5 to 2 billion annually, in addition to the normal growth.

The Standing Committee, attached to the Commerce Ministry, which had gone into the implications of the Dunkel Draft in detail, had recommended in its report, that while all efforts should be made to safeguard India's interests in key sectors of agriculture, textiles, services

*Others who participated in the discussion were Sarvashri Jaswant Singh, P. Chidambaram, Nitish Kumar, Rupchand Pal, Mani Shankar Aiyar, Sudhir Sawant, George Fernandes, Bhogendra Jha, Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, Dr. Ramakrishna Kusumaria and Smt. Malini Bhattacharya.

and Intellectual Property Rights, India should remain a part of the multilateral trading system rather than opting out and getting totally isolated from the rest of the world.

On the whole, the Minister emphasised, India had more to benefit from the expansion of world trade through the Uruguay Round Agreement rather than pursuing any alternative course of action.

Further Discussion and Clarifications on the Uruguay Round Talks: Participating in the discussion on 17 December 1993, Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde noted that the Dunkel Draft did not specify any particular model of *sui generis* system.

Shri Indrajit Gupta wondered whether with the completion of the Uruguay Round a country could continue to impose unilateral trade sanctions. In entering into an international treaty could the rights of the States be ignored, he asked.

Shri P.G. Narayanan contented that while India should not remain out of GATT, before signing the agreement some modifications must be made in the areas of agriculture, textiles and Intellectual Property Rights.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee asked whether the Government was considering any favourable change or improvement, and if so what they were. Further, Shri Chatterjee wanted to know how much the increase in imports would be as a result of the agreement and globalisation.

Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Commerce, Shri Pranab Mukherjee touched on the various points raised by Members, and said that in an international agreement there would have to be a certain amount of give and take.

Irregularities in Securities and Banking Transactions: Raising the discussion under Rule 193 on 29 December 1993, on the Report of the Joint Committee to enquire into irregularities in Securities and Banking Transactions, presented to the House on 21 December 1993, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee said that the Report had the general consensus of all the Members of the Committee. He, however, believed that the Report also had many shortcomings and lacunae. The House would have to seriously consider the question so that such scams were not repeated. It should be explored whether the entire House could agree about the action to be taken against the persons held responsible for the securities scam and against whom adverse comments had been made in the Report, Shri Vajpayee added.

*Others who participated in the discussion were Sarvashri Nitish Kumar, Surya Narain Yadav, Jagmeet Singh Brar, Mohan Singh, Rupchand Pal, Ramesh Chennithala, E. Ahamed, Devendra Prasad Yadav, A. Charles, Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, Syed Shahabuddin, Pawan Kumar Bansal, George Fernandes, Hari Kishore Singh and Bhogendra Jha.

Intervening in the discussion*, the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Salman Khursheed, said that the time had come to seriously think about what moral responsibility entailed. Moral responsibility should be taken and expected to be taken only where there was moral turpitude or something reflecting upon somebody's ability to handle and discharge the duties assigned, the Minister added.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee said that the JPC had indeed done a very commendable job which had enhanced the credibility of the parliamentary system of Government in the country. However, Shri Chatterjee stressed that parliamentary democracy and accountability would be reduced to a mockery if the guilty went unpunished.

Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde held that the Government should have prevented the irregularities and should have seen to it that the bank funds and public funds were utilised in the best possible way in the interest of investors and the people of this country.

Participating in the discussion on 30 December, Shri Indrajit Gupta said that the Report was a great service to the nation and that follow up action must be consistent with the dignity and Report of the Committee.

Intervening in the discussion, the Minister of Commerce, Shri Pranab Mukherjee said that so far as the substance of the issue was concerned, the JPC Report had dealt with it adequately. The Chairman and his colleagues in the JPC had come out with certain positive suggestions for institutional arrangements to prevent a recurrence of the scam.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Chitta Basu said that the pathbreaking JPC Report had made certain valuable recommendations in order to save the economy, parliamentary democracy and democratic values. Shri Basu urged that Government should accept the Report and its recommendations in full and implement it completely as soon as possible.

Intervening in the discussion, the Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Shri B. Shankaranand, clarified that as regards reference to the Oil Investment Development Board (OIDB) in the Report, the OIDB was a statutory body with proper rules and procedures to guide investment procedure and proposals. All that the OIDB had done was to invest funds with the nationalised banks which gave the highest rates of interest.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh, expressed his deep sense of appreciation and gratitude to the members of the JPC and particularly to the Chairman, for a thought

*Others who participated in the discussion were Sarvashri Hari Kishore Singh, Sharad Dighe, Bhogendra Jha, A. Asokaraj, Suraj Mandal, E. Ahamed, Pawan Kumar Bansal, Ram Kapse, Srikanta Jena, Buta Singh, Rupchand Pal, Prithviraj D. Chavan, Guman Mal Lodha and H.D. Devegowda.

provoking Report on the security scam. The Minister said that both as regards the functioning of the banking system and the functioning of the securities market, lessons had been learnt. A vigorous process of reform was under way and Government were fully committed to redressing all weaknesses through remedial measures.

Making a personal explanation under Rule 357 on 30 December, in clarification of certain references made about him in the Report of the JPC to enquire into irregularities in Securities and Banking Transactions, the Minister of State for Finance, Shri Rameshwar Thakur reiterated that none of the files relating exclusively to Harshad Mehta and his group or seeking any action from him (Shri Thakur) were held up at any time and that all of them were cleared without any delay.

Earthquake in maharashtra and adjoining areas: Making a statement in the House on 13 December 1993, the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar, said that the earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale which struck the Marathwada region of the country at 3.56 A.M. on 30 September 1993, had its epicentre at Killari village in AUSA Tehsil of Latur District, in Maharashtra. Although parts of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Goa and Pondicherry also experienced mild tremors, the brunt of damage and destruction was experienced in Latur and Osmanabad.

The relief machinery of the country swung into action immediately. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra, along with Ministers and senior officials reached the site and provided the leadership to organise rescue and relief operations. The rescue operations were substantially completed by 5 October.

The Prime Minister visited the areas on 4 October, assessed the situation and comforted the bereaved families. The Crisis Management Group headed by the Central Relief Commissioner in the Ministry of Agriculture was meeting daily during the crisis period and later periodically to review the situation and provide assistance needed by the State Government from time to time.

Government of India had released Rs. 41.25 crore to assist the State Government in relief and rehabilitation measures. The State Government alone had spent Rs. 38.6 crore on relief and rehabilitation measures.

The people of this country contributed very generously to the relief and rehabilitation efforts. The spontaneous offer of money, material and expertise from a wide range of foreign donors had proved the solidarity and innate humanism of the international community in times of extreme crisis like this, the Minister said.

Initiating the discussion under Rule 193 on 21 December, on the statement made by the Minister of Agriculture, Shri Ram Naik expressed

thanks to the people of Maharashtra and the voluntary organisations who helped in rescue operations.

Participating in the discussion, Shri P.G. Narayanan said that while such disasters could not be predicted with accuracy, there should nevertheless be a plan of action to cope with and face the upheaval, and provide all possible help to the affected.

Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Bal Ram jakhar, said that it was not possible to express the severity of the tragedy in words. The Government wanted that the earthquake victims who had survived in that area should be given all possible help. The Government were engaged in the task. All types of medical facilities had been provided in the affected villages. Arrangements were being made to provide drinking water also. The timely rescue operation undertaken by the Government had prevented the outbreak of any epidemic in the affected area, the Minister added.

Education For All Summit: Making a statement in the House on 21 December 1993, the Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Arjun Singh, said that India was privileged to host an Education For All Summit of Nine High Population Countries in New Delhi on 16 December 1993.

The Summit was preceded by ministerial level discussions on 13-15 December. In a series of panel discussions held over three days, distinguished educationists and Ministers reflected upon key issues and the challenges facing education for all, in each of the countries and in the world community at large. The focus was on specific themes like: "Mobilization, People's Participation and Decentralization for EFA"; External and Internal Financial Resources for EFA"; "Girls' and Women's Education, Women's Empowerment and Population Issues"; and, "Education and Society". A major and tangible outcome had been the decision to have a nine-country collaborative effort on distance education to reach out to populations not served by the formal school systems.

The Nine High Population Countries adopted the "Delhi Declaration and a Framework for Action" to implement the pledge and identify possible priority areas of cooperation, the Minister added.

Situation arising out of the recent cyclone/flood in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry: Making a statement in the House on 21 December 1993, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture, Shri Arvind Netam, said that in Tamil Nadu, the coastal districts bore the immediate onslaught of the

*Others who participated in the discussion were Sarvashri Murli Deora, Anna Joshi, R. Jeevarathinam, Ramchandra Marotrao Ghangare, Ashok Anandarao Deshmukh, Ram Kapse, Manikrao Holdya Gavit, Ramashray Prasad Singh, A. Charles, V. Dhananjay Kumar, Rameshwar Patidar, Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya, Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu, Smt. Kesharbai Sonaji Kshirsagar and Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil.

cyclonic storm and heavy rains in December 1993 resulting in the loss of 111 lives and damage to over 1.61 lakh huts. The Government of Tamil Nadu undertook timely relief measures in the affected areas. Because of precautionary measures taken by the Pondicherry Administration like evacuation of people to safer places, no loss of human life occurred. Preliminary assessment by the Pondicherry Administration indicated damage of the order of Rs. 40.56 crore in various sectors.

The Government of Tamil Nadu and Administration of Pondicherry both swiftly responded in arranging for rescue and relief operations. The Centre fully sympathised with the hardship and suffering caused to the persons affected by the cyclone in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry and would render whatever assistance possible in undertaking suitable rehabilitation programme.

Scheme for Small Works Programme for the Constituencies of Members of Parliament: Making a statement in the House, on 23 December 1993, the Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao said that the Government of India had decided to introduce a new scheme to be called "MPs' Local Area Development Scheme". Under this each Member of Parliament would have the freedom to suggest to the District Collector, works to be done, not exceeding Rs. 1 crore per year, within his or her constituency. Members of Rajya Sabha would nominate one district in the State from which he or she was elected and where the works would be undertaken. The funds would be released to the District Collector directly by the Ministry of Rural Development, who would operate the scheme.

The work to be undertaken under this scheme would include, among others, constructing school buildings, providing drinking water, constructing roads, bridges, shelters, small irrigation schemes, public reading rooms, creches, primary health centres, public toilets and drainage, provision of electricity, etc. and other items specified by the Union Government from time to time, the Prime Minister stated, adding that this was only an illustrative list. Also, a token provision of Rs. 5 lakh per Member of Parliament was being proposed in the current year, but from 1994-95 the full provision would be made.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Census (Amendment) Bill, 1992: Moving the motion for the consideration of the Bill * on 9 December 1993, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that it was felt that the existing provisions of the Census Act, 1948, were not adequate to tackle the problems being increasingly experienced during successive census rounds. In order to ensure that the census work was not hindered or disrupted, it was deemed necessary to

*The Bill was introduced on 18 December 1992.

amend the Census Act.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Amendment Bill, 1992: Moving the motion for the consideration of the Bill * on 9 December 1993, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that Parliament enacted a law in 1982 to lay down the allowances and privileges of Governors. Proviso (a) of section 3 of the said Act provides that if a Governor, at the time of his appointment is in receipt of a pension in respect of any previous Government service, his emoluments shall be reduced by the amount of that pension. Those persons retiring from Government got a liberalised treatment on re-employment. Therefore, it would be appropriate if similar benefit were given to Governors with effect from 1 June 1988.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Somnath Chatterjee maintained that the whole concept of Governors had created a serious situation. Even the Sarkaria Commission had expressed misgivings. The Central Government had a responsibility for maintenance of the constitutional structure in the country, Shri Chatterjee said, adding that Governors also act as duty appointed constitutional authority.

Replying to the debate, the Minister of House Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan assured the House that the Government were interested in maintaining the federal structure of the country. The Sarkaria Commission had made a number of recommendations as to what needed to be taken into account at the time of appointment of Governors.

The bill, as amended, was passed.

Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1991 and High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1992 : Moving the motion for the consideration of the Bills** on 11 December 1993, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj said that the first Bill sought to provide that where a Judge of the Supreme Court did not avail himself of the official residence, he would be paid an allowance of Rs. 3000/- per month and this allowance would not be included in his income chargeable under section 15 of the Income Tax Act, 1961. The other Bill sought to exempt Leave Travel Concessions from Income Tax.

Replying to the debate***, the Minister agreed with the suggestion that radical reforms were required in the judicial and legal system, in consultation with the States. A more effective and less expensive system

*The Bill was introduced on 3 March 1992.

**The Bill were introduced on 20 December 1991, and 1 December 1992, respectively.

*** Others who participated in the discussion were, Sarvashri Pawan Kumar Bansal, Sri Ballav Panigrahi, Syed Shahabuddin, Bhogendra Jha and Ku. Mamta Banerjee.

for rural litigation was required. The Government were trying to ensure that Judges functioned impartially and independently and that the people were satisfied with the quality of justice they administered.

The Bills, as amended, were passed.

Statutory Resolution regarding disapproval of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance, 1993, and, Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1993: Moving the Resolution on 13 December 1993, Smt. Geeta Mukherjee said that she wished to put on record her party's opposition to the practice of issuing Ordinances.

Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill*, on the same day, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs Shri H.R. Bhardwaj said that the President, in exercise of the powers under Article 324 (2) of the Constitution, had fixed the number of Election Commissioners other than Chief Election Commissioner, at two with effect from 1 October 1993. As Parliament was not in session, the president promulgated the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance, 1993 on 1 October 1993. The present Bill sought to replace this Ordinance by an Act of Parliament.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Somnath Chatterjee said that the Government had rightly decided to bring forward this Bill in order to decide what would be the functions of the Election Commissioners. In future, while selecting the incumbents, wider consultations should be done.

Shri Sharad Yadav suggested, with reference to the constitution of the multi-member Election Commission, that the Speaker, Lok Sabha, the Chairman, Rajya Sabha and a Judge of the Supreme Court should also be associated in the selection of members of the Commission.

Replying to the discussion**, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj, emphasised that the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) remained the Chairman of the Commission. It had been provided, and it was universally accepted, that the institution would function on the basis of unanimous decision, or at least majority decision. There could be no other principle in an institution where more than one person functioned.

*The Bill was introduced on 6 December 1993.

** Others who participated in the discussion were. Sarvashri Saifuddin Chaudhury, Sharad Dighe, Nitish Kumar, V.S. Vijayaraghavan, M.R. Kadambur Janarthanan, Kamla Mishra Madhukar, Hari Kishore Singh, Umrao Singh, Vijay Kumar Yadav, P.C. Chacko, Bhogendra Jha, Tej Narayan Singh, Sriballav Panigrahi, Ramashray Prasad Singh, Dr. Debi Prosad Pal and Dr. Kartikeswar Patra.

Smt. Geeta Mukherjee sought the leave of the House to withdraw the Statutory Resolution. The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn. The Bill was passed.

Statutory Resolution regarding Disapproval of the Protection of Human Rights Ordinance, 1993, and Protection of Human Rights Bill, 1993: Moving the Resolution on 14 December 1993, Smt. Geeta Mukherjee said that promulgation of the Ordinance had not helped to check human rights violations.

Moving the motion for the consideration of the Bill*, on the same day, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan, said that the phenomenon of terrorism had grown into a major challenge to the system and a threat to peace and stability of the society at large. No system could be ideal and there were bound to be weaknesses and shortcomings. It was Government's effort to continuously review all shortcomings and take effective measures to rectify them and further strengthen the system, the Minister said.

A Chief Ministers' Conference on Human Rights convened in September 1992 had welcomed the proposal to set up a National Human Rights Commission. After four seminars in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Hyderabad and that of the Bar Council of India, the Union Home Secretary had detailed discussions with Chief Secretaries and Directors-General of Police of the State Governments. After discussing the proposal with Leaders of political parties in Parliament, the Human Rights Commission Bill was prepared.

Participating in the discussion on 18 December, Shri P.C. Thomas said that the power given to the Commission to study the International Treaties and Covenants and to make recommendations would do some good.

Replying to the discussion**, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan, stressed that every effort would be made to ensure that the letter and spirit of the Bill were properly implemented.

The Resolution was negatived and the Bill, as amended, was passed.

C. THE QUESTION HOUR

During the Session the Question Hour was fixed for 17 sittings. On 20 December, the House was adjourned for the day due to death of Shri Shiva Sharan Sinha, a sitting Member of the Lok Sabha, immediately after

* The Bill was introduced on 9 December 1993.

**Others who participated in the discussion were Sarvashri George Fernandes, Ramesh Chennithala, Ram Vilas Paswan, A. Charles, Syed Shahabuddin, Sudhir Sawant, Jagmeet Singh Brar, Dr. (Smt.) K.S. Soundaram and Smt. Dil Kumari Bhandari.

obituary reference. The answers to the Questions listed for the day were, therefore, treated as Unstarred and printed in the official Report for the day.

The sitting of Lok Sabha for 24 December was cancelled. Replies to both Starred and Unstarred Questions for the day were treated as Unstarred and were laid on the Table of the House at the next sitting, *i.e.* on 29 December, the extended period of the House where no question Hour was fixed.

It was decided that with effect from the 8th Session of Tenth Lok Sabha, a complete set of replies to questions be sent to the Office of Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.

Daily average of Questions: The average number of Starred Questions answered orally on the floor of the House during the Session was two. The maximum number of Starred Questions answered on a day was 5 on 7, 13, 21, 22 and 23 December, and the minimum number was 3, on 6 December.

The average number of Questions in the Unstarred List came to 221 against the prescribed limit of 230, the minimum being 167 questions on 2 December and maximum being 239 on 22 December.

Half-an-Hour-Discussion: In all 21 Notices of Half-an-Hour Discussion were received during the Session. Out of these, one notice was included in the List of Business but could not be discussed on the floor of the House.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

The following obituary references were made: Sarvashri Nani Bhattacharya, Frank Anthony and Shiva Sharan Sinha (sitting Members); Shri Santanu Kumar Das (Member, Constituent Assembly); Shri Bhopinder Singh Man (member, Constituent Assembly and provisional Parliament); Sarvashri Purnendu Sekhar Naskar, Dwarka Nath Tiwary, Narendra P. Nathwani, Hitendra Desai, K. Veeriah, K. Janardhan Reddy, P. Venkatasubbaiah, Raj Mangal Pande, H.M. Patel, Samarendra Kundu, Giridhari Bhoi, Ram Samujhawan and Smt. Krishna Mehta (former Members); and Shri J.R.D. Tata (doyen of Indian industry).

RAJYA SABHA

HUNDRED AND SIXTY-NINTH SESSION*

The Rajya Sabha met for its Hundred and Sixty-Ninth Session on 2 December 1993, and adjourned *Sine die* on 30 December 1993. A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted

*Contributed by the Research and Library Section, Rajya Sabha Secretariat

during the Session is given below:

A. DISCUSSIONS

Earthquake in Maharashtra and Adjoining Areas: Making a statement on 13 December 1993 on the situation arising out of the earthquake in Maharashtra and adjoining areas and the relief and rehabilitation measures taken by the Government, the Minister of Agriculture Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar said that an earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter Scale struck the marathwada region of the country just before day-break at 3.56 A.M. on 30 September 1993. It had its epicentre at Killari village in Ausa Tehsil of Latur district in Maharashtra.

Referring to various rescue measures, the Minister said that Army columns comprising of sappers, engineers and medical and para-medical units with field equipment moved in from Bombay, Pune and Secunderabad within 24 hours of the earthquake. They numbered 10,000 and mounted one of the largest peace time operations in independent India's history. The Army succeeded in rescuing over 9,000 injured; in addition over 6,000 dead were removed and cremated or buried.

At the Central level, the Crisis Management Group (CMG) headed by the Cabinet Secretary considered measures to be taken by various Central Government agencies. Government of India released Rs. 41.25 crore to assist the State Government in relief and rehabilitation measures. The State Government also spent Rs. 38.6 crore on relief and rehabilitation measures.

The Minister said that voluntary work by a large number of agencies-public and private- played a crucial role in alleviating the misery of the affected people. The spontaneous offer of financial assistance, material and expertise for relief and rehabilitation from a wide range of foreign donors which included foreign Governments, UN bodies, non-governmental organisations and individuals and the compassion expressed by them had proved the solidarity and innate humanism of the international community in times of crisis like the Latur earthquake.

The Minister further informed that the area affected by the calamity had been classified seismically as Zone-I which was considered least vulnerable to moderate and great earthquakes. That assumption had been belied and, therefore, there was the need for re-assessment of the seismic zoning classification, especially in peninsular India. The Prime Minister had already announced Government's intention to undertake the review speedily. In that connection, a Committee by the Government of India to look into the inadequacies of the existing measures had submitted its report which was under consideration. Besides, a Task Force to examine the need for seismic instrumentation and an Expert Committee for updating the project document on seismic observations were already at work, the Minister added.

The Uruguay Round of Trade Negotiations: Making a statement on 16 December 1993 on the Uruguay Round of Trade Negotiations, the Minister of Commerce, Shri Pranab Mukherjee said that the Uruguay Round talks had been concluded and an overall agreement governing Trade in Goods, Trade in Services, Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), Trade Related Investment Measures (TRIMS), Trade in Textiles, and Trade in Agricultural Commodities had been crystallised for adoption and ratification by Governments of 117 countries which had been involved in the negotiations. As the Government had clarified in both Houses of Parliament earlier also, India had been a consistent supporter of an orderly multilateral trading system. Such a system conferred the benefits of the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment to all members such as benefits of reduced tariffs and increased market access and the protection of Multilateral Dispute Settlement Mechanism.

The Minister said that it was expected that the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round would result in significant expansion in world trade as a result of which India would be able to increase its own exports by US dollars 1.5 to 2 billion annually in addition to the normal growth. The reduction in export subsidies on agriculture by developed countries would make India's agricultural exports more competitive in world markets.

The Minister said that while India had initially not been in favour of inclusion of TRIPS in the scope of the Uruguay Round, it had ultimately to go along with the rest of the world community. A country like India which did not recognize product patents in the field of drugs, food products and chemicals had been allowed a transition period of 10 years for establishing a product patent regime for such items. The fears regarding inordinate rise in the price of patented drugs after the introduction of product patents were not quite justified because under the agreement, Government would be able to undertake compulsory licensing for non-commercial public use as well as to prevent situations of either inadequate availability or exorbitant pricing. Besides, Government retained the right to institute price control on drugs.

As regards the agreement on TRIMS, the Government retained its sovereign right to decide what type of foreign investment it wished to allow into the country. Conditions could also be imposed regarding fulfilment of export obligations to balance the outgo and inflow of foreign exchange by such ventures. The only requirement under the agreement was that once a unit had been allowed to come into the country it would be treated at par with other indigenous units in terms of regulations and policies.

As regards textiles, though the extension of the quota regime by importing countries for another 10 years and annual rate of enhancement of the import quotas was unsatisfactory, the commitment to finally phase out the quota regime after 10 years was a positive gain for textile exporting countries, including India. In the final hours of the Round, an attempt was made by some industrialised countries to alter the textile agreement to

India's disadvantage. The argument given was that India, while benefiting from the open trading system and in spite of being competitive in textiles, had kept its market closed. India took the position that the multi-fibre agreement was a derogation from General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), and the integration of the textiles trade into GATT was not something that required any contribution from it. The Government successfully resisted concerted moves to extend the period of integration of textile trade from 10 years to 15 years by taking a strong position on the issue.

The Standing Committee of Parliament attached to the Commerce Ministry had gone into the implications of the Dunkel Draft in great detail. The Committee had recommended in its report, that while all efforts should be made to safeguard India's interests in key sectors of agriculture, textiles, services and Intellectual Property Rights, at the end of the day, India should remain a part of the multilateral trading system rather than opting out of the same and getting totally isolated from the rest of the world, the Minister added.

JPC Report to enquire into irregularities in Securities and Banking transactions: Initiating a short duration discussion on 29 December 1993, Shri Ashok Mitra appealed to each member of Parliament to judge the outcome of the JPC Report. The fate of India could only be decided by the ordinary men and women and, therefore, members must know their reactions, their emotions and their feelings about the Report. Referring to the period of the scam, the member said that most of the diversion of public funds took place between December 1991 and April 1992; and most of the loss came in the month of May. It was the six-month period between December 1991 and May 1992 which was crucial.

The member observed that in a parliamentary system, accountability finally had to rest with the Minister. Therefore, the Minister was responsible for what had happened. Neither the Finance Minister nor the Finance Secretary nor the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) could say that they acted independently and hence they should not be blamed for the blemishes attached to others. If the Government wanted to save the system then it had to pin-point accountability, the member added.

Replying to the discussion, on 30 December 1993*, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that the scam had been actually going

* Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Vishvjit P. Singh, Madan Bhatia, Shankar Dayal Singh, Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare, Mohinder Singh Lather, N.K.P. Salve, S. Viduthalai Virumbi, R.K. Dhawan, S. Muthu Mani, V. Narayanasamy, N. Giri Prasad, Pranab Mukherjee, Mentay Padmanabham, Rajni Ranjan Sahu, P. Upendra, Sunder Singh Bhandari, Ahmed Mohmedbhai Patel, Dineshbhai Trivedi, Tindivanam G. Venkatraman, Surinder Kumar Singla, Anand Prakash Gautam, Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar, Jagmohan, Ram Jethmalani, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, Dr. Subramanian Swamy and Smt. Renuka Chowdhury.

on since 1986. In the first Budget that he had presented, the grave weaknesses of India's financial system had been pointed out; he had also announced the appointment of the Narasimham Committee. In the same Budget speech, he had referred to the need for strengthening the regulations of the Indian capital market and made an announcement for giving statutory powers to the Securities and Exchange Board (SEBI). Explaining further, the Minister said that he had specifically asked the RBI to ensure that no bank credit was given for financing speculation in the stock market. The SEBI was constituted on 27 February 1992. On 8 April 1992, the transactions which were already banned in Bombay were banned in Calcutta and Delhi also. Therefore, the charge that the Minister of Finance had failed to anticipate the problem and did not take any anticipatory or corrective action was not substantiated.

The Minister said that the JPC had made very useful recommendations, all of which would be examined with seriousness. He assured the House that nobody, whether they were foreign bankers or Government officials, would be spared. The Government was determined to see that India's financial system hereafter would not be vulnerable to any such things, he added.

Talks between India and Nepal on Water Resources Development: Making a statement on 30 December 1993, the Minister of Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla said that even though talks for cooperation in water resources development between India and Nepal had been going on for a long time, a new thrust was seen emerging after the return of democracy in Nepal, in 1990. The Prime Minister of Nepal had visited India in December 1991 and our Prime Minister had visited Nepal in October 1992. The talks were being held earlier from 1971 at the official level and since 1988 at the Sub-Commission level headed by the respective Secretaries of Water Resources. The understanding reached during the visits of the two Prime Minister provided decisions regarding the Karnali, Pancheshwar and Sapta Kosi multi-purpose projects, medium size projects, flood embankments and flood forecasting schemes. In addition, decisions were also arrived at for the Tanakpur project and exchange of power between the two countries at the borders.

Referring to his visit to Nepal, the Minister said that during his talks there India was able to persuade their Nepalese counterparts to prepare an action plan jointly for working together on the various projects agreed to during the Indian Prime Minister's visit to Nepal, so that compliance could be expeditious. In accordance with the new time-frame agreed for the action plan, various activities were scheduled to begin in the year 1994.

The Minister said that problems faced by the two countries in this field were common. The power generated was acutely needed for utilisation in developmental works in both the countries. The utilisation in developmental works in both the countries. The reservoir projects, apart from generation

of hydro-electric power, also provided additional benefits in terms of irrigation and flood control. It was suggested that Indian financial institutions and even international ones could be brought in for implementation of projects on which there would be agreements. India and Nepal could make joint endeavours to mobilise the required finances from bilateral and multilateral funding agencies for such projects. Nepal was also willing to accept private sector participation.

The Minister said that the main difficulty in taking up new projects was due to lack of agreement on cost and benefit sharing from the projects. It was suggested that the two countries should work together and finalise the criteria for apportioning the project cost between the different components and methods of evaluating mutual benefits. To expedite the progress of work in different projects being looked after by separate groups, the Nepalese side had agreed for monitoring the activities quarterly and reviewing bi-annually by the respective Ministers of the two Governments, Shri Shukla added.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

*The Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Amendment Bill, 1993**: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 13 December 1993, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that Parliament had enacted a law namely, the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1993 to lay down the allowances and privileges of Governors. By an amendment to section 3, the emoluments payable to Governors were raised to Rs. 11,000/- per mensem. Proviso (a) of section 3 provided that if a Governor, at the time of his appointment was in receipt of a pension, his emoluments should be reduced. The pension equivalent of retirement gratuity had been made non-deductible with effect from 1 June 1988, by an order of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions dated 3 June 1988. Persons retiring from the Government, therefore, got a liberalised treatment on re-employment. Therefore, it should be appropriate if similar benefit was given to Governors also with effect from 1 June 1988.

The Bill was passed on the same day.

*The chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1993***: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 20 December 1993, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj, said that the Committee on Electoral Reforms, headed by the then Law Minister, Shri

* The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, was Laid on the Table on 9 December 1993.

** The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, was Laid on the Table on 14 December 1993.

Dinesh Goswami had recommended that the Election Commission should be a three-member body.

With the Election Commission becoming a three-member body, it became necessary to make provisions for transaction of business of the multi-member Commission. The powers of the Election Commission to regulate, and the procedure for transaction of its business as also allocation of its business amongst the Chief Election Commissioner and the other Election Commissioners were proposed under section 10. As the Parliament was not in Session, the President promulgated the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance, 1993 on 1 October 1993. The present Bill sought to replace that Ordinance by an Act of Parliament.

The Bill was Passed on the same day.

The press Council (Amendment) Bill, 1992*: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 21 December 1993, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Shri K.P. Singh Deo said that according to section 5 of the press Council Act, 1978, the press Council should have two representatives from each of the categories of big newspapers, medium newspapers and small newspapers. With the growth of the circulation of newspapers/periodicals, their classification needed to be reviewed from time to time. The Minister proposed to amend the explanation as given under sub-section (3) of the said section 5 to enable the Government to notify from time to time, the revised classification on the basis of review of total circulation.

According to the revised classification, newspapers/periodicals were considered as small, medium and big, respectively, if their circulation per publishing day was up to 25,000 copies, above 25,000 copies upto 75,000 copies and above 75,000 copies, respectively.

The Bill was passed on the same day.

The Protection of Human Rights Bill, 1993**: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 22 December 1993, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that over the past few years there had been growing concern on issues relating to human rights the world over. The environment in which the law enforcement agencies had to function had also become very complex and, therefore, for bringing greater transparency and accountability into the present system it was felt that a National Human Rights Commission should be established in India.

A Conference of Chief Ministers on the issue of Human Rights was convened in September 1992, which endorsed the proposal to establish

* The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 1 December 1992.

** The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, was Laid on the Table on 20 December 1993.

a **National Human Rights Commission**. Pursuant to that Conference, wide-ranging discussions were held and after consultations, a Bill was drawn up for establishing a National Human Rights Commission, which was introduced in Parliament on 14 May 1993. The Bill was referred to the Departmentally-related Standing Committee on Home Affairs. Due to certain situations it was considered necessary to speedily bring to fruition the exercise that had commenced over a year ago for establishing the National Human Rights Commission. The Protection of Human Rights Ordinance was, therefore, promulgated on 28 September 1993 after incorporating substantial changes in the original Human Rights Commission Bill, 1993. Almost all the amendments suggested by the Standing Committee on the various provisions of the Bill had been incorporated in the Ordinance. Later, the relevant Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha with a few amendments, on 18 December 1993.

The Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 22 December 1993.

C. QUESTION HOUR

During the 169th Session of the Rajya Sabha 7,030 notices of questions (6,772 Starred and 258 Unstarred) were received. Out of these, 341 Starred Questions and 3,525 Unstarred Questions were admitted. 7 Short Notice Questions were received but none was admitted. After lists of Questions were printed 12 Starred and 100 Unstarred Questions were transferred from one Ministry to the other.

Daily Average of Questions: Each of the lists of Starred Questions contained 16 to 21 Questions. On an average, 4 Questions were orally answered per sitting. The maximum number of Questions orally answered was 9 on 14 December 1993 and the minimum number of Questions orally answered was 1 on 8 December 1993.

The minimum number of Questions admitted in the list of Unstarred Questions was 97 on 2 December 1993 and their maximum number was 312 on 22 December 1993. Their average come to 206.

Half-an-Hour-Discussions: 16 notices of Half-an-Hour Discussions were received out of which 3 were admitted and discussion was held only on one.

Statement correcting answers to Questions: 5 statements correcting answers to Questions answered in the House were made/laid by the Ministers concerned.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, references were made to the passing away of Shri

T. Chandrasekhar Reddy, sitting member; Sarvashri Lalchand Hirachand Doshi, Valadi Ganpathi Gopal, Debabrata Mockerjee, B.L. Panwar, all former members; Shri Frank Anthony, nominated member of the Lok Sabha; and Shri J.R.D. Tata. Members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

STATE LEGISLATURES

HIMACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Eighth Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, which commenced its First Session on 14 December 1993, was adjourned *sine die* on 17 December 1993. The House was prorogued by the Governor on 19 December. There were four sittings in all.

Election of Speaker and Deputy Speaker : The election to the office of the Speaker was held on 15 December. Seven motions, all proposing the name of Shri Kaul Singh Thakur were moved. The first motion, moved by Shri Virbhadra Singh, Chief Minister and seconded by Shri Sat Mahajan was unanimously adopted by the House and Shri Kaul Singh Thakur was elected as the Speaker of the Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha.

The election to the office of the Deputy Speaker took place on 17 December. Three motions, all proposing the name of Shri Kuldip Kumar, were moved. The first motion, moved by Shri Sant Ram, Minister of Forest and seconded by Shri Mahender Singh, was unanimously adopted by the House and Shri Kuldip Kumar was elected the Deputy Speaker.

Obituary references : During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of Shri Jagdev Chand, member-elect to the Eighth Vidhan Sabha and Sarvashri Kanwar Inder Singh, Vaid Surat Singh, Ram Rakha Mall and Bakshi Pratap Singh, all former members of Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha.

MADHYA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Tenth Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, which commenced its First Session on 23 December 1993, was adjourned *sine die* on 30 December.

Election of Speaker and Deputy Speaker: The election to the office of the Speaker was held on 24 December. Shri Shrinivas Tiwari, a Congress (I) member representing the Mangawa constituency, was unanimously elected as the Speaker. He was then conducted to the Chair by the Chief Minister Shri Digvijay Singh and the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Vikram Verma.

*Material contributed by the Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha Secretariat

**Material contributed by the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

Shri Bhalrual Patidar of the BJP was unanimously elected as the Deputy Speaker on 28 December. The name of Shri Bhairulal Patidar was proposed by the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Vikram Verma and was seconded by Shri Rajendra Prasad Shukla, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

Governor's Address: The Governor of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Mohammad Shafi Qureshi addressed the House on 24 December. The Motion of Thanks on the Governor's Address was moved by Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi, MLA which was seconded by Shri Raj Kumar Patel, MLA. The Motion was taken up for discussion from 27 to 29 December and was adopted by the House.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of Shri Mohammed Hidayatullah, former Vice-President of India; Shri Bhagwat Dayal Sharma and Prof. Syed Nurul Hasan, former Governors of Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal, respectively; Shri Ziaur Rehman Ansari, former Union Minister; Shri Frank Anthony, former Member of Parliament; and Shri R. Gundu Rao, former Chief Minister of Karnataka.

Obituary references were also made on the demise of some former Members of the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha. Besides, tributes were paid to Shri J.R.D. Tata, renowned industrialist; Shri S.K. Jha, former Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court ; and Shri Fakhruddin Shah, a famous social worker of Bhopal. Tributes were also paid to the victims of the earthquake in Maharashtra and Karnataka.

ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Tenth Orissa Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Twelfth Session (Winter Session) on 1 November 1993, was adjourned *sine die* at the end of a ten-day long session

Financial Business : On the opening day, the first Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the year 1993-94 was presented. Three days were allotted for discussion on the Supplementary Demands and one day for consideration and passing of the Appropriation Bill on the first Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the year 1993-94.

Legislative Business : During the Session, eleven Bills, *viz.* (a) The Orissa Special Courts (Amendment) Bill, 1993 ; (b) The Orissa Grama Panchayats (Second Amendment) Bill, 1993 ; (c) The Orissa Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1993 ; (d) The Orissa Rural Employment, Education & Production (Amendment) Bill, 1993 ; (e) The Orissa Sales Tax (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1993 ; (f) The Orissa

*Material contributed by the Orissa Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

Entertainment Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1993 ; (g) The Orissa Panchayat Samiti (Second Amendment) Bill, 1993 ; (h) The Orissa Panchayati Raj Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 1993 ; (i) The Orissa Civil Courts (Amendment) Bill, 1993 ; (j) The Orissa Fire Services Bill, 1993 ; and (k) The Orissa Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1993 were considered and passed by the House.

Obituary references : During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of Shri Bhago Gobardhan, former Union Minister ; and Sarvashri N.N. Chaudhary, Santanu Kumar Das and M.M. Pradhan (all former Members).

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APPENDIX-I
STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED
DURING THE 8TH SESSION OF THE
10TH LOK SABHA

1. PERIOD OF THE SESSION	2 December to 30 December 1993
2. NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	20
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	94 hours and 17 minutes
4. NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	4
5. GOVERNMENT BILLS	
i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	27
ii) Introduced	7
iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Rajya Sabha	5
iv) Returned by Rajya Sabha with any amendment/recommendation and Laid on the Table	1
v) Referred to Select Committee	1
vi) Referred to Joint Committee	Nil
vii) Reported by Select Committee	1
viii) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
ix) Referred to Departmentally Related Standing Committee by Speaker/Chairman, Rajya Sabha.	2
x) Reported by Standing Committee	4
xi) Discussed	19
xii) Passed	17
xiii) Withdrawn	1
xiv) Negatived	Nil
xv) Part-discussed	2
xvi) Discussion postponed	Nil
xvii) Returned by Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	4
xviii) Motion for concurrence to refer the Bill to Joint Committee adopted	Nil
xix) Pending at the end of the Session	22
6. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	256
ii) Introduced	9
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	2
viii) Passed	Nil
ix) Withdrawn	1
x) Negatived	1
xi) Circulated for eliciting opinion	Nil

xii) Part-discussed	Nil
xiii) Discussion postponed	Nil
xiv) Motion for circulation of Bill negatived	Nil
xv) Referred to Select Committee	Nil
xvi) Removed from the Register of Pending Bills	5
xvii) Pending at the end of the Session	258
7. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 193 (Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
i) Notices received	207
ii) Admitted	3
iii) Discussion held	3
iv) Part-discussed	1
8. NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 197 (Calling attention to matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
Statement 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	Nil
11. STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	
i) Notices received	70
ii) Admitted	5
iii) Moved	5
iv) Adopted	Nil
v) Negatived	3
vi) Withdrawn	2
12. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
i) Notices received	1
ii) Admitted	1
iii) Moved	Nil
iv) Adopted	Nil
13. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
i) Received	5
ii) Admitted	5
iii) Discussed	2
iv) Adopted	Nil
v) Negatived	1
vi) Withdrawn	Nil
vii) Part-discussed	1
viii) Discussions postponed	Nil

14. GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

i) Notices received	4
ii) Admitted	4
iii) Discussed	1
iv) Adopted	NII
v) Part-discussed	NII

15. PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

i) Notices received	548
ii) Admitted	134
iii) Moved	NII
iv) Discussed	NII
v) Adopted	NII
vi) Negatived	NII
vii) Withdrawn	NII
viii) Part-discussed	NII

16. MOTION REG : MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE

i) Received	2
ii) Admitted	NII
iii) Moved	NII
iv) Discussed	NII
v) Adopted	NII
vi) Negatived	NII
vii) Withdrawn	NII
viii) Part-discussed	NII

17. NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES CREATED, IF ANY, DURING THE SESSION

NII

18. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS PASSES ISSUED DURING THE SESSION

9806

19. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS PASSES ISSUED ON SINGLE DAY AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED

1290 on

30 December, 1993

20. NUMBER OF ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

i) Brought before the House	NII
ii) Admitted	NII
iii) Barred in view of adjournment motion admitted on the subject	NII
iv) Consent withheld by Speaker outside the House	24
v) Consent given by Speaker but leave not asked for by members concerned	NII

21. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED

i) Starred	340
ii) Unstarred	3772
iii) Short Notice Questions	NII

22. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Sl. No.	Name of the Committee	No. of sittings held during the period 1 October to 31 December 1993	No. of Reports presented to the House
1	2	3	4
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	-	-
(ii)	Committee on Absence of Members	-	-
(iii)	Committee on Public Undertaking	7	4
(iv)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	1	3
(v)	Committee on Petitions	4	2
(vi)	Committee on Private Members	1	1
	Bills and Resolutions		
(vii)	Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	-	-
(viii)	Committee of Privileges	5	2
(ix)	Committee on Government Assurances	3	4
(x)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	2	-
(xi)	Estimates Committee	4	2
(xii)	General Purposes Committee	-	-
(xiii)	House Committee	-	-
	(a) Accommodation Sub-Committee	-	-
	(b) Sub-Committee on Amenities	-	-
	(c) Sub-Committee on Furnishing	-	-
(xiv)	Public Accounts Committee	-	-
(xv)	Railway Convention Committee	3	-
(xvi)	Rules Committee	-	-

JOINT/SELECT COMMITTEES

(i)	Joint Committee on Offices of Profit	4	-
(ii)	Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament	-	-
(iii)	Joint Committee on Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1994	-	-

(iv)	Joint Committee on Constitution (Seventy-Third Amendment) Bill, 1991	-	-
(v)	Joint Committee on the Copyright (Second Amendment) Bill, 1992	-	-
(vi)	Joint Committee on the Constitution (Seventy-Second Amendment) Bill, 1992	-	-
(vii)	Select Committee on the Constitution (Seventy-First Amendment) Bill, 1990	-	-
(viii)	Select Committee on the Transplantation of Human Organs Bill, 1993	5	1

STANDING COMMITTEES

(i)	Committee on Agriculture	-	-
(ii)	Committee on Communication	-	-
(iii)	Committee on Defence	6	-
(iv)	Committee on Energy	18	2
(v)	Committee on External Affairs	-	-
(vi)	Committee on Finance	5	1
(vii)	Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution	6	2
(viii)	Committee on Labour and Welfare	2	1
(ix)	Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals	9	1
(x)	Committee on Railway	-	-
(xi)	Committee on Urban and Rural Development	-	-
23.	NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE		Nil
24.	PETITIONS PRESENTED		1
25.	NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN WITH DATE		2 on 2.12.93

APPENDIX II
STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK
TRANSACTIONED DURING THE HUNDRED AND
SIXTY NINTH SESSION OF RAJYA SABHA

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION	From December 2 to December 30, 1993
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	18
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	104 hrs, 07 mts.
4.	NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	1
5.	GOVERNMENT BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	26
	(ii) Introduced	6
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Lok Sabha	13
	(iv) Returned by Lok Sabha with any amendment	2
	(v) Referred to Select Committee by Rajya Sabha	Nil
	(vi) Referred to Joint Committee by Rajya Sabha	Nil
	(vii) Referred to the Department related Standing Committees	Nil
	(viii) Reported by Select Committee	Nil
	(ix) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
	(x) Reported by the Department related Standing Committees	Nil
	(xi) Discussed	20
	(xii) Passed	20
	(xiii) Withdrawn	Nil
	(xiv) Negatived	Nil
	(xv) Part-discussed	Nil
	(xvi) Returned by Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	4
	(xvii) Discussion postponed	Nil
	(xviii) Pending at the end of the Session	25
6.	PRIVATE MEMBERS BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	145
	(ii) Introduced	3
	(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		NII
	(ix) Negatived		NII
	(x) Circulated for eliciting opinion		NII
	(xi) Part-discussed		1
	(xii) Discussion postponed		NII
	(xiii) Motion for circulation of Bill negatived		NII
	(xiv) Referred to Select Committee		NII
	(xv) Lapsed due to retirement/Death of Member-in-charge of the Bill		NII
	(xvi) Pending at the end of the Session		148
7.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 176 (MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE)		
	(i) Notices received		78
	(ii) Admitted	4 (On one subject)	
	(iii) Discussions held		1
8.	NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 180 (CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE)		
	Statements made by Ministers		NII
9.	HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS HELD		
			1
10.	STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS		
	(i) Notices received		35
	(ii) Admitted	35 (on 5 subjects)	
	(iii) Moved		4
	(iv) Adopted		NII
	(v) Negatived		3
	(vi) Withdrawn		1
11.	GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS		
	(i) Notices received		1
	(ii) Admitted		1
	(iii) Moved		NII
	(iv) Adopted		NII
12.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS		
	(i) Received		8
	(ii) Admitted		8
	(iii) Discussed		NII
	(iv) Withdrawn		NII
	(v) Negatived		NII
	(vi) Adopted		NII
	(vii) Part-discussed		1
	(viii) Discussion postponed		NII
13.	GOVERNMENT MOTIONS		
	(i) Notices received		4
	(ii) Admitted		4

(iii)	Moved	1
(iv)	Adopted	1
(v)	Part-discussed	Nil
14.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS	
(i)	Received	60
(ii)	Admitted	60
(iii)	Moved	Nil
(iv)	Adopted	Nil
(v)	Part-discussed	Nil
(vi)	Negated	Nil
(vii)	Withdrawn	Nil
15.	MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE	
(i)	Received	Nil
(ii)	Admitted	Nil
(iii)	Moved	Nil
(iv)	Adopted	Nil
(v)	Negated	Nil
(vi)	Withdrawn	Nil
(vii)	Part-discussed	Nil
(viii)	Lapsed	Nil
16.	NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES CREATED, IF ANY DURING THE SESSION	Parliamentary Committee on Catering in Parliament (8.12.93)
17.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS PASSES ISSUED	1517
18.	TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED	2371
19.	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	255 (On 30.12.93)
20.	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE ON WHICH VISITED	313 (On 30.12.93)
21.	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i)	Starred	341
(ii)	Unstarred	3525
(ii)	Short-Notice Questions	Nil
22.	DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRIES	Nil
23.	WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES	

Name of Committee	No. of meetings held during the period from 1 Oct. to 31 December 1993	No. of Reports presented during the 169th Session
(i) Business Advisory Committee	4	Nil
(ii) Committee on Subordinate Legislation	2	1
(iii) Committee on Petitions	2	Nil
(iv) Committee of Privileges	1	3
(v) Committee on Rules	Nil	Nil

(vi)	Committee on Government Assurances	4	Nil
(vii)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	5	1
	Department related Committees on—		
(viii)	Commerce	12	1
(ix)	Home Affairs	2	1
(x)	Human Resource Development	5	2
(xi)	Industry	8	1
(xii)	Science and Technology, Environment and Forests	7	5
(xiii)	Transport and Tourism	6	2
24.	NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE		2
25.	PETITIONS PRESENTED		Nil
26.	NAME OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN WITH DATES		

S.No.	Name of members sworn in	Date on which sworn in
1	2	3
Nil		

APPENDIX-III

STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEGISLATURES OF STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD

* 1 October to 31 December 93

Legislature	Duration	Sittings	Govt. Bills	Private Bills	Starred Questions	Unstarred Questions	Short Notice Questions
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
STATE							
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	20.12.93 to 29.12.93	8	17 (11)	—	232 (90)	55 (a)	54 (2)
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.A.	23.12.93 to 30.12.93	5	4 (4)	—	576 (354)	(200)	204 (18)
Bihar L.C.	23.12.93 to 31.12.93	6	(4)	—	373 (326)	(2)	184 (110)
Delhi L.A.	14.12.93 to 29.12.93	10	—	—	37 (37)	23 (23)	6 (6)
Gujarat L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Goa L.A.	22.11.93 to 26.11.93	5	5 (6)	1 (1)	186 (147)	126 (132) (b)	5 (1)
Haryana L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	14.12.93 to 17.12.93	4	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.	30.12.93 to 18.1.94	6	13	—	773 (305)	(455)	1
Karnataka L.C.	30.12.93 to 19.1.94	6	—	—	28 (15)	13	—
Kerala L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.	13.12.93 to 30.12.93	14	9(9)	6	7947 (841)	127 (29)	160 (16)
Maharashtra L.C.	13.12.93 to 30.12.93	14	6(6)	6	2810 (577)	48 (18)	128(21)
Manipur L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.*	10.12.93 to 13.12.93	3	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Punjab L.A.	28.12.93 to 29.12.93	2	6 (6)	—	263 (190)	45(38)	1
Rajasthan L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikkim L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	25.10.93 to 29.10.93, 9.11.93 and 30.12.93 to 5.1.94	11	29 (29)	—	1744 (470)	(244)	5 (5)

Tripura L.A.	27.12.93 to 29.12.93	3	—	—	308 (180)	2 (32)	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	16.12.93 to 23.12.93	—	7 (7)	—	774 (704)	139 (113)	545 (439) (c)
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	16.12.93 to 23.12.93	6	(7)	—	274 (92)	2 (2)	192 (63) (d)
West Bengal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES							
Pondicherry L.A.	18.10.93 to 22.10.93	4	7 (7)	—	—	—	—

* Information received from State Legislature contained NIL report

** Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

⊙ Dissolved since 19.2.90

Notes

- (i) Figures in Cols. 4 and 5 indicate the number, respectively, of Government and Private Members' Bills introduced with the number of Bills passed in brackets.
- (ii) Figures in Cols. 6, 7 and 8 indicate the number of notices received, followed by the number of notices admitted in brackets
 - (a) The figure 55 includes Starred Questions admitted as Unstarred.
 - (b) The figure 132 includes 30 notices for Starred Questions admitted as Unstarred.
 - (c) The figure 30 includes 30 notices for Starred Questions admitted as Unstarred.
 - (d) The figure 704 includes 678 notices for Starred Questions admitted as Unstarred and the figure 439 includes 88 notices for Short Notice Questions admitted as Starred and 246 notices of Short Notices Questions admitted as Unstarred.

APPENDIX - III (Contd)
Committees at Work/Number of Sitzings held and number of Reports presented during the period
1 October to 31 December 1993

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Business Advisory Committees	4 (4)	17	12	11	17 (2)	—	8	11	—	2	8	21	—	—	—	98 (2) (c)
Committee on Govt. Assurance	—	65	72 (6)	—	3	97	39	51	70	—	39	22	29	33	—	17 (b)
Committee on Petitions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	—	—	—	—	7	18	13	—	15	—	2	7	23	2	—	54 (a)
Committee of 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.

Arunachal Pradesh L.A.*

Assam L.A.

Bihar L.A.

Bihar L.C.

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
West Bengal L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORY																
Pondicherry L.A.	1	—	(1)	—	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	—	24 (4)	—	—

* Information received from State Legislatures contained Nil report.

** Information not received from State/Union Territory Legislatures

●● Dissolved Since 19.2.90

- (a) Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes-21 sittings ; Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes - 20 sittings ; and Backward Classes Committee-13 sittings.
- (b) Question and Calling Attention Committee-83 sittings ; Nivedan Committee-43 sittings ; and Zila Panchayat and Zila Parishad Committee-45 sittings.
- (c) Question and Call Attention Committee-20 sittings and 2 reports ; Committee on District Board and Panchayati Raj-23 sittings ; Committee on Leprosy Control-9 sittings ; Nivedan Committee-19 sittings ; and Implementation Committee-19 sittings
- (d) Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes - 5 sittings ; Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes-5 sittings ; Committee on Welfare of Socially and Economically Backward Classes, Nomadic Tribes and Denotified Tribes-4 sittings ; Committee on Panchayati Raj - 6 sittings ; Committee on Papers Laid on the Table of the House - 3 sittings ; Members' Allowance Rules Committee-1 sitting.
- (e) Select Committee on the Goa Public Health (Third Amendment) Bill, 1993-2 sittings and 1 report ; Select Committee on the Goa Buildings (Lease Rent and Eviction) Control (Amendment) Bill, 1993-2 sittings and 1 report ; Select Committee on the Goa Public Libraries Bill, 1993-3 sittings and 1 report ; House Committee on Transport -1 sitting ; and Select Committee on Goa Panchayat Raj Bill - 4 sittings.
- (f) Committee on Tourism and Allied Matters - 3 reports ; Committee on Forest, Environment and Allied Matters - 2 reports ; Committee on Agriculture and Allied Matters-1 report ; and Committee on Code of Conduct for Members-1 report
- (g) Committee on Welfare of Backward Classes - 10 sittings and 2 reports.
- (h) Committee on the Welfare of Women and Children-9 sittings ; Committee on Environment-9 sittings ; Committee on the Welfare of Backward Class Communities - 9 sittings and 1 reports ; Subject Committee (II)-1 sittings ; Subject Committee (III) - 5 sittings ; Subject Committee (V) - 7 sittings ; Subject Committee (VI)-1 sitting ; and Subject Committee (VII) - 7 sittings ; Subject Committee (VIII) - 6 sittings ; Subject Committee (IX) - 1 sitting.
- (i) Committee on Papers Laid/to be Laid on the Table - 7 sittings.
- (j) Panchayati Raj Committee - 5 sittings ; Catering Committee - 4 sittings ; Committee on Welfare of Vimukta Jatis and Nomadic Tribes - 8 sittings ; Committee on Leave of Absence from sittings of the House - 1 sitting and 1 report ; Joint Committee on Maharashtra Legislative Members Salaries and Allowances - 1 sitting and 1 report ; Employment Guarantee Scheme Committee - 13 sittings ; and Jawahar Rozgar Yojna Committee - 5 sittings.

- (k) Committee on Panchayati Raj-5 sittings ; Catering Committee-4 sittings ; Committee on the Welfare of Vimuktta Jatis and Nomadic Tribes - 8 sittings ; Committee on Leave of Absence from sittings of the House-1 sitting and 1 report; Joint Committee on Maharashtra Legislature Members' Salaries and Allowances - 1 sitting; Employment Guarantee Scheme Committee - 13 sittings ; and Jawahar Rozgar Yojna Committee-5 sittings.
- (l) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table of the House - 6 sittings and 6 reports
- (m) Committee on Absence of Members from the sitting of the House - 1 sitting ; Committee on Delegated Legislation -1 sitting ; Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castles -3 sittings ; and Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes - 2 sittings.
- (n) Committee on Financial and Administrative Delays -2 sittings ; Questions and Reference Committee on Compilation of Rulings-2 sittings; Parliamentary Studies Committee - 2 sittings ; Parliamentary and Social Goodwill Committee -2 sittings ; Rules Revision Committee - 2 sittings ; Committee of UP Legislative Council to suggest ways and means to combat growing terrorism in the State - 1 sitting ; Committee on Housing Problems of UP Legislators - 2 sittings; and Committee to enquire the inactiveness of Government Officials after the death of Mr. Naresh Chander Chaturvedi, MLA - 1 sitting.

APPENDIX-IV

**LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
AND ASSENTED TO BY THE PRESIDENT DURING THE
PERIOD 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 1993.**

S. No.	Title of the Bill	Date of assent by the President
1	2	3
1.	The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 1993	17.12.1993
2.	The Public Records Bill, 1993.	21.12.1993
3.	The Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 1993	26.12.1993
4.	The President's Emoluments and Pension (Amendment) Bill, 1993.	26.12.1993
5.	The Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) (Amendment) Bill, 1993.	26.12.1993
6.	The National Council for Teacher Education Bill, 1993	29.12.1993

APPENDIX-V

**LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES OF
STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD
1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 1993.**

ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Andhra Pradesh Municipal Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 1993
2. The Andhra Pradesh Electricity Duty (Amendment) Bill, 1993
- *3. The Andhra Pradesh Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1993
- *4. The Andhra Pradesh Record of Rights in Land and Pattadar Pass Books (Amendment) Bill, 1993
5. The Andhra Pradesh (Regulation of Appointments to Public Services and Rationalisation of Staff Pattern and Pay Structure) Bill, 1993
6. The Andhra Pradesh Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1993
7. The Andhra Pradesh General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1993
8. The Andhra Pradesh Non-Agricultural Lands Assessment (Amendment) Bill, 1993
9. The Andhra Pradesh Advocates' Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1993
10. The Andhra Pradesh Urban Areas (Development) (Amendment) Bill, 1993
11. The Hyderabad Municipal Corporations (Amendment) Bill, 1993

BIHAR VIDHAN SABHA

1. The Bihar Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1993
2. The Bihar Building (Lease, Rent Control and Eviction) (Amendment) Bill, 1993
3. The Bihar Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Bill, 1993

BIHAR VIDHAN PARISHAD

1. Bihar Rajya Vishwavidyalaya (Angbhat Mahavidyalaya) Seva Ayog (Sanskodhan) Vidheyak, 1993
2. Bihar Makan Patta Kiraya Aur Bedekhle Niyantran (Sanskodhan) Vidheyak, 1993
3. Bihar Panchayat Raj (Sanskodhan) Vidheyak, 1993
4. Bihar Vinyog (Sankhya-2) Vidheyak, 1993

GOA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Goa Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 1993
- *2. The Goa State Commission for Backward Classes (Amendment) Bill, 1993
- *3. The Goa Public Gambling (Amendment) Bill, 1993
- *4. The Goa Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 1993
- *5. The Goa Public Health (Amendment) Bill, 1993
- *6. The Goa Buildings (Lease, Rent and Eviction) Control (Amendment) Bill, 1993
- *7. The Goa Public Libraries Bill, 1993

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Amendment) Bill, 1993
2. The Maharashtra Tax Laws (Levy, Amendment and Validation) (Third Amendment and Continuance) Bill, 1993
3. The Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning (Amendment) Bill 1993
4. The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Second Amendment) Bill, 1993.
5. The Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 1993
6. The Bombay Police (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1993
7. The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Third Amendment) Bill, 1993
8. The Maharashtra Raw Cotton (Procurement, Processing and Marketing) (Retrospective Extension of Duration) Bill, 1993
9. The Maharashtra (Third Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 1993

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

1. The Punjab General Sales Tax (Third Amendment) Bill, 1993
2. The Punjab Entertainment Tax (Cinematograph Shows) Amendment Bill, 1993
3. The Punjab Entertainment Duty (Amendment) Bill, 1993
4. The Punjab Rural Development (Amendment) Bill, 1993
5. The Punjab Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1993
6. The Registration (Punjab Amendment) Bill, 1993

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Tamil Nadu Pawnbrokers (Amendment) Bill, 1993
2. The Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (Amendment) Bill, 1993
3. The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies (Appointment of Special Officers) Second Amendment Bill, 1993
4. The Tamil Nadu Municipal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1993
- *5. The Tamil Nadu Land Encroachment (Amendment) Bill, 1993
- *6. The Tamil Nadu Societies Registration (Amendment) Bill, 1993
7. The Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles Taxation (Third Amendment) Bill, 1993
- *8. The Tamil Nadu Registration of Veterinary Practitioners (Amendment) Bill, 1993
9. The Tamil Nadu Panchayats and Panchayat Union Councils (Appointment of Special Officers) Amendment Bill, 1993
10. The Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 1993
11. The Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax (Fifth Amendment) Bill, 1993
12. The Tamil Nadu Payment of Pension to Tamil Scholars and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 1993
13. The Tamil Nadu Apporriation (No. 3) Bill, 1993
- *14. The Tamil Nadu Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of Seats in Educational Institutions and of Appointments or Posts in the Services under the State Bill), 1993
15. The Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1994
16. The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies (Appointment of Special Officers) Amendment Bill, 1994

- * 17. The Tamil Nadu Palm Products Development Board Bill, 1994
- * 18. The Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles Taxation Amendment Bill, 1994
- * 19. The Tamil Nadu Cinemas (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1994
- * 20. The Tamil Nadu Exhibition of Films on Television Screen through Video Cassette Recorders and Cable Television Network (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1994
- * 21. The Tamil Nadu Tax on Professions, Trades, Callings and Employments (Amendment and Special Provision) Bill, 1994
- * 22. The Tamil Nadu Labour Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1994
- * 23. The Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Amendment) Bill, 1994
- * 24. The Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Second Amendment) Bill, 1994
- * 25. The Prisoners (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 1994
- * 26. The Tamil Nadu Prevention of Begging (Amendment) Bill, 1994
- * 27. The Tamil Nadu Open Places (Prevention of Disfigurement) Amendment Bill, 1994
- * 28. The Madras University and the Annamalai University Bill, 1994
- * 29. The Tamil Nadu Universities Bill, 1994

UTTAR PRADESH VIDHAN PARISHAD

1. The U.P. Public Services (Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Bills, 1993
2. The U.P. Public Services (Reservation for Physically Handicapped Dependents of Freedom Fighters and Ex-Servicemen) Bill, 1993
3. The U.P. Public Service (Reservation for Backward Classes) (Amendment) Bill, 1993
4. The U.P. Municipalities Notified Areas and Town Areas (Alpakalik Vyawastha) (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1993
5. The U.P. Public Examinations (Prevention of unfair means) (Repeal) Bill, 1993
6. The U.P. Appropriation (Supplementary 1993-94) Bill, 1993
7. The U.P. Sales of Motor Spirit, Diesel Oil and Alcohol Taxation (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1993

UTTAR PRADESH VIDHAN SABHA

1. The Uttar Pradesh Sales of Motor Spirit, Diesel Oil and Alcohol Taxation (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1993
2. The Uttar Pradesh Examination (Prevention of unfair Means) (Repeal) Bill, 1993
3. The Uttar Pradesh Public Services (Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Bill, 1993
4. The Uttar Pradesh Public Services (Reservation for Physically Handicapped Dependents of Freedom Fighters and Ex-Servicemen) Bill, 1993
5. The Uttar Pradesh Public Service (Reservation for Backward Classes) (Amendment) Bill, 1993
6. The Uttar Pradesh Appropriation (Supplementary 1993-94) Bill, 1993.
7. The Uttar Pradesh Municipalities, Notified Areas and Town Areas (Alpakalik Vyawastha) (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1993

PONDUCHERRY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Appropriation (No. III) Bill, 1993

2. **The Appropriation (No. IV) Bill, 1993**
3. **The Pondicherry Village and Commune Panchayats (Amendment) Bill, 1993**
- * 4. **The Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Pondicherry Amendment) Bill, 1993**
- * 5. **The Salaries and Allowances of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly (Pondicherry) Amendment Bill, 1993**
- * 6. **The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of the Legislative Assembly (Pondicherry) Amendment Bill, 1993**

APPENDIX - VI
ORDINANCES PROMULGATED BY THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS DURING THE PERIOD
1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER, 1993

Sl. No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of cessation	Remarks
UNION GOVERNMENT					
1.	The Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance, 1993 (No. 32 of 1993)	1.10.1993	6.12.1993	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The State Bank of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993 (No. 33 of 1993)	15.10.1993	6.12.1993	—	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993 (No. 34 of 1993)	27.10.1993	6.12.1993	—	Replaced by Legislation
STATE GOVERNMENTS					
ANDHRA PRADESH					
1.	The Andhra Pradesh Record of Rights in Land and Pattadar Pass Books (Amendment) Ordinance 1993	31.10.1993	—	—	—
2.	The Andhra Pradesh Apartments (Promotion of Construction and Ownership) (Amendment) Ordinance 1993	-do-	—	—	—
3.	The Andhra Pradesh (Regulation of Appointments to Public Services and	24.11.1993	—	—	—

Sl. No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of cessation	Remarks
	Rationalisation of Staff pattern and Pay Structure) Ordinance, 1993				
4.	The Andhra Pradesh Electricity Duty (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	26.11.1993	—	—	—
5.	The Andhra Pradesh Excise (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	-do-	—	—	—
			BIHAR		
1.	The Bihar Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	3.11.93	—	23.12.1993	—
2.	The Bihar Motor Transport Taxation (Amendment) Ordinance 1993	23.11.93	—	-do-	—
3.	The Bihar Excise (Amendment And Validation), Ordinance 1993	14.12.193	—	-do-	—
			GOA		
1.	The Goa Public Gambling (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	—	22.11.93	—	—
			KERALA		
1.	The Kerala Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, 1993	24.9.93	24.1.94	—	—
2.	The Travancore Cochin Hindu Religious Institutions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	4.11.93	-do-	—	—

					Replaced by Legislation
3.	The University Laws (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	21.10.93	-do-	-	-
4.	Kerala Local Authorities (Constitution and Preparation of Electoral Rolls) Ordinance, 1993	1.11.93	24.1.94	-	-
5.	Sreesankaracharya University of Sanskrit Ordinance, 1993	25.11.93	-do-	-	-
6.	The Kerala Contingencies Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	28.12.93	-do-	-	-
MAHARASHTRA					
1.	The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	1.9.93	14.12.1993	-	-
2.	The Maharashtra Tax Laws (Levy, Amendment and Validation) (Third Amendment and Continuance) Ordinance, 1993	30.9.93	-do-	-	-
3.	The Maharashtra Contingency Fund (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	11.10.93	-do-	23.01.1993	-do-
4.	The Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	14.10.93	-do-	-	-
5.	The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	2.11.93	-do-	-	-
6.	The Bombay Police (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance, 1993	11.11.93	-do-	-	-do-

7.	The Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	16.11.93	-do-	-	-do-
8.	The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Fourth Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	25.11.93	-do-	-	-do-
9.	The Maharashtra Raw Cotton (Procurement, Processing and Marketing) Retrospective Extension of Duration) Ordinance, 1993	7.12.93	-do-	-	-do-
PUNJAB					
1.	The Punjab Entertainments Tax (Cinematograph Shows) Amendment Ordinance 1993	29.09.1993	-	-	-
2.	The Punjab Entertainment Duty (Amendment) Ordinance 1993	29.9.1993	-	-	-
3.	The Punjab General Sales Tax (Third Amendment) Ordinance 1993	29.9.1993	-	-	-
4.	The Punjab Rural Development (Amendment) Ordinance 1993	4.10.1993	-	-	-
5.	The Punjab Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993	29.10.93	-	-	-
UTTAR PRADESH					
1.	The Uttar Pradesh Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) (Repeal) Ordinance, 1993	6.12.93	17.12.93	-	Replaced by Legislation

<p>2. The Uttar Pradesh Public Services (Reservation of Backward Classes) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993</p>	<p>11.12.93</p>	<p>17.12.93</p>	<p>-do-</p>	<p>-do-</p>
<p>3. The Uttar Pradesh Public Services (Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Ordinance, 1993</p>	<p>11.12.93</p>	<p>17.12.93</p>	<p>-do-</p>	<p>-do-</p>
<p>4. The Uttar Pradesh Public Services (Reservation for Physically Handicapped, etc.) Ordinance, 1993</p>	<p>11.12.93</p>	<p>-do-</p>	<p>-do-</p>	<p>-do-</p>

- a) All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen-1
- b) Autonomous State Demand Committee-1 Assam Gana Parishad-1
- c) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-6; JD (A)-4 which includes 2 members sitting separately consequent on receipt of intimation from them.
- d) Janta Party-1
- e) Indian Congress (Socialist)-1 ; Muslim League-2 ; K. Cong (M)-1
- f) Bahujan Samaj Party-1
- g) Shiv Sena - 2
- h) Manipur People's Party - 1
- i) JD (A) - 2* There two members are sitting separately consequent on receipt of intimation from them.
- j) Bahujan Samaj Party - 1
- k) Sikdm Sangram Parishad - 1
- l) Janta Party - 1 ; Samajwadi Party - 3 ; Bahujan Samaj Party - 1 JD (A) - 4* Includes 3 members sitting separately consequent on receipt of intimation from them.
- m) All India Forward Block - 3 ; Revolutionary Socialist Party - 4

Tripura L.A.	60	11	1	—	—	44	—	4 (c)	—	60	—
(As on 1.1.94)											
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	426	28	27	—	176	1	3	176 (p)	8	419	7
(As on 1.1.94)											
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	108	32	13	—	13	—	1	35 (q)	9	103	5
(As on 1.1.94)											
West Bengal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES											
Pondicherry L.A.	30	15	1	—	—	—	1	10 (r)	3	30	—
(As on 1.1.94)											

* Excluding Speaker

** Information not received from State Legislatures

- (a) Telgu Desam Party - 72 ; All India Majlis - Ittehad-Ul-Muslimeen - 3 ; Marxist Communist Party of India - 1 ; Democratic Peoples Front (Independent Group) - 10 ; and Nominated - 1.
- (b) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (Marand Group) - 9 ; Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (Soren Group) - 9 ; Indian Peoples Front - 3 ; Separate from IPF - 2 ; Socialist Party (Lohia) - 1 ; Marxist Co-ordination Party - 2 ; Jharkhand Party - 1 ; Unattached - 6 ; and Nominated - 1
- (c) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha - 1 ; and Unattached - 1.
- (d) Gujarat Lok Swaraj March - 1 ; and the Member elected on Janata Dal Ticket but whose petition and the decision of the Speaker regarding disqualification on the ground of defection is pending before the Supreme Court of India - 1.
- (e) Maharashtrawadi Gomanak Party - 11 ; and Goan People's Party - 1.
- (f) Janata Party - 17 ; Haryana Vikas Party - 7 ; Bahujan Samaj Party - 1 ; and Unattached - 1.
- (g) Muslim League - 19 ; Kerala Congress (M) - 6 ; Kerala Congress (Jacob) - 4 ; Indian Communist (Socialist) - 3 ; Revolutionary Socialist Party - 2 ; National Democratic Party - 2 ; Kerala Congress (B) - 2 ; Kerala Congress - 1 ; and Communist Marxist Party - 1
- (h) Shiv Sena - 35 ; Peasants and Workers Party - 8 ; Independent Groups - 8 ; Republican Party of India (Marxist) - 1 ; Republican Party of India (Khobregade) - 1 ; Muslim League - 1 ; and Nominated - 1.
- (i) Peasants and Workers Party - 2 ; Shiv Sena - 4 ; Republican Party of India (Gawal Group) - 1 ; Republican Party of India - 1 ; and Unattached - 2.

- (j) Mizoram National Front -14 ; and Mizoram Janata Dal - 8.
- (k) NDC - 17 ; and DLP - 1.
- (r) Bahujan Samaj Party - 9 ; Shiromani Akali Dal (Kabul) -3 ; and Indian Peoples Front -1
- (m) Sikkim Sangram Parishad -31 ; and Unattached -1.
- (n) All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam - 161 ; Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam - 2 ; MGR Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam - 1 ; Unattached - 3 ; and Nominated - 1.
- (o) Forward Bloc-1 ; Revolutionary Socialist Party - 1 ; T.H.P. - 1 ; and TUJS - 1.
- (p) Samajwadi Party - 107 ; Bahujan Samaj Party - 67 ; Janata Party-1 ; Uttarakhnd Kranti Dal -1
- (q) Samajwadi Party - 21 ; Janata Party - 5 ; Janata Samajwadi - 1 and Shikshyak Dal (Non-Political) -8
- (r) All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam -6 ; and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-4.

B. PARTY POSITION IN RAJYA SABHA (AS ON 1 JANUARY, 1994)

S.No.	State/Union Territories	Seats	Cong. (I)	Janata Dal	CPI (M)	BJP	Janata Dal (S)	Others	Unatt-ached	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
STATES											
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	8	1	1	—	—	6 (e)	1	17	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
3.	Assam	7	5	—	—	—	—	1 (b)	1	7	—
4.	Bihar	22	8	8	—	2	1	2 (c)	—	21	1
5.	Goa	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
6.	Gujarat	11	6	1	—	3	—	—	1	11	—
7.	Haryana	5	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	5	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	—	—	—	—	—	1 (d)	—	1	3
10.	Karnataka	12	9	3	—	—	—	—	—	12	—
11.	Kerala	9	3	1	3	—	—	2 (e)	—	9	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16	7	—	—	9	—	—	—	16	—
13.	Maharashtra	19	15	1	—	2	—	1 (f)	—	19	—
14.	Manipur	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
15.	Meghalaya	1	—	—	—	—	—	1 (g)	—	1	—
16.	Mizoram	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
17.	Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	1 (h)	—	1	—
18.	Orissa	10	3	6	—	—	1	—	—	10	—
19.	Punjab	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
20.	Rajasthan	10	4	1	—	3	1	—	1	10	—

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
21.	Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
22.	Tamil Nadu	18	2	—	1	—	—	—	15 (l)	—	18	—
23.	Tripura	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	34	11	4	—	—	8	5	3 (l)	2	33	1
25.	West Bengal	16	1	—	10	—	—	1	4(k)	—	16	—
UNION TERRITORIES												
	Delhi	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
	Pondicherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	Nominated	12	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	12	—
	TOTAL	245	104	27	15	30	11	37	11	235	10	10
(a)	Telugu Desam - 5 ; C.P.I. - 1											
(b)	Asom Gana Parishad - 1											
(c)	C.P.I. - 2											
(d)	National Conference - 1											
(e)	M.L. - 1 ; C.P.I. - 1											
(f)	Shiv Sena - 1											
(g)	H.S.P.D.P. - 1											
(h)	Nagaland People's Council - 1											
(i)	AIADMK 6 ; D.M.K. - 9											
(j)	Janata Party - 1 ; C.P.I. - 1 ; Sametwadi Party - 1											
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