

As Hon'ble Member Shri K. Ramamoorthy has said that it is the officials of the banks who decide about the functions without even informing the concerned Members of Parliament. The representatives of the people should not be given such a raw deal. The public representatives are embarrassed before the people when they ask the Members of Parliament the reason for not attending such functions. Hon'ble Minister may please issue strict guidelines to be followed in respect of Members of Parliament while organising such functions.

In the nationalised banks the commissions being charged on Demand Drafts are very high. The private banks charge only 2%, 3% or 5% but the nationalised banks charge 10%. If a person wants to take a Demand Draft of Rupees on lakh he has to pay 1000/- rupees as commission. Instead of paying such a huge commission he can send the money by a personal messenger. Hon'ble Minister may kindly look into this.

I had already said that the number of educated unemployed is on the increase, and, therefore, before the age limit for employment is crossed the educated unemployed must be provided with employment. With these words, Sir, I conclude.

15.02 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES
OF TWO OFFICIALS OF PAKISTAN
EMBASSY

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): Two Pakistani national were detected by the Special Branch of the Delhi Police at Ranjit Hotel on the evening of 30th November, 1988, while they were in the process of receiving a secret Defence document from an Indian contact and passing over to the Indian contact a sum of Rs. 50,000/-. There was also another Indian national who was an accomplice of the Pakistani nationals.

When they were apprehended, one of the Pakistani nationals claimed that he was a diplomat although he had no documents to establish this. It was subsequently confirmed that he was Brigadier Z. I. Abbasi, Military Attache in the Pakistan Embassy. His associate was identified as Mohammad Ashraf Khatib, an official of the Pakistan Embassy. After observing the usual formalities, Brigadier Abbasi and Mohammad Ashraf Khatib were released. A case has been registered under the Official Secrets Act.

The Government of India have declared Brigadier Abbasi persona non grata and have advised the Pakistan Embassy that Mohammad Ashraf Khatib is also no longer acceptable. The Embassy has been asked to ensure that they leave India within twenty four hours.

15.05 hrs.

BANKING, PUBLIC FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS
LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL — Contd.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this Bill to amend the laws covering our banks, financial institutions as well as negotiable instruments laws is a big disappointment, I should say. It is because we had expected that a Bill of this type would propose some basic changes in the structure of the nationalised banking sector. The structure had continued unchanged for nearly 18 years now since nationalisation took place. There should be some review of this period and then only, it can be argued whether there is no need to change the structure and that it is doing very well as it is. At present, there are 28 nationalised banks which are engaged in free-for-all competition with each other. This was in the private sector which we took over but it still continues. These 28 banks which are competing with each other involve a huge amount of wasteful expenditure, top heavy management. By all logic