

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : There are things which have to be examined by the experts and they have to do it. Sometimes being able to close the door automatically also causes some danger. So, there are aspects which have to be examined. This time the explosion took place outside. The explosion then went inside also. There was explosion inside the magazine also. These kinds of things can be better examined by the experts and they would be able to say what should be done. I don't think that at this point of time this aspect can be examined, and the Court of Inquiry is going to see what was the cause whether the facilities available there were enough or not and whether there were other reasons also. These things will be examined.

DR G. S. RAJHANS : Sir, I am told that once such an accident had taken place at COD in 1974. An inquiry was held at that time also. May I know the outcome of that inquiry, and have we learnt any lesson out of it ?... (*Interruptions*). If it is very confidential, well I won't like to ask. Have we learnt any lesson ? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I am told that the explosion had taken place in 1974. Whenever anything of this nature happens, the matter is carefully examined and whatever suggestions are given are generally implemented.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to bring this in the notice of the Hon. Minister that on 3rd March, 1988 an agreement was reached between the two unions and the management and a clause was inserted in the agreement that for any incident occurred in the campus of C.O.D., union would not be held responsible. What was the justification of including this clause ? Was any clause like this included ? A man named Avtar Singh who earlier worked in C.O.D., went outside for a long time and then suddenly came and joined the duty, he has been missing since the date of occurrence of this incident. Would you kindly tell about his whereabouts ? Besides, there are many incident of theft in the C.O.D and a large number of ammunitions are smuggled outside, F.I.R.s in

many cases have also been lodged. What are the steps that have been taken to stop such thefts.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : So far as the question of Avtar Singh is concerned, this question was raised by another hon. Member also. He disappeared from C.O.D. but later on he returned there.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Not only he came before the incident but also disappeared afterwards.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I have no such information. I will tell you after gathering more information. The third thing you said was about thefts...

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Thefts were committed in the past. It is still being committed it will continue to be committed in future also.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I don't know from where you have got the information about F.I.R. etc.

17.50 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1988-89—

Contd.

[*English*]

Ministry of Home Affairs—contd.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the discussion under rule 193 is over. About 10 minutes we have got. Let us go back to the Discussion on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

[*Translation*]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jharkhand) : The Ministry of Home Affairs is the most important Ministry for this country. Sometimes ago, we made a discussion on Punjab and passed a Bill. I would like to submit one thing that naxalites are again raising their ugly heads in our country with renewed speed, be it in Bihar, Bengal, Madhya Pradesh or Andhra

Pradesh. You cannot turn a deaf ear to it. A parallel Government is running in four to five districts in Bihar. Unless the Central Government extends its full help to the Bihar Government, the State Government is unable to control this naxalite movement. This is a very serious problem and a serious thought is required to be given to it. A lot of atrocities are being committed. This is not only a law and order problem but it is a socio-economic problem also. There are no roads, caste wars are waged and the people have formed their private armies. In the face of all these problems, you cannot solve the problem just by terming it as a law and order problem. You must have heard that in Bihar people have organised private armies on the one or other pretext for the last five years. Their fight cannot be called a caste war, they fight for socio-economic reasons. So the Ministry of Home Affairs should go into the depth of the problem and try to find out the reasons behind it. How this thing can be stopped. The police of Hindi belt has become very much demoralised and is afraid of taking action against the criminals. In Bihar, particularly areas bordering Nepal, the criminals have such sophisticated weapons that the police is unable to match them. Such sophisticated weapons are smuggled from China, due to which the whole police force has become demoralised. Weapons are being openly smuggled on Indo-Nepal border. Now, everyone's attention is focussed on Punjab, happenings around Indo-Nepal border have escaped attention. The Government should find out the quantum of weapons being smuggled through Indo-Nepal border from China and how this problem can be solved. If the Government fails to find out a timely solution to this problem it will assume a serious proportion. In some districts in Bihar such as Bhagalpur, Monghyr and Santhal Pargana, as large as 60 to 70 percent homes have unlicensed arms today... I am saying it with full responsibility. Bombs are being made in 30 to 40 percent homes in Bihar today. It is not known where these bombs are used and from where materials to make bombs are procured. If the Central Government with the help of the State Government, C.R.P.F. and B.S.F. does

a house to house combing operation in Patna, Bhagalpur, Monghyr, Santhal Pargana, Arrah and Chapra districts, a large number of bombs would be found, even more than that of Punjab. If you, just now, turn a deaf ear to this problem, an explosive situation will develop in future which may prove an eye-sore for you.

As I am told that time is very short at my disposal and I should conclude by six O'clock, so not saying much, I would like to invite your attention to an important matter. I am very happy to see the patience of our present hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs Shri Chintamani Panigrahi, who has always extended his cooperation to us in the matter of sanctioning pensions for the freedom fighters. Whenever I called at him in connection with freedom fighter pension, he heard me with patience but still lakhs of application of freedom fighters of Bihar are pending with his Ministry for the last several years. They should be disposed of immediately this way or that way so that the freedom fighters get their pensions. It is a big problem for you and us both. For how long we will continue to give fake assurance to the people that their cases are going to be decided quickly. I know that the hon. Minister is working hard to dispose of these cases, but I would like to request that these pending applications of freedom fighters should be decided on war-footing and disposed of quickly. It is regretted that today there are many imposters who call themselves freedom-fighters and are getting pension from the Government. These cases should be investigated. I will not disclose the identity but I know a man, who was not even born in 1942-43 or 44, but he is getting freedom fighters pension. I don't know as to why someone had recommended his case and how a freedom fighter gave a certificate that he was in jail with him and the Government liberally gave him the pension. The Government should take a fresh look in the matter. There is nothing to fear. All the bogus cases of freedom-fighters pensioners should be reviewed. The Government should invite reports confidentially from the Members of Parliament in this regard.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member can write to the Minister. It can be reviewed.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : It should remain confidential.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Having raised it in the House, why not you write to the Minister who will review it ?

[Translation]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Such cases should be reviewed and their pensions should be stopped. The persons who deserve must get pension.

Finally, I would like to submit that much efforts have not been made to encourage the national language in all the Ministries. You please accelerate the matter. The promise given to the people will not be fulfilled until we give the national language, its due place. I can simply say that Hindi is not a difficult language. I am myself a Hindi speaking person. But today Hindi is used in such a form that it looks as if we are adopting the policy of encouraging English. So, give instructions to evolve simple Hindi language and ensure that it is used by all Ministries.

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, April 18, 1968/ Chaitra 29, 1910 (Saka).*