

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I think now the External Affairs Minister may start and speak for two or three minutes and then continue after lunch.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : He can do it after lunch.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All right. We now adjourn for lunch to reassemble at 2-00 P.M.

13.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at seven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

DISCUSSION ON REPORTED TRAINING TO INDIAN TERRORISTS IN A MERCENARY SCHOOL IN ALABAMA—Contd.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I must admit that the debate on terrorism was very useful and the hon. Members made a very useful contribution. Besides that, it was very heartening to find that all sections of the House condemned terrorism actually they not only condemned terrorism but they showed their real concern about it. I feel that, as rightly said, there should be no place for terrorism in a democracy, or for that matter in a civilised society. That concern has been very rightly expressed by the hon. Members.

Terrorism is a hydra-headed monster which is apparently brutal, barbaric and cruel. Increasing acts of international terrorism such as assault on diplomats, abduction of diplomats, hijacking of aircraft, destroying the installation and other such acts are causing concern to the international community now. There seems to be growing awareness in the international community that something has to be done to curb the activities of the terrorists and the extremists. Sir, terrorism, as I said, has many faces, postures and ramifications and, therefore, it is the duty and responsibility of all the countries concerned to curb terrorism with strong hands.

In certain countries, it is our experience that over-indulgence has been shown to terrorists and extremists. This is something about which we are all very much concerned and naturally this House has expressed its concern about this matter in particular. But here again I would like to mention that this is not only a cause of concern to us but it is also a cause of concern for those who have shown indulgence to terrorism or to extremism. They have also suffered. What happened to President Kennedy, you all know. What happened to President Reagan, you all know. What happened to Lord Mountbatten, we all know and what happened almost to the entire British Cabinet recently which escaped the effects of terrorism in their own country. Therefore, they should all realise that terrorists and their activities are extremist and their activities must be curbed. Otherwise, there will not only be a danger to other countries but they will also pose a serious danger and threat to their own country.

Taking an over legalistic view on such matters is very deplorable and really very disappointing because terrorism or extremism is not to be given cover under the legalistic views or legalistic niceties. It has to be dealt with firmly and it has to be condemned and it has to be curbed.

Recently hon. Members have seen that the White House has threatened appropriate action against acts of terrorism against America. If America can take this action against terrorists whose activities are against Americans, why not other countries also should not take action against terrorists? What we want is that this sort of action

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Should be taken against all terrorists to whichever country they belong.

But, as far as affording protection to those terrorists who are internationally condemned concerned, it is the responsibility of all the countries to ensure that no protection is given to them.

In U.K. indulgence is provided under the cover of legalistic niceties or legalistic problems. This is something which we have brought again and again to the notice of all concerned that such over legalistic views should not provide a cover to the activities of terrorists or to the activities of the extremists because this way it may not be possible to control or to curb their activities and once their activities snowball, they would not be confined to certain countries or to any particular country but they are going to affect many countries and particularly even those countries where they find some sort of cover or protection.

Similarly, I would like to mention two of our aircraft were hijacked to Pakistan and for a number of years, the hijackers were not tried. We made repeated requests to the Pakistan Government that they should be tried under the international laws or whatever are the laws of that country but here we find that they are taking a very long time in trying our hijackers. But here again when they are being tried, it is found that the process painfully slow. At the same time, they very expeditiously decided the cases of their own hijackers and gave them very serious punishment. Why should there be double standards in these matters? Hijackers from any country are terrorists and they should be dealt with accordingly. It should not be that the hijackers of one country are dealt with in one way and the hijackers of another country are dealt with in a different way. We have always stressed that there should be complete understanding in regard to exchange of information about the terrorists and the extremists and their activities, and we are prepared to cooperate with all the countries concerned. But unfortunately we have found that we have not been able to get the full cooperation of certain countries in this behalf, and naturally this is a matter of grave concern to us.

Regarding the training provided to the four terrorists in Alabama in Mr. Camper's

School, this is a very serious matter. It is said that such Schools in the United States are schools for training of mercenaries. But these four particular persons who went for their training and who were trained there had very clearly indicated their purpose and their objective. They had mentioned that they wanted this training for creating disturbance in this country, they wanted to create trouble in this country, they wanted to kill people in this country, they wanted to destroy our bridges, hotels, installations, etc., and they also wanted training for chemical sabotage. If these Schools are going to provide training for such purposes, they cannot be called schools for training mercenaries; they are really training extremists, they are really training terrorists. Therefore, this has been brought to the notice of the authorities in America that this sort of Schools should not be allowed to train people in this fashion. We do not agree with the view of the U.S. Administration that these Schools are for training of mercenaries and that they conform to the laws of the country. If they conform to the laws of the country and if the laws are not adequate, then certainly some additional legislation should be enacted which must ensure that either these Schools are closed down or there is an effective control over their training activities so that they do not provide this sort of training to terrorists and extremists.

Some of the hon Members mentioned that there should be some international conference about curbing the terrorist activities and the extremist activities. No doubt, there are a number of Conventions adopted by the U.N. These Conventions were adopted in the period, 1970 to 1979. But it has been the experience that these Conventions have not been very effective and they have not been able to check terrorism or terrorist activities or extremist activities. Therefore, it is very necessary to have a second look at these Conventions. Although the matter is already under consideration of the United Nations, unfortunately, due to divergent views, they have not been able to come to any conclusion and they have not been able to come to any decision as to what type of Convention should be adopted which will be more effective and which will achieve the objectives for which they have been adopted. The question of taking further action, as I said, is under the consideration of the U.N.

We have taken up the question of terrorist with the U.S. Administration and lodged strong protests with U.K. and Canada, and similar views were also expressed to Mr. Genscher, Foreign Minister of West Germany, who visited us very recently. Although we find that all of them, while discussing or talking to us, express the views and say, 'Yes, we are really in favour and we appreciate your concern', apparently it seems the whole matter is being treated by them like Milton's *Paradise Lost* which is appreciated by all but read by none. Similarly I find that.....

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) :
Because it is 'regained'.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :
This talk in this manner. But then we have made it very clear that there cannot be any compromise as far as this matter is concerned. This has to be taken note of. Fortunately it seems that there is now a sort of awareness that something has to be done about it. We hope that in future there will be more cooperation, there will be more exchange of information and there will be more help from each other. We also hope that they will pass on the information well in time, so that the countries which are likely to be affected by the activities of the terrorists of the activities of the extremists can take appropriate action well in time to prevent their nefarious activities. Sir, as I have already mentioned, we value our relations with all these countries; but we are not prepared to compromise as far as the security of our country is concerned, and this has been made very clear to them. Sir, we do not subscribe to the views of the Under States administration that there is scope for confrontation with their laws. Their laws are such that if they take any action against these schools, they must change their laws, they must bring a new legislation and only then will it be possible to stop the activities of these schools. These schools must be brought under control in such a fashion that they do not provide any facilities of training extremists or terrorists. Sir, another important thing which I would like to say in this connection is that our neighbouring countries in particular have a special responsibility. Our opinion is that the neighbouring countries should not try to help the terrorists of each other countries or the extremists of each other countries. Instead, what they should do is that they

should discourage this sort of providing any assistance or training. It is the responsibility of the neighbouring country to provide all the necessary information to their neighbours so that the neighbours can take appropriate action against the intending terrorists or intending extremists. But we find that some of the neighbouring countries have not been cooperating in this matter and we are very strongly opposing it and we have also confronted them with the evidence available in this regard and that evidence are such as cannot be refuted. I am sure Sir, that with this information they should be able to wider their view in future and should not provide any such facilities to the extremists or to the terrorists in their country which will cause damage or destruction in this country because they will come back here and do any kind of mischief and nefarious activity. Sir, these are most of the points raised by some of the Hon'ble Members which I have tried to answer. In the end I would like to say that our Embassy, our Missions are ever alert. In fact I must admit that that it will be uncharitable for us to say that our Missions have not done anything in this regard. Actually whatever information we are getting, whatever information is being passed on to us is coming through our Missions only. But our Missions which are operating or working in other countries have certain limitations also. They have certain limitations regarding getting information. They try to keep in touch with the developments. They try to keep in touch with the appropriate authorities and try to get as much information as possible and pass it on to us which keeps us alert and informed about the developments which are taking place in some of the countries where over-indulgence is being shown to the terrorists and extremists. Sir, the last thing which I would like to mention is about the so called terrorists or the extremists who have lodged themselves in foreign lands, enjoying hospitality there. They are abusing the hospitality. They must know that the problems of this country cannot be solved in Washington, London, Bonn or Ottawa. If they have to solve their problems, they have to come here and solve them on the soil of this country only. Because these are our problems. From no other country they can solve these problems. They will have to come to us; talk to us; talk to our leaders and talk to our Government. Then only, if they are

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really problems, can be solved. One thing is quite sure. They can stay comfortably. They can fly some flag over their houses in London but that is not going to help them. As has been rightly said there will be no such place in this country where they could fly their flag. They can fly flag in Ottawa, London or Washington but in this country only the tri-colour flag will be flown. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : Sir, will the hon. Minister consider a suggestion which was made on the Floor of the House that we should move the United Nations to call a convention to put a curb on the terrorists' activities in the world ?

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : Sir, as I mentioned, the matter is already under the consideration of the United Nations. The whole problem is that there have been different views and it has not been possible for the United Nations to come to some conclusion in order to decide about the conventions to be adopted or to call for an International conference.

UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

[English]

(i) Motions Re : Thirty-Second and Thirty-third Reports—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up item No. 16 on the agenda. Shri Vijay N. Patil was on his legs. He may continue.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol) : Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, last time I had mentioned that many of the candidates who appear in IAS, IPS and Allied Services mostly come from northern areas and especially from Delhi. I would like to substantiate this fact by mentioning the figures of candidates who appeared in 1981 : Delhi-1016, Rajasthan-588 ; Allahabad-464 ; Punjab-463 ; Patna-297 and Madras-306. As compared to the above figures the number of candidates from Maharashtra are even less than Patna. From Bombay the number of candidates appeared was 74 ; Nagpur 38 ; Poona 59 and Kolhapur 14.

Here I would like to mention one thing. When I was a Member of Parliament sitting in Opposition in 1978. I was asked

one question whether they are considering to allot a State-wise quota for these services. The reply was in the negative. At least we can do some justice by starting training centres. In 1978 itself I had occasion to visit Sardar Patel Institute importing training to IPS probationers in Hyderabad. There at that the strength of the batch was 60. I inquired the names and I found only one person was there from Maharashtra and that too his name was Mr. Chaturvedi. Such is the condition in different States. So, I would request the hon. Minister to start training centres which he is proposing for persons who intend to appear in these competitive examinations. For this I would like to suggest the name of my district Dhulia because it is most tribal in population. Both the Members of Parliament from Dhulia belong to scheduled tribes. All the five MPs from the district of Nasik and the adjoining districts in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh are also scheduled tribes. No where including his own State Orissa the Minister will find such a situation that in one cluster there are five tribal MPs. So, it is a proper location to start a training centre there.

Then, Sir, there are delays in the declaration of results. That is why many students who appear in the competition examinations conducted by the U.P.S.C. do not turn up after their selection is declared. Take the example of Assistant Grade Examination. If 20,000 candidates appear for the examination, the results are declared after 1½ or two years and some 150 or 200 candidates are declared selected. By the time, their names appear in the selection list, some of the promising candidates who also compete in the other examinations join the services like banking service, etc. Therefore, all the exercise of conducting the examination and selection practically becomes futile. My suggestion is that the time taken for the declaration of the results should be minimum.

Now, what we find over the years is that the total number of candidates appearing for the competitive examinations is declining. Why is it so ? This also needs to be studied. Sir, some year ago, we had declared that candidates could also write the examinations in their own mother tongue. But we find very little response to this concession. There is not much increase