

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

The question is :

"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 comp-

lete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1986 in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 10 to 13. "relating to the Ministry of Commerce and Supply."

The motion was adopted.

Demands for Grants (General) 1985-86 in respect of the Ministry of Commerce and Supply voted by the House.

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 25th March, 1985	Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House
1	2	3	4
		Rs.	Rs.
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND SUPPLY			
10.	Ministry of Commerce and Supply	57,33,000	—
11.	Foreign Trade and Export Production	1,35,87,38,000	18,20,58,000
12.	Textiles, Handloom and Handicrafts	43,75,32,000	36,62,97,000
13.	Supplies and Disposals	2,54,05,000	—
			2,86,69,000
			6,85,97,69,000
			91,52,93,000
			1,83,14,85,000
			12,70,28,000

SITUATION IN SRI LANKA

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we take up discussion under Rule 193. Shri P. Selvendran.

[Translation]

*SHRI P. SELVENDRAN (Periakulam) : Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today morning our hon. Minister of State for External Affairs made a statement about the prevailing situation in Sri Lanka. On 25th our young and dynamic Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi presented a picture of the state of affairs in Sri Lanka in his statement and he announced the constitution of an Advisory Committee of Experts to help him in having an assess-

ment of Sri Lankan situation and in formulating the course of action to find a solution for the problem. All of us reacted favourably to this announcement because it was an earnest attempt and we derived some solace because of impending course of action after carefully analysing the situation in Sri Lanka.

When I rise to speak on Sri Lankan situation. I am tossed between the words I have to utter and the feelings that I cannot fully give vent to. Today the Tamil race in Sri Lanka is being subjected to unprecedented cruelty not recorded so far anywhere in the history of the world. In the world map, the island of Sri Lanka looks like a tear-drop of Bharat Mata. But today on account of blood-curdling

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

events taking place there, this island has taken the appearance of a solidified blood-rock floating in the ocean. The minority Tamilian race is being massacred. The Tamil sisters are being raped. The life and property of Sri Lankan Tamils are being gobbled up by the leaping flames being fanned by Sinhala fanatics. Those who have to say 'I surrender to Buddha' are now saying 'I surrender to blood-shed'; it has become the national theme-song.

The human rights are being flouted and violated. The human civilisation is being decimated. The human culture is being buried in the bowels of earth. The Jaffna library which was the treasure-house of Tamil culture has been turned into ashes. Hitler's cruelty to Jews has been overshadowed by Jayawardhene's Government. Without the support of law Hitler murdered the Jews. President Jayawardhene's Government within the framework of law and with the help of army and Police is exterminating the Tamil race from the map of Sri Lanka. It is said that each Chapter of Hitler's *Mein Kampf* relates the murder of 1,20,000 Jews. But each utterance of Jayawardhene's Government is taking away the life of 100 Tamils. There is no difference between the *apartheid* policy of South Africa and the genocide of Jayawardhene Government. The barbarism of South Africa in Namibia is lesser in its rigour than the atrocities of Jayawardhene against Tamils. The *apartheid* policy of South Africa is a thorn in the foot of Bharat Mata; but the racial policy of Sri Lanka is a thorn in the eye of Bharat Mata.

A week before the Sri Lankan Navy chased a boat-load of Sri Lankan refugees numbering 200 and arrested them, in our territorial waters. Some days back 27 Tamils were shot dead in Palk Straits. The MOSSAD—the murder wing of Israel Army—and the mercenary force of S.A.S. of Britain are training the soldiers of Sri Lankan army in gorilla warfare. The Secret Police of Israel is crushing the Elam tigers. In North and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka, where Sri Lankan Tamils are predominating, the Sri Lankan army is being amassed. The Sri Lankan Army men, who have had their training in Britain, are subjecting the Tamils to atrocities which are beyond words of

description. No mirror is needed to see the wound in the hand. These tragic events in Sri Lanka are the order of the day; they are so patent that they need no further confirmation.

It is not that Sri Lankan Government had entertained the idea of wiping out the Tamilian race just two or three years ago. The Sri Lankan Government chartered the course of action immediately after Independence in 1948. In 1948 the first act of free Sri Lankan Government was to forfeit the citizenship rights of 10 lakhs of people of Tamil origin, who had given their sweat and blood for the development of Sri Lanka. From 1949 onwards, 1,84,771 people of Tamil origin were sent to India as refugees. As a consequence of Sirimavo-Shastri Agreement signed on October 10, 1964, out of 9,75,000 stateless people of Tamil origin, 5,25,000 were to be given Indian citizenship and 3 lakhs Sri Lankan citizenship. In 1974, according to Sirimavo-Indira Gandhi agreement, India and Sri Lanka would give citizenship rights to the remaining stateless people on 50 : 50 basis. While India fulfilled its obligations, Sri Lankan Government has not done justice to its obligation. Even today more than a lakh of stateless people of Tamil origin with Indian passports are living like beggars in Sri Lanka. That is because Sri Lanka has not given its share of Provident Fund, Gratuity; etc. due to these plantation workers.

Sri Lankan Tamils have been denied equal opportunities in educational field and also in job opportunities. Tamils have been neglected in Army and Police. The atrocities being perpetrated by Sri Lankan Government since 1948 are going on endlessly; this can be compared only to the puranic example of ever-lengthening tail of Hanuman, never-ending length of Draupadi's sari and the countless steps of the throne of King Vikramaditya. The genocide of Tamil race in Sri Lanka seems to be perennial.

India is known for its contribution in the world's fight for human rights. India gave birth to Buddha, the apostle of Peace. India is the homeland of Mahatma Gandhi, the apostle of non-violence. India is the birth-place of Pandit Nehru who dedicated his life to human rights. India

[Shri P. Selvendran]

is known in the comity of nations for the sagacious leadership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi who sacrificed her life for the cause of world peace. Today India has the honour of recognising SWAPO, the organisation of freedom fighters of Namibia, under the dynamic leaders of Namibia. Our young Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has taken this bold decision and has given the lead for other countries of the world.

I want that the Government of India should take expeditious steps to allay the apprehensions of Sri Lankan Tamils. Shri G Parthasarathi was sent to Sri Lanka to bring people across the table for talks. That generated hopes in our drooping spirits. An effulgent star of hope sprang up in our horizon of thinking. We started day-dreaming about a peaceful settlements. Unfortunately, all our dreams were shattered because of the recalcitrance of Jayawardhene Government. Again our hopes were kindled by the despatch of Shri Bhandari to Sri Lanka. Again our hopes were belied. If this process continues endlessly and if we procrastinate our firm line of action, then a day may come when we may have to say 'Operation successful, but the patient died'.

We are keen to find a solution through negotiations. That is because we are committed to peace. Sir, you will agree with me if I say that negotiations cannot be a success among two suspicious groups. A solution cannot be found when two sides meet under compulsion and confrontation. The talks will succeed by the mingling of two hearts in search of peace, not in pursuit of retribution and revenge. To expect reciprocity for our peace moves from the Government of Sri Lanka is like expecting blood donation from the insect which knows only how to suck the blood. We cannot expect mercy from the butcher. We cannot expect benevolence from Evil.

During the past two years of talks and negotiations, Sri Lankan Government has been arming itself to teeth. Arms and ammunitions worth Rs. 1000 crores have been procured from several countries of the world. Sri Lanka has entered into military agreements with America for the

supply of sophisticated arms. Sri Lanka has stepped up its anti-Indian campaign. Trincomalle, the most beautiful natural harbour on the east-coast of Sri Lanka, which is known as the key of Indian Ocean, has been given on long lease to American marines. Trincomalle has become the second Diego Garcia of Indian Ocean. There are 105 giant oil tanks here, which have been leased out to an American company. The American 7th fleet can be sheltered here without attracting the attention of outside forces. The entire Sri Lankan coast has been given for the so-called scientific research of USA under a long-term agreement.

All these activities have created an area of international terror in Indian Ocean. The southern parts of our country have not faced any threat of war all these years. Now even the southern parts have become susceptible to dangerous portends from Indian Ocean. If we do not find a solution to Sri Lankan problem, then the danger to Southern States will get intensified. We will be able to give protection to Southern States only after the Sri Lankan problem is resolved peacefully.

Our venerable Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivar. Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, lead an all-party Delegation to the hon. Prime Minister the other day and explained to him the consequences of any delayed action on our part in solving the Sri Lankan problem. He wanted protection to Indian fishermen. He wanted that Sri Lankan refugees should be sent back to Sri Lanka. We should create an atmosphere of amity in Sri Lanka for both Tamils and Sri Lankans to live in mutual trust and faith. The honour and respect of Sri Lankan Tamils should be restored. With due deference to these sentiments of our leader, our Prime Minister constituted the Advisory Committee on Sri Lankan problems. We are mollified to some extent by this immediate response from the Prime Minister. But I wish to say that a starving man cannot be asked to wait for the sweetened rice to be prepared and given to him; he should be given instantaneously some rice pudding. Then only he can be saved from death. Similarly, the Sri Lankan Tamils cannot be saved from such

Committees and confabulations. They need immediate succour for their survival.

I would like to remind the House of the swift action taken by the Government during the liberation war of East Pakistan. We gave recognition to Mukti Bahini and helped it in liberating Bangla Desh. We arranged the return of several lakhs of refugees from East Pakistan to Bangla Desh. Similarly, now we have recognised SWAPO to expedite the freedom of Namibia. We have endeared ourselves by recognising Palestinian Liberation Organisation. We want homeland for the Palestinians. Have we taken such concrete steps in the case of Sri Lankan Tamils? Should not the Government extend the hand of protection to Sri Lankan Tamils? Should we not wipe out the tears of Sri Lankan Tamil women whose honour has been destroyed? Should we not try to quench the quest of freedom for which the Sri Lankan Tamils are fighting their last-ditch battle?

Sri Tamil race has survived so long on the strength of purity of Tamil women. Kannagi, the embodiment of purity, has the most honoured place in Tamil history. How long we can remain the silent spectators of sordid events taking place just 25 miles across our territory? Should the sigh of sorrow envelop the entire Tamil race?

Sri, India is inherently committed to human values. India is leading the non-aligned nations of the world. India gave to the world Panch Sheel, which has become the sheet-anchor of non-aligned nations. But Sri Lanka Government is spoiling the image of non-alignment policy not only by aligning itself with western nations by military agreements but also by violating with impunity the human values. I take this opportunity to demand that Sri Lanka should be expelled from the non-aligned group immediately.

Sir, in Sri Lanka human flesh has become equated with the flesh of sheep and cattle. It may not be a surprise if a board indicating that human flesh is available at that particular place is hung in certain parts of Sri Lanka. Tamilians are murdered. Tamil women are raped. It does not end with Sri Lankan Tamils.

Now Indian fishermen are being shot dead. They are arrested and put in the prisons in Sri Lanka. Their fishing boats are captured. Should we not protect our own fishermen from the persecution of Sri Lankan Navy? Should we not remove the atmosphere of terror among our fishermen?

The Sri Lankan naval boat entered our territorial waters to harass our fishermen. We captured that boat. In our inborn magnanimity we returned that naval boat to Sri Lanka. Similarly, the aeroplane carrying weapons and arms to Sri Lanka which would be used against Sri Lankan Tamils landed in Trivandrum because the petrol was running short to continue the flight. We were gracious enough to refuel the plane and permitted the plane to go with the military cargo to Sri Lanka. Our approach was that of the magnanimity of a lion towards the small rat. But what is the response from the other side? President Jayawardhene's Government is converting this benevolence of our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi into an act of cowardice on the part of our Prime Minister and his Government.

I would appeal to our hon. Prime Minister that we have to change our stance towards Sri Lanka. We have to modify our attitude towards the problems of Sri Lanka. We have also to alter our aptitude in regard to the solutions of this serious problem. We should immediately stop all assistance to Sri Lanka which has been committing genocide of Tamil race and which has murdered our innocent fishermen in our territorial waters. We should mobilise international opinion against the suppression of minority rights. We should invoke the Human Rights Commission to condemn such extermination of minority race.

Before I conclude, I would once again demand a radical change in our approach to Sri Lankan Tamil problem. I am sure that our hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi will formulate a more serious course of action to secure the protection of our fishermen and to protect the security of southern parts of our country. Unless the Sri Lankan Tamil problems are resolved, the southern parts of our country are susceptible to threats of war.

[Shri P. Selvendram]

I appeal to our hon. Prime Minister to have a fresh approach, a fresh angle to find a solution for the Sri Lankan Tamil problem.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

16.20 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : WITHDRAWAL OF
MONEY FROM THE CONTINGENCY
FUND OF INDIA FOR MEETING THE
REQUIREMENTS OF FUNDS FOR THE
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY FOR
DELHI RIOTS

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI-
MATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : As the
Hon'ble Members are aware, my colleague
Shri A.K. Sen, Minister of Law and Justice
has made a statement in the Lok Sabha on
26-4-1985 announcing the constitution of
Shri Justice Ranganath Misra Commission
of Inquiry to inquire into the allegations
of organised violence in Delhi following
the assassination of the late Prime Minister
Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

2. The Commission is required to
start its work immediately. The necessary
funds for meeting the expenditure on
setting up of the Commission and for
meeting the day-to-day expenses, viz,
salary and allowances, office expenses and
travelling expenses, etc. have, therefore, to
be provided. The expenditure on this 'new
service' could not be foreseen and has not
been included in the Budget provisions
for the year 1985-86. It is, therefore,
proposed to withdraw Rs. 12 lakhs from
the Contingency Fund of India and place
it at the disposal of the Commission to
meet its expenses upto the end of August,
1985. The necessary expenses on the
Commission will be included in the first
supplementary estimates to be presented
to the Parliament in its next session and
the advance to be drawn from the
Contingency Fund shall be resumed to the
Fund as soon as supplementary—Appropriation
Act in respect of the above
expenditure on the Commission is passed.

16.22 hrs.

[SITUATION IN SRI LANKA—Contd.]

[English]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM
(Salem) : Last time when the Demands for
Grants for the External Affairs Ministry
were before the House I had spoken on
this issue. But since that day till today
things have worsened and have not
improved in the Sri Lankan situation,
especially the ethnic problem.

I would at the outset like to give a
few figures in order to emphasize and
really bring to light the gravity of the
problem. At the moment as stated by the
hon. Minister for External Affairs himself,
over 100,000 refugees have come into our
country from Sri Lanka. These refugees
have not come seeking better pastures or
for better economic advancement. They
have come because they have been driven
away from their homes physically and by
violence. They were chased from their
villages and had to literally run to the
boats. The idea obviously is to evict from
Sri Lanka all the Tamils. Not only that,
over 7,500 families have been killed since
1983. 'Killed' means butchered not by
private people but by state-organised
violence by the Army and the para-military
forces. As my friend here states, it was
State terror and the product of that was
that 7,500 people have been killed. Not
only that over 1,50,000 have been rendered
homeless there in Sri Lanka itself and they
are today in the refugee camps.

In addition to all this consciously about
2 lakh Sinhalese have been trained,
armed, made into para military forces and
those Sinhalese are nothing but ex-convicts
or rather undesirable anti-social elements
and they are going to be settled in those
villages from where the refugees who are
today in India have come. This re-settle-
ment is very obvious. These facts I bring
to the notice of the House to point out
that it is not just a sudden communal or
ethnic problem that has arisen out of
nowhere. This is not a matter where one
can say two communities because of their
internal differences fought and the problem
is an outcome of these two communities.
It is unfortunate but it is relevant to go