

14.55 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 1987-88 —  
Contd.

[English]

## (ii) Ministry of Defence

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos 11 to 15, 15A and 16 relating to the Ministry of Defence for which 5 hours have been allotted.

Hon'ble Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case any member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

## Motion moved :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1988, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 11 to 15, 15A and 16 relating to the Ministry of Defence."

Demands for Grants, 1987-88 in respect of the Ministry of Defence submitted to the  
vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 13th March, 1987		Amount of Demand for grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	4	5	6

## Ministry of Defence

11.	Ministry of Defence	95,42,00,000	23,42,00,000	4,77,09,00,000	1,17,08,00,000
12.	Defence Pensions	1,17,31,00,000	...	5,86,54,00,000	...
13.	Defence Services Army	11,01,21,00,000	...	55,06,05,00,000	...

1	2	3	4	5	6
14. Defence Service					
Navy	1,02,58,00,000	...	5,12,90,00,000	...	
15. Defence Ordnance					
Factories	2,74,66,00,000	...	13,73,28,00,000	...	
15. A Defence Ordnance					
Factory	11,00,00,000	...	54,98,00,000	...	
16. Capital Outlay on Defence Service	...	6,61,75,00,000	...	33,08,77,00,000	

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Venkata Ratnam.

SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM (Tenali) : Sir, I had occasion to go through our Defence Year Book. It is nothing but a repetition of the last Year Book with slight modifications here and there. I have to submit that we are not in a Defence mood but in a very defensive mood for what has been happening in this entire country.

I would like to submit straightaway that on reading this Year Book, we suffer from two major defects. One is that we don't find any accountability, the responsibility, of the Defence department to the people. The other thing is you are suffering from unnecessary secrecy since we have gone into the phobia of secrecy. As far as accountability is concerned in a democracy we, as representatives of the people, are responsible for the people. You are spending thousands of crores of rupees of people's money for nothing. When you are spending people's money, you are accountable to the people. After all, the Government is nothing but trustees of the public money. If that money is not well spent, that comes under a breach of trust

because you are trustees of the people's money. For that, we shall show to the people that you are good trustees and the people's money is not ill spent. You are accountable to the people. But this accountability is very much lacking with our Defence department. They avoid this accountability on the plea of secrecy. Like any other thing, this cannot be divulged because of the security of the country. It is very strange that this has been taken as a ruse to suppress the facts and the people are put in the dark. You have no right to put the people in the dark. Of course, the people have given us a right to spend money. But, at the same time, you have got a liability to tell the people what has happened to the money. That you have to submit to the people. What is strange, Sir, nowadays it is not being done at all. The people are completely kept in dark on the plea of secrecy. It has been thought by many people that secrecy has gone to the extent of putting this entire department as a holy cow. You say that we don't divulge anything because of secrecy. But secrecy has lost its meaning because of the latest scientific developments. That is what is its meaning. It has become almost a common property. There are ways and means to know all the secrets of each country.

[Shri N. Venkata Ratnam]

15.00 hrs.

I would like to submit that today things have gone to such an extent that any individual could purchase a 50 sq cm photograph from the French SPOT satellite which covers an area of 60 × 60 sq km earth images with a ground resolution of 20 metres for Rs. 1500. A colour print of the same resolution is priced at Rs. 5000. By spending a little more amount, we could have a photograph perhaps of a large part of the earth. Not only that, the LANDSAT, the American remote sensing satellite has since also gone commercial. Very many secrets have become now commercialised and there is a possibility of everybody knowing the secrets. In that case what is the sanctity of saying that you do not divulge certain things even to the Members of Parliament because of the secrecy. It is wrong to say that the secrecy cannot be divulged to the representatives of the people. Here, an Hon. Member represents ten lakhs of people or so and it is not correct for you to say that you do not divulge certain things to them.

As far as the defence concerned, we do not think defence as such, we think mainly of it in the context of two of our neighbouring countries. It is an unfortunate situation. One country is nothing, but a part of our country and another country is very closely and culturally associated with our country. But unfortunately, whereas we are friends of the far away countries, we are enemies of the nearest countries. That is the unfortunate situation that we are now facing. We are enemies of Pakistan, China, Sri Lanka.

**SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :** We are not enemies of these countries.

**SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM :** At least they treat us enemies. And I am surprised to see that whereas Shrinati Indira Gandhi helped Bangladesh and spent crores of rupees to enable them to become independent, now they say : Let Indian dogs get out of their country. It is indeed an unfortunate situation.

Our major problem is with our neighbouring country, namely Pakistan.

Pakistan once had an army of only half a million army men. Now, it is having a regular army of 1.5 million army men apart from half a lakh in reserve. Let us have a look at their budget also. Its defence budget rose from 4.5 per cent to 5.6 per cent of their GNP from 1979 to 1982. It has been enhanced by more than two-thirds from 1965 when Ayub Khan was the Commander-in-Chief. From then there has been a steady increase at the rate of ten per cent per annum.

Not only that, it has developed a knack of exporting its manpower and now Pakistan is considered to be a major exporters of manpower in the third world. Forty per cent of its armed forces are benefited by enhanced salaries abroad. That is the other advantage that Pakistan is having now.

Now, Pakistan is considered to be a frontline State by its friendly countries. Sir, Pakistan has been arming itself very much before our very eyes. There are other countries who are helping Pakistan, we know about it and the first among it is United States of America. For America it is not something new to help Pakistan, that started in 1947 by John Foster Dulles. John Foster Dulles had got a phobia of communism, and he went to the extent of doing anything to contain communism. In 1947 he invented a two strong point theory, one is Pakistan and other is Turkey. His theory developed these two countries to contain communism and by the time of Nixon, Sir, he added Iran to these two countries. Then at the time of Carter, a 4 pillar theory was developed and Egypt was included in it. So, 4 countries were included to be helped by the United States of America to contain communism.

Sir, President Carter had offered 30 million dollars in 1980 to help Pakistan which was refused by its President by saying that it was just peanuts. He asked them not to give peanuts but give them help. Sir, now, by 1981 it was increased to 3.2 billion dollars. And, now it is prepared to give 4.2 billion dollars worth arms supply by 30.9.87. So, that is the gradual progress of American help to Pakistan. Not only that, Sir, now the U.S.A. has gone a bit further.

In Section 669 of Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, a amendment was carried out which is known as Symington amendment. According to that amendment, Sir, the U.S.A. does not help a country which goes in for weapon type nuclear capability under which President Carter cut off all military assistance to Pakistan. But, now the situation has changed. The next President waived that Symington amendment and now America is prepared to help Pakistan to the extent of 4.02 billion by 30.9.87. It Includes nuclear help also. In addition, USA is also supplying AWACS to Pakistan at the instance of Pakistan's request. As you all know, each of these planes costs \$ 140 million. Pakistan wanted to possess these planes and America is willing readily to supply them to it. That is the bond of friendship between those two countries. And these AWACS provide a major strength both qualitatively and quantitatively to Pakistan. The capability of AWACS is immense. AWACS E-3-A sentry type aircraft tracks 600 low flying aircraft within a radius of 470 KM. That is the capability of each AWACS and we can very well imagine how with the supply of each AWACS, more and more strength is added to the pakistani Air Force. In addition to adding to the strength of Pakistan's Air Force USA has agreed to supply F-16 planes and M-60 A.3 or A.1 Abram Tanks also. Mr. Weinburgar stated in Islamabad and I quote :

"My desire is to put the capability of AWACS in the hands of Pakistan as quickly as possible".

So, it is quite evident that USA's desire is to help Pakistan. According to Senator Stephen Solarez, they are helping Pakistan only because they do not want to increase instability in the region. But our stand is that the supply of arms to Pakistan by the USA is disturbing the balance of our region This was denied by this Senator.

In addition to this help, America has created a Central Camp in January 1983 which is called 'Cent-Com' with four lakh troops equipped with 720 air combat craft, 1,000 helicopters, 28 B 52H strategic bombers and other massive airlift vehicles, etc. The intention of providing all this help

is to protect 19 countries including Pakistan. So, the United States of America is extending umbrella protection to Pakistan. According to the philosophy of Mr. Weinburgar, they have been supplying all this help to Pakistan only to strengthen Pakistan's hands against an attack from USSR. This is not at all correct. They are doing it only under a guise. If we see it from the point of view of topography, the boundary between Pakistan and USSR is about 1400 KM in length and this is a high mountainous range. The AWACS are quite useless here because these planes just cannot be operated at such a height. Secondly, according to the President of Pakistan himself, there is not going to be any military solution as far as Afghanistan is concerned and it has to be a political solution only. According to Mr. Weinburgar there had been 500 violations by the USSR in the Pakistani area. This is not at all correct. Even Pakistan has not admitted it. Pakistan also said that they had issued instructions not to attack USSR planes. That is the attitude of Pakistan towards USSR Then, what is the necessity or where is the urgency for America to give Pakistan all this aid ? I cannot really understand this. There is no necessity at all for Pakistan to equip itself so strongly and speedily, unless it wants to attack India. There cannot be any other reason.

Not only the United States of America, but China too is helping Pakistan China is our next door neighbour. Culturally, we are so near to one another. But unfortunately, we have drifted away from each other. As we all know, China has supplied unclear potential to Pakistan and it has also helped in building the Karakoram Highway to facilitate Pakistan. China has also provided a zone for testing nuclear arms. It supplied 1759 tanks to Pakistan. From the very beginning the relationship of China with Pakistan is steady and good. General Ayub Khan said in 1959 in Washington DC that if they were to break with the West, they might lose their economy, but if they were to break with China they might lose their country. So, that was the relationship between Pakistan and China from the very beginning Regarding China, also when Shri M Rehman was alive, he asked Pakistan as to what they should do, if India attacks them ? In answer, Shri Rehmanji said and I

[Shri N. Venkata Ratnam]

quote :

"If China were to protect us and not Pakistan why should we be with Pakistan."

I am quoting this because of the relations which are existing between China and Pakistan—I mean other countries also—who help Pakistan in arming itself.

Libya gave 200 million dollars in 1975-76 Abu Dhabi gave 330 million dollars to purchase 32 Mirage Fighters and France has supplied 11 submarines and Middle Eastern countries supplied 2.2 billion dollars from 1973 to 1983. This is exclusive of purchase of arms/assistance and the Deutch De Schelde Shipyard has agreed to supply 2 M class multi-purpose frigates to Pakistan.

Now, let us leave aside the small countries. Let us come to the question of why U.S.A. is trying to help Pakistan. U.S.A. has got a phobia against certain countries. The opinion of the Pakistanis was that U.S.A. did not come to their help when they lost two or three times in the past. I submit, at that time, U. S. A. was suspecting China and since China was friendly with Pakistan, it suspected Pakistan, too That is why in order to teach a lesson to Pakistan, U.S.A. deceived Pakistan. Now India has all along been fortunately friendly with U.S.S.R. That is an eye sore to the Government of U.S.A. Now Pakistan is friendly with China. There is no Misunderstanding now with them. India has become a friend of U.S.S.R. So, in order to teach a lesson to India, it is now arming Pakistan to be used against India. That is the main intention and not only that, U.S.A. is going in a broad way, in a very astonishing way, on the defence plan. According to U.S.A. the future defence requirements are conceptual. That is called Air-land Battle of 2000. That is the caption.

According to Maj-Genl. Crosbey who is a Saint of Russia, I quote :

"The whole document is founded and the mind set, an attitude we have to keep pace not only with the weight

of technological change, but also with the doctrinal or the attitudinal change. Without this, the sophisticated technology that we may buy or produce indigenously will be useless."

That is the attitude of U.S.A. as far as Pakistan is concerned. We have to keep a view on this matter.

As far as defence is concerned, no State has any grievance against the Centre. In fact, if necessary, you can even add more to it i.e. add more on Rs. 4,000 crores. You can spend it on our country's defence. You are only saving the country. So, that is the attitude of everybody. Even Rs. 4,000 crores which you have mentioned is not much when compared to other countries. It is not much, when compared to other countries, because the Chinese military budget in 1985 was \$5 billion—in their own currency, Yuan. In 1986 it is \$5.1 billion. It exploded its nuclear device in 1964, and the uranium device on 16th October 1984. Even though it is 19 times behind USSR, and 15 times behind USA, it is much more forward than our country. The Defence budget of USA is \$318.4 billion. USSR's Space budget itself is \$12 billion in 1984, growing at 15 per cent annually. So, this is the comparative budget position of other countries.

We need not fight shy of spending Rs. 4,000 crores for the safety of our country, because as far as our country is concerned, no other country is suffering so much, i.e. by having so many enemy countries around, as India does.

Then the next question arises : how can we increase this Rs. 4,000 crores; does it not affect the economy of this country ? I may say that we have been wasting a lot of money in other fields, for other non-productive purposes, non-Defence purposes. I recollect that there was a very thought-provoking article in 'India Today' very recently, which says that we have been wasting Rs. 20,00 crores a year on unproductive, wasteful, procedural matters. If we can think about them, we can utilize these Rs. 4,000 crores every year. Not only that—as if we can afford to have them, we are

having international cultural affairs, sports affairs and so many other things, all of which we can avoid. We had this international table tennis affairs. How many crores has it cost us? (*Interruption*) Sir, you are ringing the bell; but I am initiating this debate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have taken 25 minutes. I was very liberal, (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur): He has not even started. So far, he was talking on External Affairs.

SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM: It is about external defence, Sir. So, I would submit that defence and external affairs are inter-linked. Leave alone the amount. We have got our own defects as far as Defence is concerned. First of all, the main principle of Defence is that the Civil authority must have an authority over the Ministry always. This has been the tradition which is given to us by the British, and that has fortunately been kept till now. If this balance is disturbed, it will be tragedy for this country. So, this balance between the Civil authority and military authority must be maintained; and for that, the Civil authority must be very careful. The Military must have full confidence in the Civil authority; and the Civil authorities must treat the Military in a respectable and reasonable way. So, for the Military authority to have confidence in the Civil authority, the Civil authority must be capable of gaining that. The Civil authorities must be fully moral in their conduct and character.

I need not say this, but this is the unfortunate situation, viz. that our Civil administration is not that much moral, or is not keeping that much of conduct as to have the full confidence of the Military. If the recent occurrences are mere scandals, I am not bothered. I hope they remain as scandals, but I am afraid they may not be scandals. If they are true, it is a blow to the country. I honestly feel that this history must not be repeated at all. And it must be the effort of the Civil authority not to have these things.

Fortunately, we have got so many Mr. Clean's here in this Government; and everybody is a Mr. Clean.

One Mr. Clean is out now; and who is not a Mr. Clean is yet to be seen. There is a proverb in my own language whose English translation is like this: if all are Vaishvipes what will happen to chicken? It is just like that. If all are Mr. Clean's, what about this corruption in inland and abroad? I am not alleging anything against the Government, but we should not give a scope even to that scandal. But, unfortunately, that has come out and we have become a laughing stock in the eyes of others; and for this, our cadets have to be looked into.

Our main defence begins from Mr. Nehru's time. Even Mr. Nehru's approach to the military was that it was incongruous in a democratic set up; and he downgraded the Commander-in Chief's post to COAS. Beginning from that, even Mahatma Gandhi said, what is military? Military must build roads, dig wells and all that. They must be useful and that concept has gone fortunately, of course. We have to do justice to the military authority also and their seniority must be considered very strictly, which was not done unfortunately at the time of promotion; and they have suffered on that account also. There are two concrete instances where seniority was ignored in terms of promotion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why do you go into all this? You do not have time to speak more.

SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM: I am saying that should be removed because they have suffered from it. Let them not repeat it. We have got another bad habit of nibbling at it. Now we have granted Rs. 4000 crores to them. But we have got a habit of nibbling at that, and that was, from 12.5 per cent in 1954 to 1962 we have got 22 per cent. We generously granted budget to the defence, but we take it away from the other way; that was calculated to be 12.5 per cent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is an allegation that I am giving you more time because

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you are also a member of the Panel of Chairman. So, please conclude. Your party has got only 15 minutes whereas I have given you 30 minutes. Now, he has exceeded 30 minutes. Please conclude.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is a limit to everything. I have given you enough time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : We are a peace loving Country. We do not want a war with any country. Recently, in 1985, our Prime Minister had entered into an agreement with Pakistan that each other's nuclear installation should not be bombed and we are very fair to the other country. But the difficulty is there from the other country. For that, I would like to submit that let us be careful about the security of this country. Now the people are not in a position to believe in the capability of our country—what is happening now. So, let us build that confidence in them. Let us not only build confidence in the military but also in the people so that they also repose their confidence in us.

SHRI R. S. SPARROW (Jullundur) : Honourable Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the present day tense situation that obtains internationally, the prime requirement before our nation is to ensure its stability. And in that regard a nation's rock-anchor base what one has always to keep in view is the adequate armed forces preparedness. That is one of the features that has been accepted internationally by all nations, and in fact what I say, seems to be correct. Everything else today seems to be revolving round as to what armed forces, power, a certain block or a certain nation possesses. At the very outset I would like to congratulate the honourable Prime Minister and the Defence Minister for presenting to this august House for consideration workably well-conceived set of budget Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Defence under different heads. It is very maturely considered, every aspect of it, apropos the situation obtaining.

I would even go thus far as to meaningfully recommend that our nation should remain ready to provide funds to further modernise our defence means and the armed forces multifaceted training techniques in the shortest possible time as an overriding national priority. This should be for all of us. I am very glad to hear some very fine problems put up by my colleagues on the other side in relation to keep a watch on the expenditure—that it costs—I feel quite certain as, I know the whole thing for a long time and the Ministry of Defence for a long time, that it (expenditure) is very carefully spent, every pie of it, every paisa of it. Nevertheless, the points raised are there.

Under no circumstances can the defence of our motherland be compromised. Come what may, we may have to sell our clothes out, does not matter, but Bharatvarsh will stand on its two square legs and make certain that we can defend ourselves, if it comes to that. We are not war mongers. We do not go in for these things at all, as has amply been illustrated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister's policy abroad, here and there, everywhere. But we have to be very careful as to what sort of deterrent we are trying about.

Two points, we have to notice very carefully. The situation in which South Asia and contiguous regions and realms that happen to be at the moment geographically, also geo-strategically located, are in a dangerous position. They are hemmed in by and through the influences as also posturing and poisoning of three top powers in the world today, viz., America, China and Russia. And, as chance has it, historically, if I may point it out to you, and to the august House, that these top powers, super powers they have a very funny, historically very funny way of keeping any kind of war or trouble quite away from their own homes and hearths. It may be Mesopotamia, Gallipoli, it may be the Middle-East desert, African Savannas, Burma-Thailand jungles, South-East Asia, Vietnam, Vietcong, Kampuchea, North Korea, South Korea, Hiroshima, Nagasaki. whatever, to say the least. This is the pattern.

Therefore, we have to be very careful and we are very well up, if I may say so. We are also rated as being amongst the first top four powers in the world, if it comes to that. We are that, actually, potentially. Therefore, whatever we work out, the manner in which we measure ourselves and others, the manner in which we prepare ourselves, we keep that in view. Under no circumstances we are going to just give in to anybody through pressurising, through any kind of threat, through any kind of, shall I say, even collusion. We have to watch our front very carefully. That is what we are discussing today.

In so far as the nuclear holocaust is concerned, I think, I will say very little for the simple reason that it has been much talked of a problem everywhere all around. Yes, these big countries can depend very much on their, shall I say, even the modern most Star Wars screen system. You put up that much and you wait what happens elsewhere. We have to know all these things so that we watch our front, guard our front from every point of view. How do we do it? Everybody knows incidentally that India also is among the first six powers of the world insofar as nuclear fusion and nuclear fission knowhow is concerned. But if some one asks me, Sparrow where do you stand, my answer is going to be : Amen, we are not going to say what we are and how much we are and where we are. Every nation has got the privilege of getting his cards correct under his own thumb and they are played when it is necessary. So if anybody asks us : Defence Minister, what are you doing; what is in that *theli* (bag) of yours; what is here and what is there, no that is not correct. From the point of view of defence preparedness these things are not done that way. Does not matter which Government is in power. This is India speaking. It is one subject, one department where we have to watch very carefully as a nation as a whole, every one of us. So, this was the one point which I wanted to bring to your kind notice.

The strategy i.e. geo-political, geo-strategical, geo-military, that has been worked out and being played uptodate by the super powers and top powers is something like that. Take America, one of our super blocs. As I said, they move away from their

own place. They are working on pincer move. Shall I say, this type of move or manoeuvre towards left across the Atlantic where various types of islands are there with super types of bases, it may be cruise missiles and all that, and then over to NATO countries and confrontation is there. And the right hand pincer moves away via Australia right upto the identified various bases in the Pacific, call it Guam, Malaysia, go along to the other coast right upto American State of Alaska. The third leg or the approach strategically that concerns us most is across the Indian Ocean zone. You know the places from where they come—Diego Garcia. It may be various other island complexes, call it Sri Lankan Seycheles, Mauritius and what not. This is one thing. May I come and talk about Pakistan? Do we not know that first rate high class type modern-day bases naval and others are established—call it Karachi, call it Givini, Gwadar, etc. and in its interior say, at Kohat, Kahuta, Nowshera, Rishalpur, Murree and what not—properly established basis of a type. Incidentally, America cannot afford to leave its implented foot on Pakistan's soil. Pakistan today is working as an American advance guard, sentinal for all these geo-statistical moves and counter-moves. You cannot help it. America cannot help it. It has to be there. And what is she watching around? Gulf situation, South-Asian situation? There are various types of complexities, for instance, Middle-East oil bubbling regions of the deserts, Iran-Iraq and what have you Then the famous old triangle India-Afghanistan-Pakistan-old triangle-North-West Frontiers, and so on and so forth. Also South Asia. I do not know when the bubble will burst, maybe Srilankan way, maybe South-Asian side of it, or anywhere else for that matter. Once someone accidentally or meaningfully lets the bubble open up and trouble starts, then any kind of war, of any dimension can take place. Therefore, once again preparedness is required.

Mighty India has come this far and has made such a headway internationally. 104 countries move around you with respect. This is no joke. You know your position. I would go a little further. I only wish—my 25 minutes are not yet over, Sir, Don't look at me quizzically. I would like to give some recommendations.

AN HON. MEMBER : He is looking at you strategically.

SHRI R. S. SPARROW : Strategically from an oblique angle.

Sir, I was mentioning about this collusion business. Collusion business to us and to South Asia as a whole is a most dangerous approach. What is that, I will try to explain to you. The collusion part of it starts with this big time aid being given from various sides, and Pakistan, of course, should welcome it. Zia-ul-Haq, my own cavalry cadre and incidentally my own town's man in Jullundur, don't I understand him? Yes, I do. And to blame him will not be very fair. Why blame him? Billions and billions worth of stuff is coming into Pakistan. He, in the process, is building as much of living standard as possible and his stature along with that. You know the strength of the gun, as someone was mentioning. How many tanks he has got and what not, parities and disparities. Yes, he welcomes all this and he cannot get out of it. How he scores? Otherwise tell me if that be the case, why should they have checked up the strength of this, this, this. This is a collusive way of working your way forward. Anyway, there is something that I have to say on this aspect in particular.

Collusion part of it is not only with America, collusion part is also with the other strong power, China. My friend has already spoken about China. Pakistan colludes, whenever he can, to strengthen his cause and his aggressive attitude. Why otherwise Pakistan's top leadership, forgetting bilateral understanding with India should suddenly start equating Kashmir with PLO? You have been reading about this. Why otherwise should Pakistan have colluded with China to construct a Heavy Traffic Tankable Karakoram Road, which my friend has also pointed out, with a number of modern jet-aircraft air fields at Skardu, Gilgit and other tactically suitable spots inside the Indian territory hugging at places near Badakhshan area and Wakhan province of Afghanistan, besides other areas?

Militarily and Geo-strategically, the hanging of such a sword of democles on

India's heads spells nothing else but a collusive move of aggression.

Whether some one likes it or not, whoever understands strategy of arms should immediately put his fingers on it.

What open-face reasons for China could there have been to provide to Pakistan and the latter to accept, highly sophisticated weapons, allied systems, machinery and aids for Training? It has been done. For what reason?

What do such collusive moves and manoeuvres indicate, especially when China herself is occupying over 30,000 square kilometre area of the Indian territory stretching, say, from Aksaichin belt to North East of Walong and beyond?

What military deduction should one draw from such motivated collusive jaunts when China even intrudes the Indian Territory of Sum Do Rong Chu Valley, besides her having to launch protests over the granting of statehood to Arunachal Pradesh? Collusive. It is not singly done. No. It is a proper thought. Shall I say strategically worked out aggressive thought, how to coerce you down, how to get their way. Time and again, slowly and steadily, but they work on.

*Pakistan's direct action to destabilise India* : I have to say one or two words on this.

Further to all this, Pakistan is taking certain direct action to destabilise India.

Why otherwise a number of identified training camps on Jack Camper Style should have been set up in Pakistan, say, from Faislabad to Narowal to seduce, indoctrinate and militantly train up fundamentalists? For what reason? And, Sir, not only that, how come that bushels full of money along with sophisticated weapons and equipment were passed on to these perpetrators across the border to keep the destabilising programme working even to the limit of corrupting high positioned personages to work as spy aces as 5th columnists? Don't we know that? Your papers say so and we all

understand that. Yet how the mind of this collusive force is working? Some one was talking from that side that this money transaction or something, something, is not that de-stabilising side. This is what it is. Along with this if there is something wrong, all said and done, this is where and how India stands amidst the globally explosive situation that obtains around her.

Nevertheless, we as India, stand solid and firm as self reliant and non-aligned-nation, which under the meaningful leadership of our Hon. Prime Minister sells out in a big way peace, amity and goodwill amongst the comity of world nations, in genuine terms and with a large hearted approach.

We do not subscribe for war or aggression of any kind.

What India must do? that is a point.

Yet the big time question rankles, as to what measures and methods should be planned and adopted to:

(a) Firstly:

How to off set the possibility of a war to being inflicted on us; and,

(b) Secondly:

If there is war would India be in a position to adequately meet such a challenge?

In answer to these two questions, I submit the following for all the House to understand, as my submission.

Firstly, shall we create progressively modern day military means, methods and adequately trained up military man power down to its second line defence reserve to act, all combined, as a strong deterrent against any kind of war or aggression?

If the potential enemy knows that they are all ready and well planned, it is a deterrent That is a recommendation No. 1.

Secondly, Sir, shall we all attempt to bring about cohesive Esprit de corps for

cementing the UNITY and integrity of our motherland, being the largest democracy in the world? This action alone will further act as a strong deterrant against ingress or aggression of any kind.

Thirdly, shall we keep on promoting give-and-take process, geo-politically and geo-diplomatically as is so adroitly being worked under the aegis of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, to further build up solidly, India's potential power stature amidst the grouped up countries of the world at large? Sir, just now, the External Affairs Minister was clearly explaining the position.

Fourthly, shall we cajol and convince the geographically compact South Asian Nations to work together on the principle of Live and Let live? Can we thus combine and be in a position to cut the surrogative dependency—which does not exist at present in some cases—under the shadow of super powers?

Fifthly, could the South Asian Nations be prevailed upon to become self-reliant amongst themselves and in fact form a main Third World Power Bloc which as a Deterant would help to maintain global balance of powers and that way act as a mediator against any war—Nuclear or otherwise? Can we put a sense in all other South Asian nations accordingly? Why should you be surrogate to anybody? Why should you have a choice to live under a foreign subservience on and on? We will all manage. In so far as India is concerned, I can assure you because I know my people and I know the Government and I know the personalities. We are not out to take anything from anybody. The South Asian Nations may listen to this. Even then, you may note down my dear friend, Pakistan, that every inch of soil was given back to you. General Niazi went back with honour with 95,000 prisoners. Not one thing was taken, no reparation. First time in the history of the world, no reparation was taken. Still today Berlin Wall is there, still today they are paying through their nose, one way or the other. India set the example for the first time in the world of history that not one bit of reparations was taken against Pakistan. They had been downed and they were defeated. There is no question about it. This is the

[Shri R. S. Sparrow]

greatness of this country and we should carry it on and push it forward to the advantage of the country.

So, Sir, I was answering such questions discussed in this august House and I would request my friends to ponder over my humble submission. (*Interruptions*)

Our Hon'ble Prime Minister has been making adroit and insidious efforts to foster peace prevailing a healthy atmosphere all round in amongst South Asian and other countries through Non-Aligned Movement and meaningful bi-lateral meetings, Conferences and Seminars. I have full faith in the Government of India, the Armed Forces and their Chiefs and their wonderful set of people whom, I can assure you, can every time deliver the goods to the advantage of the country.

And one word through your kindness about General Zia-ul-Haq I know he won't be listening to me. As I said, he is one of our old time friends. When he meets me, he will run from there and hug me and there also the diplomacy and politics are working.

AN HON. MEMBER : Beware of him.

SHRI R. S. SPARROW : Please allow me to continue, Sir. Finally, Sir, allow me through you to sincerely urge General Zia-Ul-Haq who belonged to the same Cavalry cadre as also the same town (Jalandhar) as myself, to cut out aggressive ideas against his erstwhile motherland, India, as ultimately it does not pay to ride too high a horse. He was a horse man once. It should go better to apply the good old Cricket game dictum to play ball—and not bomb. I would further urge the President of Pakistan to open up a fresh dialogue and to join hands with our open minded Prime Minister to bring about peace and thus ensure stability within the South Asian Nations. We should stand combined, self-reliant and Non-aligned.

I understand the Prime Minister, the Government of India and the people of India, who do not have any rancour or ill will against Pakistan Let us open hope-laden avenues for peace and progress.

"Duniya Bhar Umeed Kayam Asth."

Finally, the Ex-Servicemen all over India, and the regular servicemen all over India, in my humble opinion, are the best section of society going today. It should be our sole duty, our moral duty.. (*Interruptions*)... to look after their interests Various *netas* give all types of promises here and there to look after their interests. I know so much had been done; no doubt about it. I know about the enhancement of pay and emoluments and so on, I understand all this, but wherever there is something rational and reasonable left out, it should be attended to urgently because this section of society is so loyal to the country. I know that in so many battles they fought to uphold the name of Mother India. Therefore, this is one request, a special one. Prof. Dandavate should carry this special message even down to the western coast of India This particular question should be given very serious consideration.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the beginning I would like to pay a tribute, and I am sure, through you the whole House will join me, to our brave soldiers who laid down their lives in Sai Chin in the last 12 months or more for the defence of the country. They not only defended a particular area, but they are the very symbol of the determination and guts which the Defence Forces have always exhibited for the defence of the country even in spite of the fact that they are operating in the coldest climate in the world where some troops have been ever located.

Today we are discussing the Defence budget for 1987-88. There is an increase, and a substantial increase, in the budget. There are two opinions in the country, in the press. Some say that the budget has been escalated, but they fear that the money thus which is going to be approved, the budget which is going to be approved, should be spent properly.

15.59 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

I think it has been made abundantly clear that whatever money is being given for the year 1987-88 to the Ministry of Defence is not only for the defence of the country, but

primarily the emphasis in the coming years is going to be on modernisation, indiginisation and those welfare activities which have been undertaken in the past, but basically the emphasis is on modernisation, indiginisation and Research and Development to a degree that in 1990 or at least in the advent of the next century we are self-sufficient in the main equipments and ammunitions. I will fail in my duty if I do not congratulate the Prime Minister for this increase in the Defence budget. The Prime Minister in this very House as well as outside has declared many times, has made announcements on various occasions that no financial constraints will be allowed to come in the way of modernising the Army making the Army more effective and creating a situation or environment where indigenisation really takes off the initial stages. The Prime Minister, while presenting the Budget, as Finance Minister, has also announced certain welfare schemes for the war widows, for service widows, for ex-servicemen and for serving men, for an increase of pension, for increase of pay and such other schemes. He deserves full congratulations and praise for the steps which he has taken. Today as Gen. Sparrow has very rightly mentioned, very eloquently mentioned that the security and defence environment of our country deserves a very serious look. Our constant friend, our perennial friend, Pakistan with U S — China axis, has assumed a very dangerous proportion by way of threat to our security. So far as Sri Lanka and Bangladesh are concerned, there are definitely vast scopes for improvement of our relations with them, although it does not fall within the purview of the Defence Ministry. But we have just heard the reply of the Hon. External Affairs Minister and it is quite assuring that efforts would continue to be made for making our relations with them soft and cordial.

16.00 hrs.

But keeping in view our security as the paramount importance today, our basic needs of protecting the integrity and sovereignty of the country, nobody in the world can be taken for granted. Even in the history of previous wars in which India was involved, there have been some countries in the East and Far East which are speaking most eloquently in our support yesterday and today

were either neutral or totally against us indirectly during war with Pakistan. This external affairs friendship should not and does not, I am glad to say, interfere with our preparedness so far as the defence of the country is concerned. Today where it is Army, Navy or Airforce, they have a far greater responsibility than what they had till 1971, when we were involved only in single dimensional wars. But in the coming days, whether it is the environmental experience of Sri Lanka or Bangladesh or Pakistan, either of them has its own nuclear capability or has its own super-power God-father whose capability is always and would always be available to them. We have got to have a very composite command of these Services.

For the last three years, an idea has been going on that we must have a Joint Chief of Staff. Of course, we have the Chiefs Committee. But what we have gathered is, it is more ceremonial and more as a matter of procedure that it meets. There is definitely more need of intense cooperative institution by way of Joint Chief of Staff notwithstanding the fact that the civilian power may have different views, the politicians may have different views but purely from the security angle, purely from a very intimate connection between them, they should adopt strategic planning and involvement of all the three Services, on a continuous basis. Therefore, a serious thought must be given to the idea of having a Joint Chief of Staff and this idea should be accepted and experimented. Today we have various Commands of Army, Navy and Airforce. It is I think by accident that not even two Headquarters of these three Services command is located in the same station. I am not saying that there is a need for them to be located all the time in the same station because you would not like to keep all the eggs in the same basket. But the fact is howsoever sophisticated and quick means of communication you may have or developed, there is definitely a need, in future wars, God forbid, if any, where you will require locating these Headquarters in closer vicinity than what they are at the moment.

We have been talking of various purchases of equipment, arms and ammunition, on previous two occasions in this House. No weapon can be taken for granted as the most lethal and the most modern and the

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latest. You will always have constraints of cost, mode of payments, suitability to your own conditions and requirements, your general staff requirements, and your political requirements, your political compulsions under which you will have to view various equipments, arms and ammunition. It will not be very correct all the time to be hunting for weapons, arms and ammunition outside. Therefore, the emphasis which has been rightly laid in this Budget by way of extra amount for the Research and Development activities in the Ministry and for indigenisation should not have the back-seat but if more money is required, it should be given and it should be taken on a very high priority so that we not only acquire high technology but we must develop. I am afraid at the moment under the pretext of financial constraints or otherwise, our Development and Research have suffered or they are not taken off the stage. Some of the recent reports which have been placed on the Table of the House by the Public Accounts Committee do not speak very high of this organisation and I would urge the Hon. Defence Minister to make this organisation more service-oriented, more research-oriented, more development-oriented and minor low technology Research and Development can be passed on to the three Services which I personally feel, in the enhanced Budget, can have a small RD Cell of their own. When we are going to purchase such a large number of equipment, besides the net Budget of Rs. 12,512 crores, we have got even revenue receipts which are diverted to the tune of Rs. 925 crores, your material management will play a very big role in achieving an economy which, I am sure, the Hon. Defence Minister will try to achieve, because larger the Budget, more is the responsibility of the Defence Minister to ensure that every single penny given today, probably at the cost of the developmental works in other sectors and areas, because of our security problems, must be spent to the full. If we can buy a thing or create a thing worth one rupee in 75 paise, that is where the success of the research and material management will prove. Under the Chief of Army Staff, we have got the Master General of Administration and we have got the other paraphernalia which is looking after the material management. I personally feel that serious thought should

be given to have, if found necessary, a Maintenance Command which can certainly do the job of NGO and even inherit some of the jobs which are being done by the Ministry for which exclusively you have put Rs. 222 crores. If that money is diverted to the Army and if the Army is given to have the logistic command or maintenance command, whatever you may like to call, it should have the accountability and responsibility. As my Hon. colleague was talking about at the moment, it is more coordinated by the staff and maintenance of material is not being considered as a job of command. Material management must also become a command job and not a staff or a Ministry job. Recently we had a very unprecedented historic exercise, brasstacks. There have been many articles and opinions which I very much regret to have read against these exercise.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, exercise of this dimension and exercise of this historic nature which is going to have very far-reaching results in our conceptual thinking is something which we should be proud of. Through you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to congratulate the Defence Minister, the Ministers of State for Defence, and the Chiefs involved in this exercise for having undertaken this exercise. I personally maintain that this ballyhoo which was created by Pakistan and massing of troops on their border, their primary aim probably was to scuttle this exercise so that you reduce the dimension of this exercise and do not achieve what aims you had set for yourself to be achieved by this exercise. The Government and the Ministry as well as the Forces deserve our most profuse congratulations and praise for having taken up this exercise in the dimension it was taken. However, so far as the training aspect of the Services is concerned, I am sure, the Hon. Minister will lay emphasis on the principle, the very age-old principle of training man against the machine. We are entering the age of machine, electronics, computers and the 21st century. But ultimately the person or the ultimate thing which is going to count in the war is the man behind the machine and the training of the man must always remain supreme. I am referring to this point not because I have any doubt at the moment that the training of the man is suffering. But why I am saying is that in the increased budget of

this year, we must have the increased allotment for the training of the man. If necessary our men should be sent abroad, our men should be scientific-oriented, our men should not only be high-school and secondary-school educated but primarily in those mechanised units which are going to operate with the high technology weapons like the 155 mm guns and others, they must be science graduates, if necessary. Our intelligence system, our intelligence organisation, our counter-intelligence measures and our counter-nuclear threat capabilities all will require such attention as the years grow and as we enter the nuclear age. Today, we are under the grip of a nuclear phobia. Whether it is Pakistan or whether it is Pakistan's God-Father, they are playing with fire and if somebody plays with fire, if we cannot play with fire, the least what we can do is to protect ourselves from the fire. I would recommend to the Hon. Defence Minister that even production of nuclear protective measures, the equipment, clothing should be taken as a priority measure by the Defence Ordnance Factories.

I would like to talk a little bit about Ex-servicemen. This House has been—I am proud to say—with one voice supporting all the demands and all the welfare which the ex-servicemen deserve. Today, I have no hesitation in saying that you can get a far better material for your Services, if you look after your ex-servicemen in a better way than what you are doing at the present moment. There are a large number of senior Service Officers and there are a large number of Service personnel who do not send their children to the Armed Forces. The census can be taken, Mr. Defence Minister. Not more than 20 per cent people in the higher ranks in the Services send their children to the Services. Is this not enough proof that you are not looking after the ex-servicemen as well as you yourself would like to. Under Shri K.P. Singh Deo, a high level Committee was formed and recommendations were given. The recommendations were, I think, 68. The superfluous recommendations were promptly approved and given effect to. But when it comes to financial and certain other recommendations, we always take the excuse that the authority which has to act on those recommendations is the State Government. We are all coming from different States.

We can always enact a law here compelling the State Governments to undertake all actions to be taken to see that these recommendations of the K.P. Singh Deo high level Committee are implemented. I do not think even the States which are being governed by the regional parties and others will come in the way when it comes to establishment....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : I urge upon the Hon. Defence Minister that in the next Session, if possible, they should bring a Bill for enactment. These recommendations of the Committee should have a statutory compulsion on the State Governments to undertake all those actions which are to be taken by the State Governments.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT) : Who will pay for it ?

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : The State Governments will pay. I am sure if the MPs enact a Bill here under Concurrent List, the State Governments will do. After all, ex-servicemen belong to the country; we are neither Biharis nor Bengalis, nor Andhras, nor U. P. 'ites'; we are all Indians. You will never find an ex-serviceman talking in the regional spirit because you have trained us as such. So, it is your duty to ensure that this is done...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : I will take only two minutes more.

The next point about ex-servicemen which is hurting everybody is same rank same pension. In principle, the Government has accepted; the Hon. Minister of State says that, on principle, it is a very genuine demand...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : We never accepted.

**SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN :** You accepted, on principle unofficially. But you say that you cannot implement it because of financial constraints. We agree, we are convinced. But at least upto the rank of Sepoy or Rating or Airman, can you not implement it? It will not make a difference of more than Rs. 20 to 30 crores. I am only talking of the level of Sepoy or Rating or Airman; at least at that level, please do. Do not increase the same rank same pension for Major-Generals, Brigadiers and above...

**AN HON. MEMBER :** Also Colonels ?

**SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN :** Do not increase even for the officers' cadre, not even the JCOs cadre. At least upto the level of jawans, it must be increased because I have seen some jawans who retired before 1947 begging on streets and platforms, in spite of the fact that various Services are doing something, but their funds are very limited.

The Hon Prime Minister, when he was the Defence Minister, had announced and implemented appointment of an Additional Secretary, Defence, for the welfare of the ex-servicemen and it was named as Ex-servicemen's Cell". I am very glad to express my views that that Cell is doing a wonderful job, and Mr. Aswathnarayanan who is looking after this Cell is doing a wonderful job. I am very sure that under the dynamic leadership of the present Defence Minister, that Cell will be better-staffed with a view to taking more prompt actions and we will get more and more concessions for the ex-servicemen.

Lastly, I come to the Ordnance Board. We have got the ordnance factories. The ordnance factories are manufacturing stores, equipment, arms and ammunitions for the Services. They are also undertaking some manufacture of the items which can be easily off-loaded to the civilian market and the same manufacturing line can be used for our various equipments and high technology weapons which are coming. But the administration of these factories requires looking into very seriously. There are certain general managers who have been in a factory for 8 years. Whatever they have done there, I don't want to say on the Floor of this House because it is not fair to speak against a

person when he is not there to protect himself. But he goes on promotion to the Board and connives to again become indirectly the big boss of the same factory. Is this correct? If there is an iota of corruption against a person and if he is found corrupt as a Collector for God's sake, don't make him Commissioner of the same commission under which the district comes. You can make him somewhere else, give him some other responsibility because this is cutting, this is destroying the very basis of discipline and honesty which we talk about in the Ministry of Defence.

In the end, Sir, I compliment the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister for coming out with an increased Budget and as it has been said by the Hon. initiator and other Members who are going to speak and all of us, the whole nation is ready to say that we are ready to starve but this country should be capable of not only fighting with Pakistan or any other person who shows us his teeth but protect the sovereignty of the country from even those people who are within our conniving with people outside and particularly Pakistan. I support this Demand whole-heartedly and express my confidence that in future under the leadership of this party so far as security of this country is concerned, will be saved and our independence will remain safe and we will be able to protect our country. In the end, Sir,...(Interruptions)

**SHRI K. C. PANT :** Your speech is coming to an end, so light is going.

**SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN :** In the end, Sir, light is going, I will also conclude.

**SHRI H. M. PATEL (Sabarkantha) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like, at the outset, to refer to the financial aspect. There is no question of opposing the demands. In regard to the Defence Budget, whatever is necessary for the defence of the country has to be granted; for that money has to be found. But I would like to put this suggestion to the Defence Minister that he might make a point of looking at the Comptroller and Auditor General's Reports from time to time and also the Public Accounts Committee's Report? I had occasion to write about this matter to the former Defence

Minister about the relative indifference shown to the Public Accounts Committee Reports. I am glad I relived a satisfactory reply from the Defence Minister of State Shri Arun Singh, But I still feel that that is a matter about which considerable indifference is shown. And yet it is very important. I would like to give yours an example from today's paper. There is a reference to a Public Accounts Committee's Report and I quote certain portions from it.

"The Air Force had projected an operation requirement "X" to function as an early warning station for air defence in March 1967. The Research and Development Establishment, the Committee noted took more than seven years to submit the project for development of this equipment while the Ministry of Defence further took one-and half-years to accord sanction to the project, costing Rs. 142.50 lakhs".

"Subsequently, the report said, in November 1976, a public sector undertaking was nominated to produce 41 numbers of the equipment as required by the Air Force.

In spite of the fact that the requirement had been projected as operational by the Air Force as early as 1967, the equipment which was urgent necessity could not be provided even after a lapse of over 19 years.

The report said that the Committee's examination had revealed..."

The cost today would have gone up several times whatever it had been originally estimated. It seems to me that matters such as this, when they are pointed out by the comptroller and Auditor General, should be given adequate attention. There are a number of such points—some are small, some are minor—but all of them deserve attention.

Having said that, I would like now to refer to the security aspect. It is clear that our security environment is such today that it has necessitated enormous increase in our

Defence budget. In the main, I think, our major security concerns are China and Pakistan and both of them are nuclear weapon powers today. This matter of Nuclear weapon is a subject about which everybody has been talking and trying to evade its complications or rather put under the carpet. But it seems to me essential that we face this matter squarely. It is futile to argue whether Pakistan has already become or is about to become a nuclear weapon state. They have, according to U. S. intelligence, and U. S. Intelligence is very likely to be accurate—achieved 90 per cent enrichment capability and have tested the trigger device. One does not always need a test explosion before making a nuclear weapon.

I think it is quite clear that we must proceed on the assumption that Pakistan has, or will soon have, the capacity to make nuclear weapon. There are of course still people who doubt. They are like, as it has been rightly said, a man visiting a zoo sees a giraffe for the first time and then comes back and says that he does not believe that such an animal exists.

I would like to quote from the Defence Annual Report on this point. This, of course, is a matter in regard to which I had occasion to say before also and I will repeat it now that there is a deliberate attempt to saying as little as possible .. (*Interruptions*) Here is the paragraph which I will read :

"In Pakistan, it is now almost certain, on the basis of Public evidence, including the disclosures made recently by the leading Pakistani nuclear scientist, that it is on the brink of acquiring, nuclear weapons capability. This development, which has the most serious consequences for India's security, ..."

Mark the expression

"This development, which has the most serious consequences for India's security, has been compounded by Pakistan's continuing acquisition of weaponry which go well beyond its security needs. The US Administration has let it be know that it will provide another large arms package

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to Pakistan on concessional terms. Particularly disturbing is the Administration's willingness to consider transferring to Pakistan sophisticated airborne early warning systems, which would have a minimal impact on dealing with alleged air intrusions from Afghanistan, but a substantial force multiplier effect against India".

Sir, having said this what would you expect? Would you not expect them to go further and say we are giving serious thought to this or. We have given serious thought to this and we are taking adequate steps. Even if they say only that much it would be something. It is left for us to assume what action is to or will follow. Because that is the case there is all this speculating and in certainty. But why not tell us what exactly is Government attitude towards this nuclear weaponry. Once Pakistan has a nuclear weapon can you really still take the view that you will not have a nuclear weapon. It is a simple matter. The demoralising effect on your Armed Forces would be tremendous, leave aside anything else. But is there any point in still continuing to keep silent on this matter? It is a matter which calls for urgent policy decision. It is always on the basis of a potential aggressor and how he is equipped that you plan and organise your Defence Forces.

Among our security risks, as I have said before, China and Pakistan are the two main countries. Both of them are nuclear weapon countries now. China has been so for quite a bit of time and for various reasons you may have been justified in saying that it was not an immediate risk, but here with all the record that there is in regard to Pakistan's attitude towards India, are you prepared to take the risk of saying that we will not take a decision in this matter? If you want to keep it secret, as General Sparrow said, you may keep it secret. Nevertheless at least let the people who are your greatest strength be told why they have no cause to worry. Apart from Army and Armed Forces it is their morale which is of vital importance. It seems to me clear that you must take a decision on this very vital question without delay.

It is not the contention that nuclear weapons are a desirable thing but it is a deterrent. In the particular situation in which we are placed it becomes a matter of immediate concern. Let there be no doubt on this subject. It is because the two super-powers have had nuclear weaponry and on a more or less matching basis—I would not say equal or anything of that kind—that there has been no major world war, even while there have been hundreds of small wars with conventional weapons. Even the highly sophisticated weaponry which is continuing to be developed in the main by these two powers, and are fortunately controlled by. But when the sophisticated weapons in the form of AWACS come nearer to us, when Pakistan is given these, we have to see how we can meet them. We have to assess the extent to which they will add to Pakistan's military strength. Are we to ignore all that? You may have certainly asked yourself about all this and You may have answers. And in fact you must be satisfied that you can cope with it. It is only we the representatives of the people who are to be kept in ignorance. The Air Force it would appear has an answer there is a report in the Press today. When Defence Minister met the Air Force Commanders at a Conference the chief of the air staff, Air Chief Marshal D A La Fontaine presented a report on the state of the Air Force with respect to the combat and transport fleet and difficulties being faced regarding manpower requirements.

There is a little failer report in another paper, where the Air Chief Marshal is reported to have said how and with what purpose the various types of aircraft, etc., have been acquired and so on and our capacity to meet the new situation. Why are we not to be told something about it? I think, as I said earlier, following this paragraph, which I read out, you should have indicated however briefly how Government Proposed to face the new developing situation. I would still request the Minister of Defence to tell us when he replies as to what exactly is the policy that the Defence Ministry is following in this regard. Are we still capable in so far as the conventional weapons are concerned of fully taking care of any situation that may develop? In regard to the nuclear weapons, what exactly are we going to do about it? Are we still going to continue to

say that "no, our policy is the declared policy of the non-aligned movement and so on". But I think there is nothing contradictory in your deciding to produce nuclear weapons. It is not as if you are subscribing to the policy that nuclear weapons should really be encouraged. We maintain that there should be no proliferation of nuclear weapons. But the situation in which you are placed is somewhat different. It seems to me that you ought really to reconsider your policy in this matter. I do not wish to labour this point further. I would like to ask why there is no reference whatsoever in this report to 'intelligence'. Have you no arrangement for intelligence collection? Do you function entirely without any special intelligence? Are you subscribing to some common intelligence organisation? What is your intelligence organisation? This is a very serious matter for you to consider. There was a reference, I think, to the fact that United States of America and Soviet Russia both have besides satellites, specialised in high-flying aircraft like U-2s and so on. They have a capacity to take photographs of everything on the earth. The whole world is entirely naked so far as defence organisation is concerned everything that you have, your installations, equipment, stations are known to them. But undoubtedly so far as these two are concerned, so long as they keep this knowledge to themselves, since we are not likely to take up cudgels against them, it does not matter. But now you may have seen that very recently in connection with Iran and Iraq war, it has become clear that United States is now functioning on the basis of intelligence sharing and to share the intelligence collected with select countries. It passes on information which is of value to those countries and which, suits United States of America, of course. It has been passing on intelligence information of the kind that might help Iraq versus Iran & vice versa. This is a development of a very serious import and I am sure you must have given some thought to it. If you have, tell us what you are doing about it, and what is the danger?

Of course, it is known to everybody that both United States and the Soviet Russia have knowledge of the rest of the world and so on. They collect this information and we know that this is their policy. In that case, what do we propose to do or can we do?

If we cannot do anything, then it is all right, but let us know whether you are aware of it. I am quite sure that you are aware of it. Having become aware of it what have you done about it to safeguard our interests? But you do not make any reference whatsoever in the Annual Report to the system of intelligence and how efficient is your intelligence machinery. Why not? It is an amazing omission, if I may say so. Time and again, when I had occasions to refer to this a couple of years ago, the then Defence Minister said that he was prepared to give full information, but that information has yet to come.

There is one other matter which I would like to mention. We want to become self-reliant. We know also that we are now a highly industrialised nation. You have your Ordnance factories and seven or eight public sector units are also functioning under the Defence Ministry, but would you not acquire greater capacity for self-reliance if you utilize private industry? But there would appear to be a strong resistance to using the private industry. I know that. I see Mr. Arun Singh shaking his head, but let me say that I am aware of both sides governmental side as well as the private side. I know their reluctance to utilize the private industry. There are undoubtedly reasons. Great care has to be taken in utilizing them, but if you are wanting to be self-reliant, then you should also give adequate incentives to the private industry. The fact that special care has to be taken also imposes certain additional burden upon the industry. Provided you show an understanding of their problems, they would only be too happy to cooperate because for them it is a business matter; it is not a question of anything else. If you also want to function in a business-like manner, then it seems to me that the whole approach should be totally different. When I used to word resistance, I did not mean to imply that you do not want to use them, but there is an inbuilt psychological feeling of hesitation that everybody on the civilian or the defence official side would have.

I would request the Minister for Defence to examine this matter. I think, you will acquire a great deal more capacity through this method, but you should be prepared to be a little bit more generous at the initial

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stages when you have to bring them into taking interest in the production of defence requirements.

Mr. Chairman, you have already rung the bell once and I would not like you to press your bell for the second time and I would like to finish. I would once again re-emphasise one point. For heavens sake take the people into your confidence. If you cannot take the entire people, I think it should be possible for you to take at least some people in Parliament into your confidence. I was myself once a Member of the Consultative Committee on Defence and I found that, even that did not mean that much information was ever given to the Members; I am talking about the time when I was the Member of the Defence Consultative Committee. But, things may have changed now. I would suggest that some method should be found whereby you might be a little bit more forthcoming in regard to these matters. I do not think we will be running a great deal of risk.

Although, a Hon Member of this House who is a former Army Officer, did hint that the Opposition is utterly ignorant, but let me tell you the Opposition is not quite so ignorant or ill-informed. We also study and we also understand and it is not right to doubt even for one moment the patriotism of the Opposition. We oppose because that is the system of Government. In a democratic Government we have to oppose if we think that there is something not as we think it ought to be, and you should not take it in any different sense except that. I hope that that will be the way and spirit in which you look at the things.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY  
(Hindupur) : I beg to move :

“That the Demand under the head Ministry of Defence be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to consider the necessity of keeping open India's option

for acquiring nuclear capability in view of Pakistan's nuclear capability ] (1)

“That the Demand under the head Ministry of Defence be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to enhance the salaries of jawans in armed forces.] (2)

“That the Demand under the head Ministry of Defence be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to provide fire proof uniforms to the crew handling war tanks.] (3)

“That the Demand under the head Ministry of Defence be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to allot sufficient funds for modernisation of arms.] (4)

“That the Demand under the head Ministry of Defence be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to provide alternative occupation for ex-servicemen urgently.] (5)

“That the Demand under the head Ministry of Defence be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to initiate immediate steps to improve the defence preparedness in view of the threat posed to our country by Pakistan's arms acquisition from U.S.A.] (6)

“That the Demand under the head Ministry of Defence be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Undesirability of using army frequently for maintenance of law and order in the country.] (7)

“That the Demand under the head Ministry of Defence be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to reduce the dependence of purchase of weapons and equipments from foreign countries for the armed forces.] (8)

“That the Demand under the head Ministry of Defence be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to improve Research and Development Wing to manufacture all the military necessities within the country.] (9)

“That the Demand under the head Ministry of Defence be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to discontinue the process of purchasing military equipments for the armed forces through agents.] (10)

“That the Demand under the head Ministry of Defence be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to stop purchase of outmoded and outdated weapons and carriers from foreign countries.] (11)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) :  
 Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the demands for grants of the Ministry of Defence. First of all I consider it to be my bounden duty to praise the personnel and officers of the three wings of the armed forces namely Army, Air Force and Navy who have been historically famous for their valour, bravery, courage and patriotism. The Defence Minister has to keep in mind the defence budget, prevailing circumstances and the past activities of those neighbouring countries with whom our country has been having differences historically in one way or the other. It is imperative to do such thing in the present circumstances. Not only our country needs the atomic and nuclear weapons, but it needs that preparedness also due to which every nation of the world holds importance in matter of nuclear weapons. First of all, we should lay down our defence policy with regard to the neighbouring countries. What is the present history of Pakistan and China.

How far we have become capable of meeting their defence preparedness and whether we have been able to inculcate the feeling, among the forces, officers and youth that we can meet any challenge and whether we have been able to prepare at that level of capability which exists in our neighbouring countries. In this context, we find the example of Japan which had always been indifferent in the matter of defence, but now it also participates in the star war programme of America and makes its contribution in it. The point is that every country of the world is trying to acquire nuclear capability and it has become imperative for us to see the nuclear capability in the context of India. On the one hand China has nuclear arms and on the other, the scientist of Pakistan, Abdul Qadir Khan has himself admitted through the Press that Pakistan has acquired nuclear capability. Under these circumstances, when our relation with both our neighbouring countries are not as cordial as these should have been and if even then we do not formulate our nuclear policy in a positive way, then it is a matter which has to be given thought. In the annual report presented by the Hon. Defence Minister, it is written in paragraph seven of chapter I that Pakistan has acquired nuclear capability. We should think as to what is the atomic policy of India in this regard. There is no mention in the report as to how we can be able to meet the sophisticated weapons which China and Pakistan are acquiring from other countries whenever the situation arises. I think it is essential to equip our country with those weapons which other countries are acquiring so as to maintain the balance of power. There can be threat to us at any time from these countries. Therefore, it is essential that our country should be stronger than other countries.

Does the history of Pakistan not tell that it had launched an attack on our country first? In 1947, it attacked our country first. In 1965, the war was started not by India, but by Pakistan. In 1971, about one crore of people of Bangladesh were sent to India to disrupt the economic and social balance of this country. This was also done by Pakistan. India had to face its repercussions. I would like to say that the rulers of Pakistan have also admitted this fact that in 1965, the war was started by them and not by India. I would like to quote from

[Shri Ram Singh Yadav]

"Indira Wins the War" in which a reference of Shri Zulfikar Ali Bhutto has been given :

[English]

"Mr. Bhutto's claim that he engineered the war has brought forth a rejoinder by the Air Marshal who said, "Mr. Bhutto is wrong when he says that he wanted war with India. It is we military leaders who wanted the war".

The *Dawn* recently quoted Mr. Bhutto, Chairman of the Pakistan's people's Party as telling a public meeting that he was ready to own the charge that he engineered the 1965 war against India. He went even further to admitted that Quad-i-Azam started the first war in Kashmir in 1947. He said, "if Quad-i-Azam was wrong in starting the first war against India, then I am equally wrong ."

Sir, these are the words quoted by '*Dawn* which is one of the authentic newspapers of Pakistan.

[Translation]

You will have to think in this context. You have yourself said in your report that India wants to maintain amicable relations, friendship, cordial behaviour and attitude with Pakistan, but that country has not responded with some attitude to date. This thing has been mentioned in para number one of chapter one of this report :

[English]

"During this year a dialogue with Pakistan was carried on at various levels and on different security related issues. However, it cannot be said that these talks have led to any perceptible improvement in the atmosphere."

[Translation]

When you agree that Pakistan is not quite prepared to establish cordial relations with India, then you will have to think as to how you can meet the threat of nuclear capability

of Pakistan and what you have to do in this direction. It is not sufficient to mention that they have such and such weapons, but the main thing is as to how we can meet the threat of such weapons,

I do not agree with Hon. Shri Patel from the opposition that there should not be mention in the annual report that Pakistan has no nuclear arms capability. I can say that it should be mentioned in the report. Does the Jawan or officer of the Army not read newspapers or journals or annual reports about the military? They all read such papers. Does he not know after reading this, which country has nuclear arms capability? Does a jawan in the army not know about the countries in the world which have nuclear arms capability and they can use them for their defence at any time? I do not agree with what Shri Patel has said that by mentioning this thing in the report, our Hon. Defence Minister has done a wrong thing. Rather it is necessary to mention this thing in the report. I would also say that in future you should also mention in the report that our options in regard to the acquisition of nuclear arms capability will remain open. The fact that the Prime Minister has said in the House that our option in regard to the nuclear arms capability is open and will remain open should at least have been mentioned in the report. It is necessary.

The Government should set out in clear terms as to what is our national defence policy and what are the principles of our defence policy. This should have been mentioned in the report. This thing was very essential, because it would have encouraged every person and youth of the country. The perception of the Defence Minister and the reflection of the Prime Minister should have been mentioned in our annual report.

You should take this fact into account that Tashkent agreement was signed in 1966 before the war of 1971 broke out. With which spirit Pakistan had accepted the agreement? But whether that agreement was put into effect? We gave back large part of the territory of Pakistan to that country which we had occupied during the war of 1965 just to have cordial relations and establish friendship with that country. This was done so that the poor people of Pakistan and India,

which come in the category of developing countries, may make progress and the resources of these countries may not be spent on armaments. But in spite of this, India received a set back. The history of 1971 tells you as to what had happened after the Tashkent declaration in 1966. A nation which has been deceived three times and even then if it does not prepare itself on their level, I think it would not be correct perception in regard to the laying down of our defence policy and it would not be the correct approach. The Hon. Minister and the Hon. Prime Minister and all the Members of this House should consider over it seriously.

I would also like to say that our scientists have their respective views in regard to the nuclear capability. This is a fact that our approach under the non-alignment or other programmes that we have adopted is that we do not want to subscribe to the idea of manufacturing of nuclear arms, but is it not necessary to manufacture such arms in the interest of the defence of the country? If you say that India does not want to use nuclear arms against any other country, it is a correct and important declaration, but if you say that you would not manufacture it even for the defence of the country or you will not equip the country with such arms, I think it will not be a correct approach of the nation.

Here I would like to quote from the book "Nuclear India". It has been mentioned in it as to what our nation needs today—

17.00 hrs.

[English]

"An increasingly significant section of opinion also argues that in the present stage of international politics, where the status and prestige conferred by nuclear weapons has become an important factor in the game of diplomacy, a country of India's size cannot afford to surrender its weapon options without jeopardising its long term national interests."

[Translation]

I am making submission to you, because it is very essential for us. Besides this, only a few lines have been written in the Annual Report in regard to China which is our another neighbouring country. These are as follows :

[English]

"During the year under review, however, the Chinese intrusion into the Sumdorong Chu Valley, its protest over the grant of Statehood to Arunachal Pradesh, a purely internal issue for India, and the hardening of its stance on the border issue cast strains on the bilateral relationship."

[Translation]

This is not sufficient. You should take note of this thing that at a time of a visit by a delegation from India to China in which the Speaker of the State Assembly of Arunachal Pradesh was included as a member, what was the reaction of China in that respect? China had expressed its displeasure on inclusion of the Speaker of the State Assembly of Arunachal Pradesh. This is a very important thing and you should take note of it. Besides this you may be aware of the reaction expressed officially by China when the House conferred Statehood on Arunachal Pradesh. The present officers, Ministers and other persons in the Government there do not have favourable feelings in regard to Arunachal Pradesh. You may be aware as to what type of statements they give in regard to Aksai Chin and Sumdorong Chu Valley. You should pay your attention towards this.

The documents which Sir Henry Mac Mohan had submitted in regard to India and China boundary have the signature of the then ruler. In regard to the agreement on Mc Mohan Line, China says that it is hypothetical line and it does not exist. China does not accept the documents pertaining to the Mc Mohan Line and is continuing its expansionist policy. This is a moot point as to what type of relation you will establish with the country which believes in expansionist policy. This is the reason that

[Shri Ram Singh Yadav]

our relations with China are not cordial. You should think over such relations seriously.

In regard to China, it has been mentioned in the Annual report that :

[English]

“As part of its four modernizations, China is improving the quality of its armed forces. This development, and the likelihood of more sophisticated Chinese weapons being transferred to Pakistan need to be taken into account in our Defence Planning exercise.”

[Translation]

You know that today Washington, Islamabad and Beijing have formed an axis and Pakistan is getting arms both from Washington and Beijing. Therefore, I want to say that we should formulate our defence policy keeping in view the USA and China's arms supply to Pakistan. In my view it is very essential. We should categorically lodge protest against Chinese intrusions into Indian territory. You are protesting against such intrusions and I hope you will continue to do the same in future also. You should throw light on these important issues in your reply and in future you should firmly oppose and resist such intrusions.

In the end I would like to say something about the rehabilitation programme for our jawans. The Bank Officers assist you in this work. I very well remember an incident that once a retired military officer came to me for the grant of a loan and I referred his case to the Bank. The Bank authority did not sanction loan to him even for setting up a flour mill. The Bank authorities ask to bring guarantor and produce security. You should issue instructions to the Bank Officers to the effect that they should grant loan upto Rs. 15,000 or Rs. 20,000 to ex-servicemen without asking for any guarantee. As you have made rule for the people living below poverty line, same rule should be made for the ex-servicemen or at least non-commissioned officers to grant loan of amount ranging from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 40,000 or as determined by you without any security or guarantee.

In addition to it I would also like to submit that the percentage of housing facilities provided to the jawans to live with their families during peace time should also be increased.

With these words, I thank you and the Hon. Prime Minister for doing commendable work and increasing pensions and emoluments of the defence personnel. I once again congratulate the jawans, officers and employees for doing commendable job.

17.05 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) :  
At the outset, I would like to extend the warm and cordial greetings of this House to our brave soldiers who are defending our borders even in the most adverse climatic conditions.

This year, we are doing to sanction about Rs. 12,000 crores for defence purpose. This is the highest ever amount earmarked for this sector considering that the situation in the sub-continent is such that it causes anxiety. Nobody questions the amount that is being spent for the security of the country. But the sorry thing is that the tendency on the part of the government is to shield any sort of information regarding defence coming before Parliament. The whole defence expenditure is shrouded in secrecy. The whole question of the defence expenditure is so secret that it is difficult for us to participate meaningfully in the debate also. Of course, there are certain things which have to be kept secret, but there are information which the government can share with this House. Even such informations the government are not ready to share with the Members of Parliament. Each paisa spent on defence is a secret money because it is the money of the poor people of this country. The people of this country should not have any doubt about the way in which this money is being spent. But, unfortunately, the recent scandal regarding the purchase of submarines and guns has caused a serious suspicion about the way in which this money is being spent. This has already been discussed in this House.  
(Interruptions)

**SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN :** You have not overcome the scandal phobia; you are still under the scandal phobia. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI SURESH KURUP :** I am not going into all that. It is not my intention to go into that sort of a thing in this sort of a debate. What I want to make clear is that in spite of the repeated denials by the government, it is a common knowledge for everybody that agents in this sort of business do exist in a clandestine manner and they operate also. The government should come forward to remove this suspicion from the mind of the people of this country. That is what I wanted to say. (*Interruptions*) The whole attitude of the Government of India has only strengthened the suspicion of the people of India. (*Interruptions*) I have stopped it. You also please stop it.

**SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN :** Don't talk of scandals. (*Interruptions*)

**AN HON. MEMBER :** Where from do you get your money for elections ?

**SHRI SURESH KURUP :** As has been pointed out in the Annual Report, Pakistan is acquiring sophisticated arms from the United States; and General Zia's quest for nuclear weapons and also the USA's imperialism and growing penetration into this region is of much concern to our country. Even a child in this country knows about the USA's imperialistic mechanism against our country and which are the forces they are encouraging to destabilise this country.

But we fail to understand why the Government of India does not come out openly to expose them, expose these forces. The report only mentions, I quote :

"Considering the global and regional developments that have a bearing upon it, India has entered a complex phase in its growth, with external and internal factors interacting to create a new security milieu."

This is all what the report says about it. Which are the external forces trying to stifle the security of our country ? Why do you not

come out openly about this ? Or it is being kept up as a trump card, to be used whenever the Government faces corruption charges ? That is what the practice is. We, on our part, have always pointed out that there are forces of destabilisation working in our country but what I want to know is, why do you not show the political courage and will to point it out openly ?

In this context, I would like to make it clear that we are not here to say hallaloo to you, whenever you raise this bogie of external forces and de-stabilisation forces to cover the skeletons that are rattling in your cupboard.

In this connection, I would like to point out one important factor : The defence of a country does not only mean the acquisition of arms to one's arsenal. The most important thing is the unity of the people of this country. A people united against all sorts of fissiparous tendencies are the best guarantee for the security of the country. In this aspect also, I request the ruling party Members to have a serious introspection regarding their role whether their attitude has been positive enough in this regard. And, also one thing we should make clear : that our sympathies are with the struggling people of our neighbourhood. We are fighting valiantly against this dictatorship, over the heads of these dictators our policy should appeal to the masses of the country.

Regarding the acquisition of arms, there is no question of any reluctance in acquiring upto date sophisticated arms for our Army.

There is a mention of Pakistan's nuclear capability and all that. A debate is going on in our country regarding this. What I want to say is that we shall be prepared to face any sort of eventuality. Our Government should be prepared to face any sort of circumstances in this regard.

Regarding acquiring indigenous equipment, one important point I want to mention is about the Light Combat Aircraft which is known as LCA. This is one of the major R and D efforts in defence. It is expected to result in building up of indigenous produc-

[Shri Suresh Kurup]

tion of the combat aircraft by 1990, as the Report also mentions. Although the annual report does not provide much detail, several detailed accounts of the LCA project are now available through newspaper reports and other sources. These are the only sources which we people can depend. Government is not forthcoming with the details about this.

It has been reported that various foreign collaborations would be undertaken both in the design development and manufacturing side. The object is to utilise these collaboration agreements to progressively absorb the technology and advance design development and manufacturing capability. In recent months several disquieting reports have appeared which raise serious doubts about as to the nature and extent of foreign participation in such collaboration agreements and the implication of this for self-reliance and national security...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Can I ask the Members not to have meeting there. They can go outside and have the meeting. Do not disturb the proceedings.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : They are discussing about commission. Various western aircraft companies and governments have already been approached even for providing feasibility reports and for exploring the modalities and framework of long term collaborations including US Department of Defence. Most disturbing are some of the recent reports suggesting that negotiations with the US Government and corporations have reached the advance stages and collaborations appear to be most likely in the case of this project. One Dr. Steven D. Bryen, who is a Deputy Under Secretary of Defence, in an interview to one of our newspapers—I think it is 'The Hindustan Times'—made it clear that the United States would like to have extensive participation in this LCA programme.

Another important thing to be noted is that US Department of Defence has cleared the sale to India F 404 engines made by General Electric Corporation of USA. This

clearance is a significant departure from the past practice, wherein USA has not permitted even the purchase of aircrafts by India from other countries using US made engines. It is said that the F-404 engines are primarily to be used for the first few prototypes and during design development stages, eventually to be replaced by GTX engine currently under design by the Gas Turbine Research establishment under the DRDO.

In actual fact, in all likelihood I fear that the F-404 engines would be a permanent and crucial part of LCA. The F 404 engine is to be the power plant for the LCA was confirmed by a high-power team of the General Electric Corporation of USA during the press briefings here in Delhi after discussions with the concerned officials of the Defence Department. I would like to get a clarification from the Minister as to the status of research efforts on the GTX engine, about its role in the LCA project, since it appears that this engine will not be used in the LCA. This same F 404 engine is offered by USA to Pakistan also to repair their aircrafts. It would not be in the interest of our country that the Indian Air Force be equipped with the same power plant as has been supplied to Pakistan. It is not in the interest of our country to enter into an agreement for LCA project as well as for other defence projects with USA in view of the deepening strategical relationship of USA and Pakistan.

I would also like to know from the Minister whether there was any offer from the Soviet Union regarding collaboration in the LCA programme and whether it was refused by the Government of India and if so, what were the reasons. I raised this point because this project is claimed to be a major R and D effort on our part. It is the duty of the Government to clear all sorts of doubts regarding this project.

Coming to the functioning of the Defence Ministry, I have with me the Report of the Public Accounts Committee in which certain glaring instances of incompetence are pointed out. I am not going into the details. My hon. colleague Shri H. M. Patel has already made mention of some specific instances. You open any page of this Report of the Public Accounts Committee, there is some

sort of criticism against the functioning of the Defence Ministry. So, I hope this will be rectified.

Another point is that there is no mention about Bangladesh. There are some major aspects which are mentioned but there is no mention about Bangladesh or about the refugees that are coming to our country and the security problem that it raises. Nothing is mentioned in the Report. There is a serious move on the part of the Government of India to allow private agencies to enter into defence production. They divide it into high technology and low technology areas. The Government of India, I think, have already decided to allow private agencies to come into this low technology area. It is contrary to the assurances given to this country right from Pandit Nehru and Krishna Menon. Once these private agencies are allowed to enter into these sort of fields like in USA, they can create a war psychosis in this country. This is a very sensitive area. That is why when we started our own indigenous production, the Government of India decided not to allow any sort of private agencies to come into this field. In this connection I would like to mention a point about the civil servants of the Defence Ministry. I have got information that regarding their wages and service conditions arbitration has given its award and now it is shuttling between the Defence Ministry and Department of Personnel. It is a genuine grievance. I think the Minister will take a note of it.

With these words I conclude.

**PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR** (Hamirpur) : I rise to support the Demands for Grants presented to this House on behalf of the Ministry of Defence and also to commend the Report.

The threat to our country is not imaginary. It is real. I would strongly contradict the proposition being made from the other side that it is some sort of ploy on our part to hide some thing. We are proud of the armed forces. We are also proud of the work that they are doing. We are also proud of the Ministry of Defence. I would like to bring to your notice...((Interruptions))

I would in particular refer to two or three sentences which pin-point the issue. This comes from the very first Chapter where it has been stated after referring to the Reykewic summit :

“However, in the present state of relations between the US and the USSR, their disengagement from regional tensions seems to be unlikely. As a result, as the year under review has shown, regional and inter-regional instability is being increasingly drawn into and made worse by global tensions.

These developments cast their shadow on the Indian littoral. The military presence of extra-regional powers in the Indian Ocean continues, as does their search for bases in the region, the establishment of military forces and commands with interventionary motives and capabilities, and efforts to support friendly, and displace unfriendly, littoral regimes.”

This is in gist the exact contours of the threat that the country faces to-day. I would invite the attention of my friends on the other side to a personal note that I would like to be shared with this House. During the last quarter of 1986 we were in the United States as delegates to the United Nations. Thousands of Indians in New York and elsewhere joined hands and held a meeting. We were invited to that meeting organised to protest against the delivery of AWACS to Pakistan. Billions of dollars are being pumped into offers of Pakistan Government. We raised this question with the U.S.—Department of State. We went there in Washington. They did not give us any guarantee. We wanted a guarantee, that they should ensure us that the military aid being given to Pakistan will not be used against India. No official of the U.S. Department of State gave us this guarantee. Consequently all the Indians in the North America, joined hands. All the Associations of Indians who are living there, held a meeting under the auspices of the International Congress of Indians in New York. They passed a Resolution. They took signatures and after about three months in January, 1987 all of them in three or four buses marched towards Washington and presented a memorandum to the senators of the

[Prof. Narain Chand Parashar]

United States and the Congressmen alleging the mis-use of aid being given by U.S.A. to Pakistan. So, this is the perception of our countrymen living there. And here our friends on the otherside say, there is no threat to our security. May I request you that the threat is not only real but it is also potentially very dangerous because on the one hand China accuses India in the domestic matters—they protest against grant of statehood to Arunachal Pradesh. They protest against the inclusion of Speaker of Arunachal Pradesh in the Delegation. They also protested when T. S. Negi our ex-Speaker of Himachal Pradesh went there because his constituency was near the borders of China. They said that that was the part of China. So, when China is protesting against the inclusion of the Speaker of Himachal Pradesh in the delegation on the ground that his constituency was on the border of China, now when China is protesting against India for grant of statehood to Arunachal Pradesh and the protested against the inclusion of its Speaker in the delegation. Pakistan on the other side is trying to have some sort of inroad into our security, the threat is real.

Sir, I would like to refer to you that parliamentarians of 28 countries held a meeting at the United Nations Headquarters. I was one of the delegates from India. The question was raised by Prof Galbraith We hope, he said, (the world Statesmen) hope that India and Pakistan will be able to sort out differences in spite of the United States' shipment of arms aid to Pakistan. I immediately said that this is not so. It would have been better had the USA not given any aid to Pakistan at all and it would be better if all aid is stopped. If the USA is interested in friendly relations and peace in this part of the world, then all shipments of arms and giving of aid to Pakistan must stop at once. It is a ploy that they are giving arms to them to fight, the aggression from the USSR. In fact, nobody can give us the guarantee and they did not give it. But the US Department had told us clearly that they were not in a position to give any guarantee that arms aid to Pakistan would not be used against India. It is a personal note. I am mentioning this to this august House because we were flabbergasted and there also we decided to send Memoranda with signatures and demonstra-

tions. All over Western Europe and all over the USA, there is a positive perception of threat. Let nobody be in doubt about this. It is not from the Government sources. It is from the personal observations. You meet any Indian there he is concerned over this.

Now, Sir, for the defence expenditure, the Defence budget has been presented at a total expenditure of Rs. 12,512 crores. But our friends here may also remember that if the inclusion of the amount of Rs. 550 crores as per the recommendations of the Pay Commission which is the exact input into this budget, then the total expenditure will have to be discounted to that extent. We cannot leave over armed forces alone, if the Civilian employees get something, they should also get. Therefore, the recommendations have been accepted and the input has been added into the budget. I am happy over this.

Sir, it is said that the allocation for the year 1987-88 is 22.7 per cent more over the year 1986-87 allocation. But, Sir, it is on account of many things. One of the reasons is for modernisation and secondly, there is also the restructuring in the Defence. It is also due to taking up certain departments, from Food and Civil Supplies, into the army for the supply of eatables and things of that type. Let us remember one thing that the per capita expenditure on defence in India is still one of the lowest expenditure. According to one of the Research Reports, this is about 59 per head in India as against 522 in Pakistan. Therefore, you should see what are the dimensions. Similarly, the Institute in Stockholm has given a finding that India spends only 0.88 per cent of the total global expenditure on defence. So, it is not even one per cent though India has 15 per cent of the population of the world. So, we are defending the integrity of the country which has 15 per cent population of the globe. Secondly, we are spending less than one per cent for defence. This should be kept in view.

Sir, we welcome the increase in the budget. We welcome the emoluments being increased to the army personnel. We welcome the measures being taken up and initiative taken by the Government for the welfare of the present forces and also the ex-servicemen. Sir, I am proud that I was the Member

of the high level Committee for the welfare of Ex-Servicemen and Shri P. K. Deo, its chairman did a very good job. 68 recommendations were made by that Committee and the report of the Committee was presented to Madam Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister, just 4 days before her death. It was on 27th October 1984 that the report was presented to her. Here interest in the armed forces, in the welfare of the jawans was very high and I am happy that our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has further enhanced that interest, deepened his concern for the armed forces and there is now a separate division for the welfare of the ex-servicemen and for the implementation of the recommendations of the high level committee for the welfare of ex-servicemen. Sir, in this regard I would suggest a few things. Sixtyeight recommendations were there, 47 have been accepted. One of the major recommendations of the HLC which had four Ministers from State, and Ministers from this side and six M Ps. besides the Army, Navy and Air Force Officers, was that for the proper rehabilitation and resettlement of ex-servicemen a Parliamentary Committee should be appointed on the pattern of the Committee for Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Anybody can raise an objection as to why it is for one set of Services. It is because the conditions here are different. In the Civil Services the people come and retire at the age of 58. Here they are retired at the age of 35. What are they to do? And the Armed Forces are the subject of the Union Government. They are in the Union List, but the welfare of ex-Servicemen is in the list of State subjects. The result is that the employees of the Central Government are at the mercy of the State Government. Some State Governments like Himachal Pradesh are doing a very good job, but all State Governments are not doing the same thing with equal zeal. Therefore, this concern for the welfare of the ex-servicemen should also be the concern of the Ministry of Defence and the Union Government and unless the Constitution is amended and it is put into this List, there is the other alternative suggestion which the HLC considered and recommended that a Parliamentary Committee may be set up for this purpose so that the implementation can be watched with the sister Committees in the State Legislatures also on being set up. The welfare of ex-servicemen is a national concern and I fully agree with some of the demands person-

ted to our former Minister of Defence, Shri V. P. Singh by the Ex-Servicemen League a few days ago asking for "one rank one pension," asking for the removal of disparities in pension, asking for better medical facilities and asking for the raising of minimum pension from Rs. 375 to 500. This should be considered with sympathy by the Government because they are the disciplined force. There are many measures for providing self-employment. Fifteen district in the country are preparing Ex-Servicemen for self-employment. Then there is also a self-financing scheme, and like this many other things are there. But the jawans face certain difficulties after retirement. They have to face a different atmosphere. Where there is a salute in the Armed Forces, there is some sort of a different climate—criticism, indifference, hostility from the State Government employees. Therefore, this is necessary.

Sir, I would like to suggest that whereas the Ministry of Human Resource Development has been very kind and 33 Central Schools have been opened in the military sector, we should also approach the Ministry of Finance because now the procedure for payment of pension has been changed, formerly it was through post offices, now it is through banks. So, more branches of the banks especially in those areas where ex-servicemen abound should be opened so that there is no difficulty for them. Some of them are handicapped, aged, and worn out. Let them not wander from pillar to post and walk a distance of over 10 to 15 km to get the pension, let more branches of the banks be opened near their home. So, this recommendation should go to the Ministry of Finance and the Reserve Bank of India to revise the policy considerably, especially for districts having a large number of ex-servicemen.

Sir, a proper count of ex-servicemen should be made. Forty-seven lakhs had been counted. I am happy that the next census will record the number of ex-servicemen in each village. There are about 60,000 coming every month out of the Armed Forces. Their welfare should also be the concern of the nation. So, I would suggest, Sir, that immediate measures be taken for making the best available talent to the Army. We protested in the Fifth Lok Sabha against the change in the recruitment policy. There were certain

[Prof. Narain Chand Parashar]

States like Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, J & K, Rajasthan, Haryana and hill areas of U.P. where the percentage of recruitment to the Armed Forces was reduced in accordance with the latest formula based on the recruitable male population of a State. Since Article 16 of the Constitution guarantees equality of opportunity and these States are not getting equality of opportunity in respect of big and other industrial projects, big public undertakings like the Steel Plants etc. because they are far away, is it not fair that these States, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, J & K etc. where from a large number of ex-servicemen come should continue to have the same percentage in the recruitment which they enjoyed earlier because they are specially trained for this purpose from their ancestors. In my constituency there are about five generations of ex-servicemen from father to son, they live on this as they regard it a matter of honour to serve the country and to die for the country. 1049 persons of Himachal Pradesh laid down their lives for the defence of the country in the years since Independence For what? It is not for money, not for anything but out of patriotism. Victoria Cross, Paramvir Chakras and Mahavir Chakras, Vir Chakras were awarded sometimes posthumously awarded and honours and gallantary awards were given to them. Therefore, this point should be kept in view, because that will give a boost to the morale of the people who are serving in the Armed Forces.

I would like to plead the case of an ordnance factory for Himachal Pradesh. There are 34 ordnance factories in the country and we want to have some more. And the Himachal Pradesh Government has been pleading for this. I praise and commend the efforts of my Chief Minister, Shri Virbhadra Singh in this regard. He has been writing, all the MPs from the State have been writing to the Centre for this. Recently, a team visited the State for this purpose. We would like that the Himachal's share should be accepted and this ordnance factory should be established in Himachal Pradesh and the State Government would give full cooperation.

With one or two words, I will wind up. I have been pleading for the last so many

years for giving token recognition and honour to the highest gallantary award winners. We have been suggesting that the villages of the people who get the highest awards, gallantary awards—may be Victoria Cross in the pre-independence days, may be Paramvir Chakra and may be even Mahavir Chakra now—should be developed as model villages so that you can show to the world that here are the brave sons of the soil and here we care for them. We do not have any hesitation in developing the places where they were born or they lived to be model places. This would be one of the suggestions, I will make. Similarly, in my constituency, there is a proposal to set up two military stations, one at Una and another at Hamirpur. The matter has been pending for a very long time. I hope it will be possible for the Ministry to take a decision in this matter. You take the land and sanction them.

Now, Sir, no matter where the Indians live, whether in the hills, snow-bound, snow-clad hills of Himachal Pradesh or deserts of Rajasthan or near the around sea waves Trivandrum or in the coastal belts of Calcutta or jungles of Assam or Arunachal Pradesh, they are one and they are second to none in the defence of the country. Let the entire world note it that the nation stands behind the Armed Forces and the Ministry of Defence and the Prime Minister in the defence of the motherland.

Sir, I welcome Shri K. C. Pant taking over the Ministry of Defence. A very brave son of a brave father who was a Union Minister for Home Affairs and who guided India at the early stage of her destiny, is now able to guide the Defence forces under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. We have all praise and all word of appreciation for the Jawans for the role they are playing. Our jawan in the jungle is fighting for the nation. We are for him, here is the Parliament, here are the villages and towns which care for him.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. At the outset I would like to congratulate our Hon. Prime Minister,

Defence Minister, and both the Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence. I would also like to congratulate the chiefs of our three Defence forces and all jawans who always remain alert to defend our frontiers with utmost devotion. If anyone wants to see the unity of true religion, he can see it in the Army. In the Army, temples, mosques and churches are available in every unit, but whenever there is any religious function of any religion, the people of all communities attend the function and pay their regard. They pay respect to the other religions as if they belong to that very religion, so that their colleagues or their officers may not feel that they belong to some other religion. All of us are born in India and it is our mother land. We are all Hindustani and that is our religion. Such example of unity we can find only in Army. Our Armed forces are doing their duty very honestly and faithfully. Just now one of our colleagues Shri Patel Sahib has said that nuclear arms will demoralise our jawans. Even the nuclear power of U.S.A. can never demoralise our jawans. In 1971 battle, our late Prime Minister had sent a message to our jawans through Army Chief that though we had provided best kind of weapons to them, but we could not give one thing and that is 'your heart'. It means that battle is always fought by the hearts and not by the weapons. If we have will power and patriotic zeal, we can win any battle and we have proved it in the battles of 1965 and 1971. In 1965 battle, we had Sherman and Vijayanta tanks, whereas Pakistan had Paton tanks, but their Paton tanks were blown out like football by our Sherman and Vijayanta tanks. It was not an ordinary thing. In this battle, you have seen that superior tanks like Paton tank could not do anything. Our jawans are full of the feelings of patriotism and with that sense of patriotism they defend our borders. We all know as to what punishment is given to a soldier if he disobeys the orders to go to a particular post for his duty. After the recruitment in the Army every jawan is administered the oath that he will defend this holy land and country and he will always be ready to go anywhere and he will sacrifice everything for the protection of his motherland. Keeping this pledge in his mind, he performs his duty. They also know that if they fail to discharge their duty towards the nation, the people of this country would not pardon them. Such example of our military is famous not only in our country, but all over the world. Anyone who

fails to discharge his duty will not get promotion. Promotion is given only to those who have good conduct throughout his service. You might have seen such examples in many other places also. I want to tell you a small incident of 1965 war. At that time we were posted in the battle field. A senior officer asked me that if a bombshell of enemies' tank came to me, what I would do. I told him that there could be only two possibilities, either our tanks would bombard on enemies' tanks or the condition would be just the reverse and no third situation is possible there. If any of our soldiers or officers turns his back in the battle field, the mother India and this country will never pardon him. That is why the character of our jawans is very high and they are fully imbued with patriotism. They never run away from the battle field. Their morale is very high. We have to see it whether our countrymen pay due regard to our soldiers. People pay high regard to our soldiers during war time, but similar regard and status should also be given to them during peace time. We see that other people easily get reservation and seats in the trains, but our poor jawans do not get any seat. Besides, our officers and jawans are not treated properly when they join civil service. Even a petty panch or sarpanch says that an ex-service man has come. We should maintain his status and due respect should be paid to him. I want that no soldier should be called as ex-service-man after his retirement. This is possible only when we introduce compulsory military training in our country. Five years military training should be made compulsory for all citizens of the country so that people may work for the unity of the country and maintain communal harmony. It is the call of the time and if you want to emancipate the country from present crisis, it is very essential, otherwise history will never pardon us. In view of the present circumstances the defence expenditure we have allocated is not sufficient. We have been encircled by the problems from all sides. Therefore, our defence Budget should be raised to four times of our present defence Budget. We should even contribute our one day's pay for defence expenditure so that we all can have our contribution in the defence of the country and it will inculcate the feeling of patriotism among us. Today it is very necessary for us to modernise our defence equipments. In view of our long border, the strength of our tanks is quite inadequate. In such a vast

(Shri Mohd. Ayub Khan)

country we must have atleast 400 Armoured units and accordingly we should have our infantry and modernised artillery. Similary, we should have best naval force and modern air crafts. In consultative committee, I had given a proposal that without taking other countries, we should manufacture such tanks which can fly in the air, float in sea and run on land and very shortly we are going to produce such tank for which I congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister and the Defence Minister. We should come forward in all fields in this way so that instead of imitating others, other countries may copy our technology.

I also want to say about ordnance factories that if we fix any target, the tanks are produced as per the target, but their spare parts are not produced. These are the lacunae in our ordnance factories. Therefore, to remove such lacunae Armed Act should be enforced there. Because workers of these factories go on tool down strikes and do not attend work, therefore, by enforcing Armed Act these lacunae can be removed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, now I want to speak about the recruitment of ex-service-men. I want that such procedure should be adopted under which people are first recruited in the military. For example, for the recruitment of policemen, they should be recruited first in the Army and after their retirement from the Army or after serving for some years in the Army, they should be taken in police force. Today a soldier is retired from the Army at the age of 45 years and where should he go after that. Therefore, arrangement should be made to provide re-employment to them. After their retirement from the Army they should be taken in police force so that they could serve the country with same discipline. If we will not provide such guarantee of service to our soldiers, they will remain apprehensive about their future. In the Army, a officer or a soldier has no time to think about civil life. Therefore, after his retirement from the Army when he comes to the civil life, he has to face so many problems. Therefore, we have to give guarantee to them to remove their difficulties, because our Army is the best Army which cannot be compared with Armies

of other countries for its efficiency and bravery.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now I would like to say that the modernization of our Armed crops and infantry is very necessary. From the British period, Armed corps has been categorised in group D and E. I would like to request the Hon. Defence Minister that Armed crops and infantry should be at least placed in group B, so that the soldier serving in Armed crops and infantry may also realise that they have some status. The ACE, EME and fighting forces are there who shed their blood and make sacrifice for the country, but they think as to why they have been placed in group D. Now the time has come when instead of group D we should bring them in group B. These are the people who first of all come forward to make sacrifices for the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the end I would like to say that whatever maximum we can do to modernise our Army, we should come forward to do that. We should continue our efforts to modernise our Army and equip them with modern weapons. Besides, we should also take care of the welfare of our soldiers.

We should make such efforts so that Air force officers who pilot aircrafts may not lose their mental balance at any time. It should not happen that during flight, they are thinking about their domestic problems which may lead to plane crash. Therefore, you should take care of such things.

We should pay high regard to our personnel of the armed forces so that they can serve the country in the best way. With these words I thank you.

SHRI G. L. DOGRA (Udhampur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very thankful to you for allotting me time to speak. It appeared from the debate that some Members were speaking like soldiers and some were speaking against the soldiers. Our military is not to attack any other country, but to defend the country from any foreign aggression. I can say on the basis of my personal experience that no one has yet spoken on the steps taken in this direction.

Perhaps the people, who speak against military, never had any association with the military or the soldiers and had they some association with them, such criticism would have never come in their mind. In the battles of 1947, 1965 and 1971 against Pakistan, I, myself had been associated with the Army. The relationship between our Army and civilians was very cordial at that time. Perhaps, today we do not have such cordial relations.

So far as the arms and weapons or nuclear threat are concerned, our colleagues who are technically qualified will speak about them. With regard to such matters, our those Members who are more qualified technically should speak. The Hon. Defence Minister will get the technical points examined and will see as to what can be done for them.

So far as Shri Patil Sahib was speaking in regard to intelligence and asked as to what is its structure and how they gathered their intelligence. He can assure us in regard to the intelligence system. But how can he tell us about the system that is functioning? I don't think that it can be disclosed. Shri Patel Sahib has not only been an experienced Member, but he has been a high officer also. He can have talks with the Defence Minister, because talks cannot be held openly about intelligence system. He can assure us. He would not be able to tell the details here as to what is our perfect intelligence system.

I would also like to say that we may not have to launch an attack, but we have to defend ourselves. An important work is to resist the forces of invaders. The forces can only fight bravely when the morale of the people living on borders is high and they help the forces and not get panicky and remain disciplined. Unless such feeling is aroused and an awakening is made among them that this country belongs to them and they have to defend it, the forces cannot fight the war to the victory.

In 1947, we had no armed forces available in Kashmir, but the people resisted the invaders. The Hon. Defence Minister might be aware that in 1965, invaders and intru-

ders intruded into Batamallu in Srinagar city. At that time people drove them away by burning their own houses. At that time forces were not available there and it reached there after two days. Only the personnel of Border Security Force reached there on the second day. The army reached there on the third day and resisted the invaders and drove them away.

It is correct that you cannot deal with the population of that state directly, but you can also not ignore the fact that unless this sense of awakening and patriotism is created among the people living in the border areas that we have to resist any intruders or enemies having even nuclear weapons, we cannot achieve our end. But no conscious effort is being made in this direction. The State Government, as well as the Central Government are not working in this direction. You should not ignore this. It is very essential in modern war. The problem that have cropped up in border area are due to the fact that there is no rapport among the civil population, Central Government, the State Governments and the army. If this rapport is established, the problem will not be there. Therefore, you should pay attention towards it.

I would not like to take much time of the House. You are wise. There will be a need to formulate a scheme and see as to how it can be implemented, because our border is very long.

Another thing, I would like to say is that you are forgetting a very good point. The provision of communication particularly of roads is very poor on our side of the border. We have Border Roads Organisation, but they have less work. They say that they have no resources. You can take resource to deficit financing for creating infrastructure. The State Governments demand that they be given their share of deficit financing. Whatever resources you have, the State Governments grab it on one plea or the other like famine and on other grounds. You can look to Pakistan. Pakistan has constructed a vast chain of roads. One of their roads join China and Pakistan via Gilgit. That road passes through Karakoram Pass. Pakistan has constructed at least 8 roads along the Siachin glacier and linked them with our

[Shri G. L. Dogra]

area. There roads are meant for movement. Your forces have to go on foot by climbing the glacier, but Pakistan has roads for their forces. China has also constructed roads on their side of the border. Both the countries have coordination with each other. They may be our friends, but they have good arrangement with each other. We should not forget that they have surrounded us and we have not been able to build roads on our border. In our side of the border a road which links Ladakh with Kashmir, passes through Jojila pass. General Sparrow Sahib is not here at present. That road comes within the firing range of Pakistan. You have not been able to join Kishtwar with Kargil. It is very essential. Kishtwar defence road should be constructed as early as possible.

18.00 hrs.

You should pay your attention in this direction and you should not delay this matter. When Hon. Prime Minister had visited Kishtwar and Ramnagar, he had made an announcement in this respect. Although he was not Prime Minister then, even then people ask us as to what has happened to that announcement. Besides this it was also announced that a road would be built from Majhalata, Ramnagar, Dudu, Vasantgarh, Lati, Mantalai to Patnitop, but unfortunately nothing has been done in this regard. The Hon. Prime Minister may announce this in Kishtwar or Ramnagar, but that announcement must be honoured. If this is not honoured, people get agitated. I would again request you to honour whatever commitment you make.

Besides this, you should also pay your attention towards ex-servicemen. They are not treated well at present They should be treated well. The Soldier Board may be working better in Himachal Pradesh, but this is not so in our state. The Soldiers' Boards do not work so much as they used to work earlier. The Boards also do not have upto-date information. There is a large scale bungling in the recruitment in the army. A number of complaints are being received in regard to the recruitment of jawans in the

army. It is said that bungling is taking place in it and particularly the medical officers are indulging in bungling on a large scale. Such complaints have adverse effect in the minds of the people. It has been seen that the sons of ex-servicemen join the forces. Their financial condition is also not very sound. Neither they have agricultural land nor any other land. Therefore, some facilities should be given to them to bring about improvement in their economic condition and their recruitment process should be streamlined. If due consideration is not given in the recruitment of deserving candidates in the forces, their standard is bound to fall.

Now I would like to draw your attention towards the condition of war widows. Their financial condition is not sound. They are not getting full pension. It should be increased. The State Governments are granting Rs. 60 to Rs. 70 to other widows, but the war widows of ex-servicemen are getting only Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 only. It is another thing if they get some dearness allowance. You should take due care of these war widows and see to it that they do not have to face any difficulty.

War widows used to get pension through post offices, but now they get it through Banks. You can grant them pensions through banks, where these are available, but where banks are situated at far off places, they should be granted pensions through post offices. It has come to notice that these widows have to go as far as 10 to 15 miles away to draw pensions. They have to spend half of their pension amount in the journey for drawing pension. Sometimes they meet with an accident and come under the wheels of buses and trucks. I would request you to pay attention in this direction and revive the system of granting pension through post offices.

I would not like to take much of the time of the House and conclude. I am thankful to you for giving me time to speak.

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