

When the Council of the four States—I would not say the geography of it—was announced there were reactions and from the reactions you can understand whether there has been any change in their mind. I find Prof. K.K. Tewari is not here. I wish he were here. He observed that this conclave was a movement for “dis-memberment of India.” Now, I would like to quote what Mr. Stephen has said. He described it highly dangerous and extra-constitutional and he further threatened that if the Chief Ministers of these four States cannot clarify that they did meet at Bangalore and only discussed the taste of coffee then the Central Government would be forced to conclude that the meeting was political. Now, Mr. Karunakuran—he happens to be the Chief Minister of a State—to him the conference was seditious, and against the concept of national unity and integration” I would only ask whether the Home Minister advise issue of warrant of arrest under NSA or any other provision of the penal code against these four gentlemen ?

Therefore, Sir, the question of Centre-State relation is hundred percent a political question. It cannot be dealt with in terms of law or of judicial judgement alone. It is a question which is hundred per cent political. Therefore, the matter has to be dealt with politically and with political acumen and astuteness. Therefore, this political acumen and astuteness is possible if the ruling party can understand the writings on the wall. I would only suggest that they should make the Sarkaria commission a broad-based one and also frame the terms of reference in such a manner that they can also the feasibility and desirability of the Constitutional changes for strengthening the Centre-State relations and bringing a new set-up on the basis of true federalism.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Sir, this is the only one point that I could discuss and as you do not allow me to speak on other points. . .

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER ; There is a very important statement to be made by the Finance Minister.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : If I can cover some more points. . .

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, please. Now there is an important announcement to be made by the Finance Minister.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Then on Monday I will resume.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes; I will allow you to continue on Monday. Mr. Chitta Basu, you will be the first speaker to speak on Monday. Now, the Finance Minister.

15.30 hrs.

STATEMENT RE - DEARNESS ALLOWANCE FOR CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND RELIEF TO PENSIONERS

MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Under the existing scheme of Dearness Allowance for Central Government employees, sanction of an instalment of Dearness Allowance is considered after every 8 points increase in the 12-monthly average of the All India Average Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers with 1960 as the base year. The last Dearness Allowance instalment on this basis was sanctioned to the employees with effect from 1.6.1982 when the average index was 456.08. At the end of August, 1982, the average index reached 464.07 thus registering an eight points increase. Subsequently at the end of November, 1982, the average index also reached 472.23 registering a farther increase of 8 points. Consequently, two more instalments of Dearness Allowance to the Central Government employees from 1.9.1982 and 1.12.1982 became due for consideration. Government have decided to pay these two instalments to the employees in cash. Payment of these instalments from the dates they became due will cost the

exchequer Rs. 192.50 crores during the current financial year, the estimated cost of an instalment during a full year being Rs 70.00 crores. Orders for the payment of these instalments will be issued shortly.

2. The instalment which will be paid from 1.9.1982 will also cover employees drawing pay above Rs 1600/- per month. Hon. Members will recall that on 15.3.1982, I had announced in the House that in view of the sharp erosion in the emoluments of senior officers, Government had decided to raise the level of neutralisation to about 45% upto the level of Joint Secretary and equivalent. The same level of neutralisation in respect of similar categories of officers is being maintained. Officers drawing pay of Rs. 2750/- per month and above will also be allowed an increase of Rs. 150/- per month in the *ad hoc* Dearness Allowance.

3. Under the existing arrangement, an instalment of dearness relief to the Central Government pensioners including family pensioners also becomes due for consideration after every increase of 8 points in the average index. The last instalment of relief was sanctioned on this basis with effect from 1.6.1982. Government have now decided to pay two instalments of dearness relief to the pensioners including family pensioners, from 1.9.1982 and 1.12.1982 respectively. These will cost the exchequer Rs. 22.00 crores during the current financial year, the estimated cost of an instalment of relief in a full year being Rs. 8.00 crores. Orders for the payment of these instalments will be issued soon.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Next item.

SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA : Sir, on one point of information :

I demand that the Government should always announce the Dearness Allowance when the index points have gone to a particular level about which the Government has made a promise. Why did they not do it ?  
(Interruptions)

SHRI AJOY BISWAS : May I know whether the Central Government will provide the money for the State Governments ?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Order, order. I have passed on to the next item-Private Members' Business.

15.33 hrs.

#### COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

##### (FIFTY-SIXTH REPORT)

SHRI KAZI JALIL ABBASI (Domariaganj) : I beg to move.

"That this House do agree with the Fifty-sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 6th April, 1983."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Fifty-sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 6th April, 1983."

*The motion was adopted.*

15.34 hrs.

#### URBAN LAND (CEILING AND REGULATION) AMENDMENT BILL.\* (AMENDMENT OF SECTION 25, ETC.)

SHRI A. T. PATIL (Kolaba) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :