

12.33 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(GENERAL), 1984-85

Ministry of Defence

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Defence. Mr. Negi to continue his speech.

श्री टी. एस. नेगी (टिहरी गढ़वाल) :
उपाध्यक्ष जी, मैं ट्रेनिंग के सम्बन्ध में कल बात कर रहा था। आर्मी में ट्रेनिंग अच्छी होनी चाहिए यह मेरा निवेदन है।

सिन्थोरिटी प्वाइन्ट आफ व्यू से मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसी खबर मिली है कि आइडेंटिटी-कार्ड बहुत देर में बनते हैं और लोग बगैर आइडेंटिटी कार्ड के ही मिलिट्री एरिया में घूमते रहते हैं। इस बात की ओर भी ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए।

सरकार ने मिलिट्री के अफसरान को अपग्रेड किया है। ले. कर्नल से ऊपर के अफसरान अपग्रेड होंगे लेकिन जो नीचे के अफसरान हैं-मेजर, कैप्टेन-उनके ऊपर यह एक प्रतिबन्ध सा हो गया है। जूनियर आफिसर्स जो हैं मेजर, कैप्टेन वगैरह उनके प्रमोशन के चांसज बन्द हो गए हैं ऐसा क्यों सरकार ने किया यह मेरी सभक में नहीं आया। ब्रिगेडियर, कर्नल, ले. कर्नल को तो सरकार ने अपग्रेड कर दिया लेकिन मेजर और उससे नीचे के अफसरान के लिए कुछ नहीं किया।

दूसरी बात यह है कि जो कारों आफिसर्स के डिस्पोजल पर रहती हैं उनके मिसयूज की बड़ी शिकायतें हैं। कारों के ड्राइवर्स मुझसे मिलते हैं वे कहते हैं कि जिनको उस पर नहीं जाना चाहिए वे

सवारी करते हैं और उसका मिसयूज करते हैं। इसको रोका जाना चाहिए।

टैंक के बारे में मैंने कल चर्चा की थी। टैंक के बारे में "ग्रानलुकर" मगजीन में एक न्यूज छपी है :

"The VIP Vehicle is getting special treatment while some 500 tank engines are awaiting vital repairs. The huge backlog has forced the Government to import 250 L-60 engines for tanks from the British Leyland Corporation.

"The Workshop has an installed capacity for repairing 50 tank engines a month, but only about 10 are being repaired now because of this irregularity. The low output from the base workshop has cut into the productivity related bonus for workers."

"It is said that if the capacity of the workshop were to be fully utilised, there would be no need for the import of L-60 engines from Britain. The import estimated to cost Rs. 500 million.

The overhaul of a single engine costs about Rs. 1 lakh and the 250 engines have been overhauled at the cost of Rs. 25 million as against Rs. 500 million for the import of new engines."

इस बारे में माननीय मंत्री बतायेंगे ? कोस्टल गार्ड वोट लका में तमिल ट्रवल के समय जापान तथा साउथ कोरिया से खरीदी गई, लेकिन बोटों ने ठीक काम नहीं किया असफल साबित हुई हैं। आफ-शोर-मैसाइल मेजगांव डांक, बम्बई में तैयार होनी थी। पता नहीं उसके बनाने में क्यों देरी हो रही है। समय पर न बमसे उसकी कीमत अब तिगुनी हो गई है। इस ओर भी मंत्री महोदय को ध्यान देना चाहिए।

नेवी में कारवेट्म छोटे बेटल शिप बनाने के लिए कुछ इन्जन फ्रांस से मंगवाए जाने की चर्चा है, लेकिन रांची में उससे भी बढ़िया बने है, तो फिर उसको बाहर से मंगवाने की क्या आवश्यकता है। गार्डन रिच कलकत्ता में भी तेज चलने वाले इन्जन बनाने का कोलाबोरेशन हो गया है। घन भी दे दिया गया है, लेकिन उसका अनुपालन नहीं हो रहा है। यह काम भी जल्दी से जल्दी होना चाहिए। कारवेट के बनाने का प्रोजेक्ट भी 15-20 साल पहले था। लेकिन अब वह आउटडेटेड हो गया है। इसको बनाने की अब आवश्यकता नहीं है। इस प्रोजेक्ट को भी रद्द कर देना चाहिए। बदकिस्मती हमारी यह है कि जब सरकार ने राजस्थान में बम्ब विस्फोट किया था उस समय से हमारे यहां यूरेनियम आना बन्द हो गया था। इस और भी मंत्री महोदय को ध्यान देना चाहिए। मंत्री महोदय ने मिग-29 रुस से लेने का निर्णय किया है और हमारे यहां भी वह समय से बनना शुरू हो जाएगा। कल माननीय राज्य मंत्री जी रिसर्च-एण्ड-डवेलपमेंट के बारे में काफी चर्चा की है और सदन को पूरी बातों से अवगत कराने की कोशिश की है। इस लिए मैं उनको बधाई देना चाहता हूँ। उन्होंने मोटेनियरिंग के बारे में भी चर्चा की है। मेरे क्षेत्र में नेपर मोटेनियरिंग इन्स्टीचूट है। जब वह खुला था, उस वकत संसद् सदस्यों का भी को अपरेशन लिया जाता था लेकिन अब वह बन्द कर दिया है। इस और भी माननीय मंत्री जी को ध्यान देना चाहिए। सदन में सभी तरफ से एक्स-सोल्जर की पेंशन में वृद्धि किए जाने का समर्थन किया है। इसमें देरी नहीं होनी चाहिए। उनके बच्चों की सुरक्षा होनी चाहिए और शिक्षा वर्गरह की भी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। इसमें कोई दो राय

नहीं हैं। मैं एक बात यह भी बताना चाहता हूँ कि रक्षा सम्बन्धी डेवलपमेंट के काम हमारे देशमें बहुत अच्छे चल रहे हैं। लेकिन गढ़वाल में एक ग्रीफ वर्कशाप है जो ठीक ढंग से काम नहीं कर रहा है। ठीक काम न करने की वजह से बांडर की सड़के ठीक नहीं बन पा रही है। बिजली के हाइड्रो इलेक्ट्रिक प्रोजेक्ट्स और सिचाई आदि की योजनायें इस प्रकार बीस के करीब प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं, जो कि ठप पड़े हुए हैं। सड़के ठीक न होने की वजह से बड़ी-बड़ी मशीनों को लाने या ले जाने में भी कठिनाई होती है। इस और मंत्री जी को ध्यान देना चाहिए, ताकि वर्कशाप ठीक ढंग से काम करे।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय का बहुत अभारी हूँ - पिछले साल मैंने एक सवाल उठाया था कि कालसी-चकरोता सड़क को पी. डब्लू. डी. को दे दिया जाए, वह उनको मिल गयी है। लेकिन छावनी क्षेत्र की जो समस्यायें सदन में आई हैं, मैं चाहता हूँ कि उन में कुछ बढ़िया काम किया जाए। वहां लोगों को ज्यादा पार्टिसिपेंट बनाया जाए। चकरोता सिविल एरिया है उस को सिविलयन्ज को दे देना चाहिए, कान्टूनमेंट में रखने से कोई फायदा नहीं है। बड़े-बड़े अफसर उस की देखभाल नहीं कर सकते हैं, जब कि वहां के लोग अपनी देखभाल खुद कर सकते हैं।

पहाड़ों के इन्टीरियर से भी सैनिक भरती होनी चाहिए। एन. सी. सी. के ऊपर ज्यादा तवज्जह दी जानी चाहिए तथा उनको अप-टु-डेट ट्रेनिंग मिलनी चाहिए।

मंत्री महोदय ने पीर-कीपिंग-फोर्स का जिक्र किया है, इससे एक्स-सोल्जर्स को एम्प्लायमेंट मिलेगा। लेकिन मैं समझता

हूँ महाराष्ट्र में इस पीस-कीबिंग-फोर्स की ज्यादा जरूरत है, वहाँ इस को जल्द से जल्द इंट्रोड्यूस किया जाना चाहिए।

एक बात मुझे विशेष रूप से कहनी है-माननीय मंत्री जी के होते हुए 20 प्वाइन्ट प्रोग्राम की राजनीति मिलिट्री के अन्दर भी घुसाई जा रही है, जिस की मुझे उम्मीद नहीं थी...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Where does the 20 Point programme come in when it is a Defence demand? The total time allotted is 8 hours. We have to complete this. Some members will be deprived of their chance to speak. I am here to regulate the time.

श्री टी. एस. नेगी : इस से बड़ा नुकसान होने वाला है, मिलिट्री फोर्स को इस से दूर रखना चाहिए।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ। धन्यवाद

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Santosh Mohan Dev. Hon. Members, everyone must be present here. I will call every one of you. All Hon. Members from the ruling party, when they are present in the House, will be called. Your time is still there. If you simply go away when I call you, then I can't help. Such of those Members as whose names are given here should sit here from the time the discussion starts. Afterwards, it is no use blaming me. I do not want them to say that I am partial.

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at very outset, I congratulate the Minister of State for Defence who has complimented the Members for doing home work. I equally feel that he has also done a very good home work and thereby he has taken up many of the points which we had given in our

speech. Sir, this year's Defence Budget has come at a time when it is being widely debated outside the House by various experts, the purpose of our country's defence preparedness is not to conquer but to combat any aggression that we may face.

It is unfortunate that certain disgruntled people are going round the country and passing certain remarks about Defence. I am sorry to say that these remarks in various parts of the country have apply proved that the Government's decision regarding that particular gentlemen whom I do not want to name is correct. (Interruptions) According to him, the Indian army is overarmed and the army should be prepared in such a manner that it could only cobat the forces that might come within Singapore and Suez. What a poor idea of the army personnel. Any how, I do not like to mention his name.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay North East) : Is he a Member of Parliament ?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV : I do not want to mention the name.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He knows the rules much better than you know.

You know the subject matter much better than he.

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV : Considering the industrial base, the skilful conduct of international relations and capacity to keep pace with the technology both in army and civil are the essential pre-requisites to national security in the real sense of the term and our country has achieved almost of them.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to certain points which have been focussed by

specialists in the newspapers and I would like to know his reaction thereto. One such proposal is that there should be a national security council to consider defence problems so that under one cover the Defence problems can be solved in our country. I do not want to go into the details as the Defence Minister knows well about the Defence and his knowledge is very much matured. I only want to know his reaction to this proposal.

Secondly, there is a suggestion for appointment of a Chief of Defence Staff to consider all inter services matters including military advice to the Government. The advice they feel will better streamline the work between the three Army Chiefs. According to a press report the existence of Army Chiefs at certain levels are trying to glorify their individual units. In view of that they have suggested that the appointment of a Chief Defence Staff will result in less bureaucratic interference.

It is also said that deploying of Army in the North Eastern region is not desirable and it should be withdrawn. I come from that region and I have recently widely travelled that region and I would like to say that the common people in North Eastern region have got all appreciation for the Army working there. They are facing insurgency and the way the Army is doing its service is really commendable. They are working under great strain and stress. They have been deployed at such places where no vehicle can go and no communication facilities are there. People who live there cannot get the mail from their kith and kin for two-three months. So we must appreciate their service.

Then, Sir, a rapid deployment force, a force that can be quickly deployed to trouble spots, even in remote regions, has always been the concept of modern warfare. Falklands gave us ample examples of this concept. Today when the battles are of very quick and short nature, a force with speed, flexibility and effectiveness can achieve more results

than remote control providing more lethal efforts. What is available to the Commander on the spot certainly is more decisive than what he can get through the long channels of support. This, in addition to providing more capability for a quick offensive action and surprise, contributes in a big way to the maintenance of morale of the man in front.

“Surprisingly, ours is one of the few armies where the modern means for providing mobility and surprise still remain with Air force. Although, in battle, there is an undisputed cooperation between these two Forces, Army would be much more capable and mobile if they have their own integral air arm for the purpose of reconnaissance and the offensive action. Armed helicopters concept for rapid deployment and tactical manoeuvres like vertical envelopment etc. has already been adopted by every Army of the world including Bangladesh and Pakistan. The denial of integrated Air Wing to the Army has perhaps no logic behind it. Indian Navy has already got their own air arm. What we have to ensure is that the man on the battle field has adequate facilities for mobility, flexibility and concentration of efforts. Only answer to provide all these to our Army today, is the creation of an integral aviation Corps.

By giving mortars as integral part of infantry have we deprived Artillery of its role? On the other hand it has helped Artillery in concentrating its efforts for major and crucial roles. Similarly, by creating an integral aviation wing for the Army, we will not only be strengthening the land forces but also enable the Air Force better concentration for its higher priorities without dissipating its resources.”

This is one of the views given by an expert in a paper. After reading it, I

felt that he had got reason to make his comments. But as I said, the hon. Defence Minister is best judge on this and I feel that it is my duty to draw his attention to this newspaper item.

Sir, one more thing to which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Defence Minister. Sir, N.C.C. is well organised all over the country. In our part of the country, that is the North Eastern region, there are 3 Science Colleges and one Regional Engineering College. We are trying to introduce Air Wing of NCC in our region. I would request you kindly to consider this. According to the norms, if it is possible, the hon. Minister may kindly consider introduction of Air Wing in our region.

The second point is that the Border Roads Organisation has been entrusted to do certain works and they are doing good work in the North Eastern Region. specially the roads between Shillong and Silchar, Silchar and Badarpur. etc. The condition of these roads is very pitiable. Last time I spoke to the hon. Defence Minister for taking up this work. Now, it is improving. It is the life-line and it needs to be taken up on war footing. There is slow progress in the construction of these roads. But the quality of the Border Roads work is much better than the work of PWD or any other Government agency. But the progress is very slow and as a result things are moving very slow in these areas. The hon. Defence Minister last time visited these far flung areas as Nagaland, Mizoram and other places in that region. He also knows that the road between Silchar and Feribann is the life-line of this region. This road is no maintained well and every time there is a blockade and there is land-slide and because of these difficulties normal essential supplies have not been properly maintained. I would therefore request that this aspect of the matter must be kept in view. In reply to one of my questions in the House, it was said that in Kumbirgram and Cantonment area in Arunachal there was programme for construction of family quarters and it was going to be taken by the family members for the residential quarters as well as providing

certain amenities. I would like to bring to your kind notice that the progress in this respect is not very good. So, I would request the hon. Defence Minister to look into this.

Lastly, I convey my thanks to the Defence personnel working in the North-Eastern Region. I would like to make it clear to those who are shouting against that what they say is not correct. I want to put it on record that the Army personnel are doing a wonderful job in the North-Eastern region. They have already helped the people who were in distress, they have done wonderful job during the floods. They helped at the right time. I have myself seen in the army personnel getting themselves involved in public work activities and I congratulate them.

12.55 hrs.

[SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI
in the Chair]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Bashirhat) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the House is called upon to vote an amount of Rs. 6,800 crores for the Defence budget this year. This amount is increasing every year, which, I suppose, is quite natural. I remember a former Finance Minister, whom I do not want to name, once told me, that there was no limit, skywas the limit to this expenditure, because the army people, the air force people and so on keep on coming and continuously saying : "We want this, we want that, we must import this, we must import that, it is very urgent" And he said to me, there was no way by which he could argue with them. This whole subject of defence has become a sacred cow which nobody has the courage to touch.

This House has never grudging money or funds for defence for obvious reasons, but that does not mean, we just blindly go on dittoing and supporting everything that is being done. I do not think Government itself expects that from this Parliament keeping in mind the fact

that we are very much less informed, and very much less assisted by the Government to understand in depth the problems of defence than is done in other democratic countries, where parliamentary form of Government exists. Everybody knows in the U. K. and USA the type of discussions which are not only permitted but encouraged in the Parliament there; the various networks of Committees which exist before which the people come and express their views and give evidence relating to various types of weapons and all that, and it is all public. It is open to the public. I am not suggesting that we copy them, but I am not prepared to support, that when a poor country like India is asked to spend so much money on defence, we are not to be given adequate information on so-called grounds of public security or whatever it is.

Now, I am not going to speak about all the good things done. There is no point in it, I am a firm admirer of the defence forces, I know that very good work has been done by the production sector of Defence; I know that the R&D wing of the Defence has done some very good work. No doubt about it, I am not going to repeat all that; there is no point in that.

My first complaint is that in this small book, chapter one, which is entitled 'The National Security Environment' is a totally misleading confusing and mendacious statement of the actual state of affairs. I do not know who writes these things. I would like the Defence Minister to tell us. I would humbly suggest to him that in future if this is all that they are going to say, then it is better that they drop this chapter and begin with the other things. I also saw the corresponding annual report of the Ministry of External Affairs. Shri Narasimha Rao has at least been more outspoken than the Defence Minister is prepared to be. The people of this country should not be kept in the dark about somethings which are publicly known. You say that the security environment around

India is under very strain at the moment, we are facing various serious threats, but you are afraid to say, whom it is emanating from. why? I cannot understand.

You say that Pakistan is being supplied with all sorts of sophisticated weapons of offensive nature. Who is supplying? Are they falling from heaven, You would not say that. Shri Narasimha Rao has said something in his report which was not strictly his sphere also, Who is doing these things? You have said in the report:

"The military build-up and efforts to influence regimes in the littoral are disturbing features.... The scramble for base facilities and areas of influence in the Indian Ocean region continues."

Mr Subramniam Swamy will say that Soviets are doing this, but I do not want his views; I want to know your views. If you really believe that both the so-called Super Powers are the same.

13.00 hrs.

You have to be equi-distant or equi-close, whatever it is, to both of them. And the policies of both are the same—this is what you stating here in chapter I. Why do you invite people like Marshal Ustinov and Admiral Gorskhekov here? You should not have. Why were they brought here as VIP guests only 15 or 20 days ago? If you really believe that they, as well as the Americans are all busy only in behaving in a way which is increasing tension and military confrontation in this area, you should strictly stay aloof from both of them. Your actions are of one type; what you write here, and what you talk is a different kind. I do not understand if this is supposed to be very clever diplomacy or what it is supposed to be.

Even on this question of military assistance to Pakistan and supply of sophisticated weapon systems, you are afraid to say who is giving them these

them, Why? Why should the people of this country not be told clearly what it is? Here, I find so many Members in this House speaking openly and frankly; and what they are saying does not conform at all to what you write here, because everybody knows the facts.

I think this is useless. This kind of an analysis or so-called assessment of the national security environment is not an assessment at all, of any kind.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Swamy Ji welcomed the speeches.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I don't care what Swamy Ji does. Swamy Ji does all sorts of things which I do not agree with. Nor do I agree with the views, I was not present, but I read them expressed here by Mr. Biju Patnaik and somebody else who have just returned from a visit to Pakistan, I believe.

The fact of the matter is that you don't have an opportunity to say anything about the calculated, adventurist, bellicose, aggressive policy which is being followed on a global scale by the U.S. Government under the Presidency of Mr Reagan. Is it not a fact? What is creating this crisis? You don't want to say anything about it. So, please in future either call a spade a spade, or spare us from this kind of a so-called analysis, which is an insult to the intelligence of Parliament.

The rise in Defence expenditure cannot be avoided, particularly so long as we are still dependent on quite a big amount of imported military hardware. Whatever we have produced indigenously, or are still trying to produce, is admirable. Very good. But everybody knows that in the key sectors where the crunch will come, where the punch is required in case of hostilities, we are still inevitably dependent on very expensive imports of military hardware.

I would like to submit to the Defence Minister that in spite of all the

compulsions, we must try our best to see that financially, we are not taken to a position where we will have an unmanageable burden to carry. It is part of the strategy of the Americans to make developing countries to get into confrontation with each other. This is acknowledged all over the world. It is not happening only here. It is happening in other spheres also in the globe. Developing countries which have already got scarcity of resources for the purposes of their own development, are being pushed into a state of confrontation with each other, which compels them to get into some sort of an arms race or a mini arms race, whatever you call it, squandering thousands of crores of their own scarce resources for this purpose. This is a fact.

The other day, the Foreign Minister has said here in the House, in reply to some questions: "Yes it is Pakistan which is responsible for pushing us into this arms race." Yes; of course, in front of us is Pakistan. But behind Pakistan there is somebody, rather not Pakistan, but Gen. Zia-ul-Haq. Is he a free agent in this matter? After all, today's Pakistan is a link in a chain. There is a whole system of military alliances and strategies which is being developed in this region from the central command, which is being set up, the Persian Gulf area, the Indian ocean region. We know all that. Pakistan, especially after the revolution in Iran, occupies a very strategic place in the American global design in this area and it is expected to play that part; and that is why the danger is all more for us. If it was only Pakistan, we had to contend with, we would not be so much bothered. We are a much stronger country, a much bigger country and a much more experienced and well equipped country. The trouble is that somebody is behind them; and that you are prepared to say. Therefore, you are also responsible for a certain amount of complacency or lulling of vigilance among the people in this country. The full extent of the threat and the danger where it is coming from is being hidden; it is being hidden by you, for what purpose I do not know.

I would say that while we must remain vigilant, we must remain fully prepared about it, there is no doubt about it—but, I think that more purposeful and more determined initiative must be taken and efforts must be made to advance on the diplomatic front also. This is not Mr. Venkataraman's job at the moment, but it is so much inter-connected that I have to mention it.—to reduce tensions, to the maximum extent possible with our neighbours, but that is not what is happening unfortunately.

I am not discussing foreign affairs here. Otherwise, I would be tempted to say that on the diplomatic front rather we are falling back; we are failing; and as a result of that, there is a temptation to depend more and more on the purely so much military front; and I did not like one statement which the Defence Minister made; I do not know whether it was in Parliament or outside; but I read it somewhere where he talked about our having an edge in military terms. Having an edge over Pakistan. Will you make up your mind? If we have an edge over Pakistan, we should not be worried about anything, and if we are keen always to have an edge, well, I am reading always these official handouts which are being given to the press every few days and I am a little apprehensive with the way the atmosphere is being created. What is that? The press reports, I do not know, if those reports are correct or whether they emanate some time from the BBC or some other sources that they have acquired some new weapons, some latest weapons, some harpoon missiles or some air-to-air missiles or some avoc system or some cobra helicopter or something else. Every 15 days with monotonous regularity a report appears; and then they seem to be a kind of build up of pressure on us that in order to match that particular weapon we must have at least something equally good or bad; and these are not the things which we are in a position to manufacture at the moment. So, we have to go in for very expensive purchase from abroad.

I think the game that is being played on a global scale by certain imperialist

powers, that should not be allowed to succeed in this way. Does it mean that we should become unprepared, we should not equip ourselves. I do not say that. But on the one hand, diplomatic offensive should be given more importance; and secondly, we must remember that it is ultimately in our interest, in the interest of our country and our people that there should not be hostilities. We are interested in peace to develop and build our own country. The other man, of course, may not respect our intentions; and from what we know of the past, we cannot say like Mr. Biju Patnaik had said here that they had no intention of attacking us this and that; we cannot say that.

But another round of hostilities between these two countries with the weapons which now on both sides are being acquired, it would mean immeasurable damage and harm to both the countries, but I am now concerned more with something else. (*Interruptions*) All I am saying is that we should be somewhat careful of not getting stampeded into a sort of race, tank for tank, plane for plane, missile for missile, helicopter for helicopter, whatever they do we should match it, this kind of attempt to make-what shall I say-go into a kind of, instead of death trap there is a kind of arms trap also now, we should try to avoid that as far as possible.

Then, another point I want to make is that not enough is said about our other dangers from other directions, other than Pakistan. There are so many areas where there is no Zia-ul-Haq, what about those areas? Zia-ul-Haq has got nothing to do with Diego Garcia, as far as I know. He has nothing much to do with the concentration in the Persian Gulf area. I have with me two copies of the Hansard of the Sri Lankan Parliament. Parliamentary proceedings of 24-11-1981 and 1-12-1981. I find in these Hansard copies that on the floor of the Sri Lankan Parliament openly it has been stated and not contradicted by anybody, that 676 acres of land in the Trincomalee Harbour have been leased for a major oil base to one of the lead-

ing multi-national corporations of America, called Coastal Bermuda Limited. By now they must have constructed all their installations any all that. we know that in the event of any hostilities in this region, the U.S.A. would just say that this is an area of vital interest to them, because the Coastal Bermuda's installations are there in Trincomalee, just a few miles from our Southern shore. We know that they sent their troops into Grenada saying that, that was an area of vital interest for the U.S.A. That is enough. That is the doctrine, that is the formula now for intervention. So, here one can visualise a situation where there would be an intervention of a massive type in order to defend this, the so-called installations or Bermuda installations in Trincomalee Harbour area. And the trouble is, that from our side, I do not find any kind of reflection of any of these other things in this report. Anyway, now I am leaving that subject.

I have said, every year, and I am repeating this year, you will get the money, naturally, that you have asked for, but the country and the Parliament must be satisfied that it is a really cost-effective budget. The money is there, but it must be properly spent. It must not be improperly spent. It must not be wasted, any part of it, for every pie that is spent, the country must be confident that it is getting a proper return in terms of defence effectiveness. Because of this— some other Members have mentioned these things— I do not want to go into details, but I am worried by the fact that of course, some other things we are importing and for which we are also getting agreements for having production facilities here, in future, that at least is some compensation because then we will be able to be self-reliant, after a little time. But some of the show pieces which we are talking about, I do not like the very very slow pace at which they are being produced. Again I have to refer to the main battle tank. The Chetak, I know many things, many of them have been developed here indigenously including the Kancha armour and this and that. It is a good development, no doubt. Now you have promised

that two prototypes would be ready and recently you said that not two but only one was ready. It was put on display even for some of the foreign visitors and you said it performed very well. But the only trouble is the engine is not made by us at all. The engine is an imported engine from West Germany, the same Leopard I engine about which we know. This Chetak is designed to have a 12-cylinder engine with about 1100 Hp. In order to display this prototype of Chetak to foreign visitors, we have, at an enormous cost, airlifted from West Germany this Leopard I engine and put in the prototype and shown it. But I want to know what is happening to the development of our own engine. At least 12 or 14 years have gone by. If you are going to be satisfied with a 1000 Hp 8-cylinder engine as has been mentioned here, then we can as well upgrade the engine which we use in our Vijyantha tank. They are pretty good engines. There is nothing wrong with them.

About the Centurions' spares which have recently been publicised that there are plenty of spares of Centurions to be found which are serviceable and can be used, to which Mr. Negi made a reference here, Lt. Col. H.C. Pant has issued a circular in which he has said that the spares are there and they can be used for repair and overhaul of our tanks. I do not know whether that is being followed up or not.

I have complained many times about under-utilisation of the capacity of our base workshop. The base workshop is an establishment which does not get so much publicity and does not have so much glamour about it as some of the other production units. But it is very vital for our whole defence system. This 505 base workshop is the main establishment for the overhaul, repair and maintenance of our tanks. It is good to be reading reports and hearing. I want them to be either contradicted or confirmed that the Centurions' spares have not been used. Many were sold away earlier. I am not going into all that now.

L-60 engine from British Leyland had to be imported.

I would like to know : - who is the owner of this car-Mr. Nagi referred to this-Daimler DHC 2947 ? While tanks are not repaired and tanks are waiting to be repaired and overhauled, some VIPs' private cars are sent to this base workshop for repair and overhaul. whoever is guilty of this-I do not care who he is ; some officer, or some bureaucrat or somebody-he must be taken to task for this kind of thing.

Similarly, there is a light combat aircraft. We have not been able to produce our own complete aircraft as we have planned for such a long time-deep penetration strike aircraft and this and that. Now suddenly we have started saying that the Air Force wants this light combat aircraft. But I find from the Report as far as I have been able to study it that it will take at least 9 years more to complete the development of our engine for that LCA i.e. GTX project or variant B of the GTX project which is under development. During this interregnum, is it or is it not a fact that we are trying to get an imported engine from the British. This British Aerospace is offering to supply its technology and all that. And we become dependent on them will in that case. You may say that why should we not become dependent on this or that side, And to some extent, we will be dependent. But the point is ; are you going to be dependent on people whose attitudes and postures in the event of a conflict with Pakistan are certainly very much suspect ?

(Interruptions)

Sir, if you are caught in a war with Parkistan, would you depend on the British and the Americans who are the biggest friends of Zia-ul-Haq ? would you rely on them for spares and help ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have taken 25 minutes.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : One important last point, major point, I wish to make is regarding the high-ranking retired officers who are now being employed as consultants by private firms which are supplying important defence equipment to us or in some cases they are even being employed by foreign firms. I want to know what is the policy of the Government on this ? There is a firm called M/s Usha Consultants & Services known to everybody I think. Chairman of this firm is somebody who is supposed to be a close relative of Mr. Swaraj Paul. He is employing all sorts of people. Even Air Vice Marshal Larkins who is now behind the bars, before he was caught in this espionage case' he had retired or left service of M's Usha Consultants & Services, a short time before that. Is it a fact or not ? Air Vice Marshal Ram. Lt. G M. K. Khanna, Commodore Mehta and so many more employed by M/s Usha Consultants & Services and obviously this tie up is for a particular reason because the import of foreign military equipment costing crores and crores of rupees is very lucrative business all over the world nowadays. We know all sorts of big commissions and kick-backs and things which pass under the table go on here. And these people have got agents working Ressurising our purchasers. I am told one of the ex-Directors of the EME, Lieutenant General Banga, has been recently employed by the Leyland Group in India to promote sales of their important L-60 engine. He is a citizen of this country, he can say he the freedom to do whatever he likes and this and that. An Ex-Director of the Combat Vehicles Research Development at Avadi Brig. Tandon is working for Kirloskar who are trying to develop an engine for our tanks instead of the other engine which we are contemplating. I only want to know should there be some kind of restriction or not in this field on such types of appointments ? I think there should be and these private arms declares who are roaming about all over the places, their activities and their contracts must be put under very careful scrutiny. So, I will end by only

mentioning briefly 3-4 points, I am not going into details. The first point is, which was mentioned here yesterday by several members in another debate, that the Navel Forces personnel should not be used to break workers' strike. I am arguing this point because I think it is not a good thing at all that Naval personnel or any personnel of Defence Forces should be used against the workers in this country in order to break their strike as it being done now for the port and dock workers. It will not have a good result at all.

Second point is that when you are acquiring lands in various border areas military purposes, you just see to it that compensation is paid promptly to the people who are affected and this is more so in Punjab. I do not want to explain, the situation in Punjab is known to everybody. I raised this several question time about the area and in Kathania in District Amritsar where compensation has been paid for the land which was taken over but no compensation has been paid for the construction on that land—the huts and the cattle sheds and the barns for keeping the grain and all that. These people have been petitioning for this for months together and nothing has happened. These kinds of things in the present explosive situation in Punjab are not desirable and should be looked into.

The other point is that please take a second look at the ready reckoner that you have prepared for the pensions of the Ex-servicemen who retired before 1970. They have been subjected to great injustice. In some cases their pensions have been reduced as a result of this ready reckoner. I think you have seen that the Ex-servicemen's associations are very much agitated about the three categories into which they have been divided. In one case there is a slight increase, in another case it is marginal and in the third case their pensions have been reduced. This deserves a second look.

Finally, the civilian defence employees have a grievance about the non-im-

plementation of the Third Central Pay Commission Award in respect of them. I only want to know whether the assurances which have been given by the Ministry to the representatives of the All India Defence Employees' Federation—I think it was on the 12th March when they met that such assurances were given—whether they will be fully implemented and honoured so that the unfortunate situation of agitation and strike which is developing there can be avoided.

Lastly, I must put in a word for the personnel of the Border Roads Organisation, the GRER. They have pleaded with them before also. Certain penal measures were taken against them, a large number of them. That should be avoided. They should be given some channel, not the trade union—I do not say that—but some channel by which they can ventilate their legitimate grievances and get redressal for them.

This is all I wish to say. I have many more things to say, but I do not wish to tax your time.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur): Sir, I want to appreciate the Report presented to this House by the Minister of Defence, Shri Venkataraman.

Some of the achievements require our special mention. It is time that we are able to not only appreciate but also commend the good work done by our people in the armed forces.

One of the proudest achievements during the current year has been the commissioning of the first totally India-built frigate, the 3,500 ton *Godavari*, which is perhaps the only warship of its kind with two helicopters and anti-submarines. Similarly, the multi-purpose off shore patrol vessel *Vikrant* can also be mentioned with a sense of pride. This is only to highlight two of the achievements in the present context, when we are surrounded by an atmosphere of uncertainty and by a very sensitive situation all along our border.

As has been mentioned by many other members, the increase in tension and the uncertainty that surrounds us, because of Pakistan's latest weapons, and sophisticated weapons at that, is a cause of great concern for us. It has been mentioned in the press that perhaps a decision about a war between India and Pakistan may not be taken in Islamabad, it may be taken somewhere else, and this is the unfortunate part of the situation. It is a very interesting point to note that Pakistan has been drawn into the strategic consensus of the United States. In addition to this, area of tension, the focus of tension, has shifted from distant Europe to the Persian Gulf. We are witnessing the piling up of weapons, F-16 and all that. I am happy to learn from this Report that our Government is also equally prepared, the country and its armed forces, for meeting the threat. The signing of the agreement with France, to offset the difficulty created by Pakistan, for the supply of Mirag-2000 is one step in this direction.

I would not mention many other things of this type, but I would emphasize one or two points. I do not agree with the implied suggestion that expenditure on defence is somehow detrimental to the development of the country. We must understand that there is a correlation between defence and development. I am grateful to the Minister of Defence that in a Symposium entitled 'Defence and Industry', he emphasized this point and said that there should definitely be some kind of relationship of a vital nature between manufacture of armaments and software required by defence and also by the various other production units in the country. Sir, this correlation has to be emphasised because defence production can also lead to spin off in development, can also give boost to the development. In this context I would appreciate the good work done by our Ordnance factories, which are thirtyfour in number at the moment. The first one came or the scene long ago in 1901 in Calcutta. Here, I would make a mention about the request of our State Government and my own people for an

ordnance factory in Himanchal Pradesh which has two percent of its population in the group called Ex-Servicemen. Shri Ram Lal on 31st December, 1982 wrote to the Hon. Minister for Defence for setting up such an ordnance factory in Himachal Pradesh. We have been reiterating this because the climate, the availability of power and the peaceful industrial relations existing in Himachal Pradesh entitle the State to have its share as it does not have any medium scale industry at the moment. Since defence is primary concern of our Jawans and it must be a source of employment also for them when they come out of Armed Forces, its early setting up is requested.

Sir, there is no contradiction whatsoever which we can imagine between spending on defence and spending on development. Rather we must have a dovetailed plan and we must have some sort of a long-term perspective in which we are able to gear up the country to meet any threat. It does not matter whether the threat comes from one block or another bloc. All that matters is that we must be prepared to fight every threat. In this context I would refer to an article written by Avrel Harriman in the Times of India, It was published in the early part of January this year. In the Article he has said that the present arms race and the state of relations between the US and the USSR is so dangerous, risky and explosive that ultimately we may have the reality of nuclear war and may no longer imagine only a threat. Therefore, we must be prepared to guard our country with all our might and for that no sacrifice is small. It should not be grudged on any account by this Parliament ; nor by the Government.

I would like to emphasise two or three points regarding the welfare of the ex-servicemen's which is the primary concern for us. The removal of disparity has been the persistent demand of all ex-servicemen's associations. The Supreme Court's Judgment of 17th December, 1982 gave them a hope; and the answer by the Hon. Defence Minister to this House to a Started

Question of mine on 29th April last year raised this hope further that the Supreme Court's judgment will be implemented in full and that these brave men who are no longer in uniform have come back home are able to see that the prices do not pinch them. But what has happened is exactly the reverse. All these hopes have dashed to the ground because of some sort of a formula which has been evolved by the Government. I don't know what the formula is, but there is a genuine grievance among the ex-servicemen that the formula is not going to be of any justice to them. The Defence Minister has been emphasising the point that he has offered them options. That there are eleven lakh people whose pensions are to be reckoned. Therefore, it is huge and stupendous task which cannot be completed at an early point of time. Those who want to accept the ready reckoner should accept it and those who do not want to accept, they should wait. But for how long should they wait? Should they wait for two decades or till they are dead? This is not fair to the people who have faced death and hazarded the future of their children in the field. They want a better deal. Therefore, I emphasise in all seriousness that the Government should do everything to alleviate their grievances.

Not only that, but the conditions in which the ex-servicemen are living, also needs to be looked into. Some of the villages in which they are living do not have the essential facilities that should have been provided. Long back I made a suggestion that as a gesture of goodwill and to give a symbolic honour and recognition to the sacrifices made by our ex-servicemen and martyrs, we should declare the villages of the highest award winners like winners of Param Vir Chakra or the winner of the Victoria Cross as modern villages. Sir, I don't know what steps has the Government taken in this regard, but I would request the Hon. Minister for Defence and also the Minister of State for Defence to take up this with the State Governments so that the villages where the highest award winners are living, are developed as

modern villages and they have a sense of satisfaction that not only they were looked after when there was a war, but they are looked after also when they have come back home.

Sir, in this connection I would emphasise one more thing. The very facility that is given to the widows those of killed in action, is not available to the widows of those whose husbands are killed in peace time in various base operations or on military duties. They are also entitled to those facilities. It is not fault of theirs that their husbands did not die in action, but in died while flying an aeroplane. So, I would request that this should also be taken care of.

Then, Sir, there are two or three most important points that I would like to emphasise. When a man comes home, what does he find? After having served for a number of years on the battlefield, he finds the world is different to him. The songs of glory, the words of praise, the appreciation made in the Parliament dash against the callous behaviour from the civil authorities. Therefore, the District Soldiers Boards, which are now called the Sainik Boards and the State Boards should be strengthened and streamlined. But as the pattern of development has been widespread and now the focus of development has spread down right to the block level and sub-division level, there is a need for the Defence Minister to look to this side also. Not only at the district level, the divisional level, sub-divisional level but also at the block level there should be some machinery to help the ex-servicemen.

Sir, we have a large number of schools called Sainik Schools. These schools have civilian employees. The grades of all other employees are revised. The Central Government employees get their D. A.; the State Government employees get their D. A.; the Defence forces get their packet rise, but these poor employees are not given their dues because they are neither the employees of the Central Government nor of the State Governments. They are society

called Sainik Society. Therefore, their plight should also be considered and it should be seen that they also do not suffer.

Sir, in the areas inhabited by the ex-servicemen and the districts from where there is a heavy recruitment to the armed forces, we should have Central schools, because in the absence of such a facility, the education of their children suffers. Therefore, I would, propose to you, Shri K.P. Singh Dev, the Minister of State for Defence that you should take up with the Ministry of Education that all such districts where the recruitment to the Armed Forces is very heavy and where the ex-servicemen inhabit in large numbers, there should be one Central School so that the education of these children does not suffer.

Now, when the facility is to be given regarding the residential accommodation or some increment or promotional adjustment to the persons of this category, their service in the armed forces is not taken into account and he is regarded as equivalent to the junior most in matters of grant of residential accommodation, promotion adjustments etc. Therefore, I would suggest that you should take into account the service that has been rendered by him in the Armed Forces.

In the end I would like to pay tribute to our Armed Forces who have done not only commendable work during the various operations in which they were called upon to participate, but also in peace-time whenever there is a flood, whenever there is some disaster or calamity and our Armed Forces lent a very good helping hand to the civil authorities. To that extent they deserve our appreciation.

Lastly, I would thank the Government of India for setting up a high-powered committee for the welfare of the ex-servicemen. It is important that in this ex-servicemen's welfare there is a representative of other ranks. So far you have picked Officers, retired,

Officer, important knowledgeable and intelligent in their own way. But the rank and file feel they have not been given any representation. So, one representation from their side should also be taken so that justice is shown to all concerned.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Bara-mulla) : Mr. Chirman, Sir, when you are in the Chair, I am particularly afraid for want of time. But this time I hope you will bear the with me,

Mr. Chairman. the net revenue on capital expenditure of Rs. 6,800 crores proposed for 1984-85 means an addition of Rs. 450 crores over what we spent test year. It can mean a big figure, it can mean a meagre amount, as you look at the orientation of our Defence.

Defence is very much necessary because national security should have the top most priority, but we must exactly know what we require. I was very much surprised when Mr. K.P. Singh Deoji told a questioner, an hon. Member, when his attention had been drawn to a news item, that he had no definite information whether Pakistan was getting sparrow missiles or not. This should not be the situation. Our hon. Minister must know what is known to the common journalist. He is supposed to be in charge of national security. So as far as the Defence is concerned, we must have the exact idea of the national requirements.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr Soz, you said he is supposed to be in charge of national security. Why he is 'supposed to be' in charge ?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Certainly he is, Supposition also means the same thing, as you understand.

I know there is a constraint of time. I would like to speak at least for half-an-hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN ; No, no. Only 10 minutes.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : All right, 10 minutes.

From the Annual Report, I am happy that the Ministry admits, I don't call it a 'scare', but a kind of alertness. From a paragraph of the Annual Report I want to quote as follows :

"The supply of some sophisticated weapons system in addition to \$ 3.2 billion package constitutes a new phase in that these are patently offensive systems in the region."

So, without creating a scare we must take notice of what kind of arms Pakistan is acquiring. But I would suggest that although this time the Defence Ministry has not been as much secretive as it used to be, I would suggest that the hon. Defence Minister takes the opposition into confidence. The nation must know what we are doing and what we are going to do for the national security. There have been suggestions that we should have National Security Council and Mr. Mohanty also said about it,—it is the idea of Gen. Sinha. Yesterday I saw a balanced article by Inter Malhotra in the *Times of India* and he also suggested the same thing and other writers have also suggested that we should have a National Security Council and also the Chief of Defence Staff. But I do not feel it is necessary because there is already a Cabinet Sub Committee on Defence and so far as coordination is concerned, it is the prime responsibility of the Defence Minister. I do not think constituting some Committee or Council will solve the matter.

Mr. Chairman, it is a matter of will, as to what kind of orientation the Defence Minister gives to the Defence budget, what kind of coordination he envisages; it is his responsibility. Therefore, there is no need of a National Security Council or creation of post like the Chief of Defence Staff. I would, however, lay stress on the fact that the Ministry of Defence needs greater and close coordination, collaboration and contact with the Ministries of Home

and External Affairs so that they give a proof of total alertness that is needed. But this does not mean any reflection on the functioning of the hon. Defence Minister.

I am confident. This is no flattery. He has exhibited shrewdness, alertness and chivalry. So, I will not be mincing words. He is already alert. But he should consider and organise greater collaboration, greater contact and greater co-ordination with Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Home Affairs. This is necessary because Gen. Sinha has been quoted by many people. I have areas of agreement and disagreement both. I am not agreeing with him when he suggests about the National Security Council. I agree with him when he says that threat to security is more from within the country rather than from without. Threat is more from within the boundaries of the country.

Some people have said that he is an annoyed General. He has suffered an exit from the Service. I will not go into that. But he is a citizen of this country. He has every right to discuss Defence as he is free. Even the hon. Defence Minister knows that some of the Generals who are in service have convened sometimes Press Conference. I will not cite the names of Generals. Some of the retired Army Officers have done so.

When threat is more from within the country, then the Defence Minister must be armed with all the facts. So, for that he has to be in close co-ordination with the Ministry of External Affairs on the one side and the Ministry of Home Affairs from the other side. Whatever General Sinha has advised the Government, I will request the Defence Minister to consider that.

I was suggesting that Defence Ministry has not exhibited a kind of secretiveness this year. I would request the Defence Minister to take opposition into confidence and he could organise get together with the opposition leaders and

discuss defence preparedness. Exchange of ideas on Defence is necessary.

So far as orientation of Defence is concerned, I want to know from the hon. Defence Minister, how do we orient our Defence Policy? Is it on global basis, is it on sub-continental or continental basis or is it on the basis of India being treated largest country in Asia.

I feel General Sinha has a point. He says that India has to be a predominant power between Singapore and Suez. Here, I agree that India should be power between Singapore and Suez although my argument is different than General Sinha. It is for different reasons. I want India to be a preominant power. Therefore, this orientation is necessary. What role should India have in the whole world; what role should it play in Asia? When we look to the Defence preparedness, when we assess what we are doing, I sometimes have an idea that we look to Indian security exclusively in relation to Pakistan. It may not be obsession because all of us know that we have had a greate experience with what happened between the two countries. I can never say it is obsession but we should not always orient our defence policy taking Pakistan as the only factor.

It should not be there. I think, the hon. Defence Minister will have to say something on that. why I say is if we continue to take Pakistan as a very important factor then one thing is sure and that this annual report does not create a share. But it makes the country conscious of what kinds of weaponry Pakistan is getting. But Pakistan is now getting this and successive generations of weaponry will be made available to Pakistan and we shall continue to maich it. Last time, we had Gen. Ustinov here. There was an impression that we want to get weaponry that Pakistan obtained from America. But shall we continue to take Pakistan as a very important factor and organise our defence just on that line? I feel that there is a need to change the policy in certain areas.

**Not recorded.

There was some people who think defence also as a matter of politics. I have onc grievance. Mr. Rajiv Gandhi last month said that Pakistan was going to attack India and that too through Kashmir. I do not know.

(Interruptions)

भाष्यार्थ मगवान देव : सभापति महोदय, यहां पर जनरल सिन्हा और राजीव जी का नाम लेने का क्या तात्पर्य है ।

(इयवधान)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I am not discussing Gen. Sinha. I am talking on Defence, no doubt. You can listen to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: His time is only two more minutes and let him complete.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Mr Chairman, I want to know what was his source of information that Pakistan would attack India through Kashmir. At last, the people of Jammu & Kashmir do not look to Pakistan for an attack. They have given sufficient proof. You know how Kashmir had stood against Pakistan in 1947, 1965 and 1971 wars. Defence should be discussed above party affiliation and therefore I was making this point. I was just wanting to know the source of this information.

(Interruptions)

You people should know what is happening in Punjab. I must tell them that they should treat Dr. Farooq Abdullah by his words. He is a nationalist first and nationalist last.

(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't record anything.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is this ? Let him complete. The Minister will reply at 2.30 p.m. There is no time left.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, though he has interrupted me, I have tried to maintain the balance. I was only suggesting to him that Dr. Farooq Abdullah should be treated by his words. They are not treating him properly.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA (BOMBAY NORTH) : Is that Member unmentionable or what ?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Only two minutes are left. Let him complete. The Minister is to reply at 2-30 p. m.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : You may give me some more time because people have spoken for half-an-hour. Any way, I will try to conclude. What I was mentioning was, orientation of defence is done only taking Pakistan as a factor. I have already said that we must be fully prepared so far as defence is concerned.

It is not obsession. We have already faced wars.

At this point of time, when Pakistan has proposed No-war Pact and when our Government has suggested a Treaty of Friendship I only implored that the hon. Defence Minister should take the Opposition also into confidence so that we can understand the tools or areas of agreement for the No-war pact.

Why I mention Pakistan ? It is not because Mr. Biju Patnaik and Mr. George Fernandes have returned from Pakistan and they have said that they found a great fund of goodwill for this country in Pakistan. My orientation is different, that is, Pakistan belongs to the same cultural scenario and there

should be mutual undertaking and friendship between the two countries. So, this area need to be explored without lessening our defence preparedness. That is my point. I am not discussing the Pakistan Government. I am discussing the people of Pakistan and the people of this country. If Pakistan gets sophisticated weapons, every time we are involved in a drama of matching weaponry. That should not be.

I have discussed Gen. Sinha. I will discuss Mr. K. B. Lal who has been the Defence Secretary for all these years. I do not grudge Rs. 450 crores that have been added this year to the Defence budget. But I tell you that every time you shall not continue to add more and more funding to the Defence budget because Mr. K.B. Lal myself and others remind you that we need to have a massive economic development. We have a great chunk of population which is below the poverty line. We have to think of them. We cannot perpetuate misery on them. Therefore, while I support the urge of the Defence Ministry for the highest type of defence preparedness, I implore and suggest that they should also come forward in a big way to extend the hand of friendship so that the tension is removed for all times to come.

About the role of the armed forces in Jammu and Kashmir State, I would say that they have very good relations with civilians and they have done considerable good work in Jammu and Kashmir State. For that, I salute the army.

So far as the problems relating to my constituency are concerned, I will raise those problems in writing to the Defence Minister separately.

श्री बृद्धि चन्द्र जैन (बाड़मेर) । सभा-पति महोदय, रक्षा संबंधी मांगों का समर्थन करते हुए अपने विचार सदन के समक्ष प्रस्तुत करना चाहता हूँ । देश की रक्षा करना प्रत्येक प्रभुसत्ता सम्पन्न राज्य की प्रमुख

जिम्मेदारी है और भारत के संविधान में यह जिम्मेदारी केन्द्र सरकार के रक्षा मंत्रालय को सौंपी गई है उस। जिम्मेदारी को जब तक रक्षा मंत्रालय सम्भाल नहीं सकता तब तक केन्द्र मजबूत नहीं हो सकता। अभी यह प्रश्न चल रहा है कि राज्यों को अधिकार दिया जाए। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर इस प्रकार के अधिकार देकर केन्द्र को कमजोर कर दिया गया तो पमारे देश का अस्तित्व और आजादी खतरे में पड़ सकती है। अभी हमारी पार्टी और विरोध पक्ष के जितने सदस्य बोले हैं उन्होंने इस बात पर जोर दिया है कि हमें रक्षा व्यय में वृद्धि करनी है, कबौती नहीं करनी है। हमारे सामने जो भी इस प्रकार की परिस्थितियाँ आती हैं, उनका मुकाबला करना है।

14.00 hrs.

जिस प्रकार अमरीका पाकिस्तान को हथियारों से तैयार कर रहा है उस प्रकार हमें भी तैयार होना है। लेकिन मुझे दुख होता है जब इस रिपोर्ट को सुरक्षा परिवेश बारे में पढ़ते हैं। उसमें जिस प्रकार का विवरण दिया है उससे ऐसा लगता है कि दोनों महा-शक्तियों को हम बराबर के रैंक पर रखते हैं, जो उचित नहीं है। पाकिस्तान को अमरीका 3, 2 बिलियन डालर्स की सामरिक सहायता दे रहा है जैसा कि विवरण में दिया गया है इसलिए दोनों महा शक्तियों को बराबर के दर्ज में रखना हमारी भूल है हमें सही विवरण देना चाहिये।

रूस हमारा मददगार है। 1971 के युद्ध के समय अमरीका ने एक अपना महान बेड़ा आगे ला करके पाकिस्तान को मदद देने की कोशिश की थी। उस समय रूस ने हमारी मदद की और समय-समय पर मदद देता रहा है, और शस्त्रों को देने में भी मदद कर रहा है। आज अमरीका पाकिस्तान को एक 16 लड़ाकू विमान दे रहा है तो रूस

ने हमें मिंग 29 विमान देना स्वीकार किया है। तो दोनों महा शक्तियों को बराबर समझें यह दृष्टिकोण ठीक नहीं है और जो विवरण दिया है वह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता। रक्षा मंत्री जी का इस बुकलें में दिये गये इस चैप्टर को विशेष तौर पर पढ़ना चाहिए।

रक्षा मंत्रालय के रिसर्च और डेवलपमेंट विंग ने काफी उन्नति की है, हम विजयन्त टैंक में सुधार कर रहे हैं, बैन पैंटल टैंक चेतक के बारे में भी प्रगति कर रहे हैं। लेकिन हमें और भी प्रगति करनी है और इस काम के लिये हमें रक्षा मंत्रालय के टोटल 6,800 करोड़ रु. के बजट में से रिसर्च के काम पर 2.5 परसेंट की जगह 10 परसेंट तक खर्च करना चाहिए, क्योंकि आज के युग में रिसर्च और डेवलपमेंट बहुत जरूरी है तभी हम सेल्फ रिलमेंट ही रखते हैं।

अब मैं अपने क्षेत्र के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। रक्षा मंत्री जी, आप जब जैसलमेर आये थे तो आपने कहा था कि जैसलमेर और बाड़मेर में कैंटोनमेंट स्थापित होने चाहिये। इस बारे में राज्य सरकार ने अपनी सिफारिश करके भेज दी है, अब आप इस दिशा में जल्दी से जल्दी काम करके वहाँ कैंटोनमेंट स्थापित कीजिए ताकि हमारी फौज के रहने की वहाँ व्यवस्था हो सके।

ऐक्सरसाइज के समय हमारे सामने कुछ कठिनाइयाँ आयी हैं और वह यह कि ऐक्सरसाइज के समय सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों की सड़कें उन्होंने तहस नहस कर दी हैं जिससे करोड़ों रु. का हमारे क्षेत्र में नुकसान हो गया है। आप उन सड़कों को जल्दी से जल्दी ठीक कराइये और हमारी राज्य सरकार

को कम्पेनसेट कीजिए। हम रेगिस्तानी क्षेत्र में पिछड़े क्षेत्र के हैं और ऐक्सरसाइज के समय राज्य सरकार की सड़कों को बड़ा भारी नुकसान पहुंचा है, बड़ी बड़ी टामर और ग्रैवल की सड़कों को नुकसान पहुंचा है। आप अगर कम्पेनसेन देने को ऐग्री नहीं करते हैं तो ऐसी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिये कि ऐक्सरसाइज के समय जो स्थिति हमारी सड़कों की होती है, कम से कम ऐक्सरसाइज के बाद उन सड़कों की वैसी स्थिति तो करा दें जैसे कि पहले थी।

14.03 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
in the Chair]

इस सम्बन्ध में आपको पूरी तरह से ऐग्जामिन करना चाहिये।

हमारे क्षेत्र में पीने के पानी की बहुत बिकट समस्या है। मिलेट्री वाले 3,3 महीने तक वहां उपलब्ध पानी का उपयोग करते हैं उसके कारण ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों को पानी नहीं मिल पाता। आप इस सम्बन्ध में खुद अपनी इंडिपेंडेंट व्यवस्था करे और हमारी मदद करें।

हमारे सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों के पास उधर पाकिस्तान बड़े जोरों से सैनिक अभ्यास कर रहा है जो बड़ा भारी चिन्ता का कारण वहां के लोगों के लिये बन गया है। हम बार-बार मांग करते रहे हैं कि सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों को उत्साहित करने के लिये वहां पर ग्रास इण्डिया रेडियो स्टेशन की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये। डिफेंस प्वाइन्ट ग्राफ ब्यूसे में यह बात कह रहा हूँ क्योंकि हमारे वाइमेर और जैसलमेर के 50 प्रतिशत लोग हिन्दुस्तान के रेडियो को सुन नहीं पाते हैं, आवाज उन तक नहीं पहुंच पाती है जबकि

पाकिस्तान और लाहौर रेडियो की आवाज उन तक खूब जोरों से पहुंचती है। स्नेटेजिक प्वाइन्ट ग्राफ ब्यूसे यह बहुत जरूरी है। यदि कहीं युद्ध होता है तो हमारे देश की जानकारी लोगों नहीं मिलती है।

जब मिलेट्री फोर्स 3 महीने तक वहां ऐक्सरसाइज करती हैं तो रोड़ नं. 15, राष्ट्रीय मार्ग पर बड़ा भारी रश होता है। उस समय वन-वे होने के कारण बड़ी दिक्कत होती है।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.P.
SINGH DEO) : I have already answered
this.

श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन : कोई जवाब नहीं
प्राया है। वहां डबल-वे होना चाहिए।

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : This point
was mentioned yesterday. The hon.
Member was perhaps not present.

श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन : क्या जवाब दिया
है ? क्या निर्णय हुआ है, यह नहीं बताया
इस सम्बन्ध में कार्यवाही नहीं हो सकती है।

आज टेलीविजन का जो विस्तार हुआ
है, हमारे यहां पोजीशन यह है कि.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : How can this
Minister reply to that ? You speak on
Defence.

श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन : जयपुर और
जोधपुर के रेडियो स्टेशन से आवा नहीं
आती है।

एन सी सी और प्रादेशिक सेना का
विस्तार हमारे सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों में विशेष
तौर से होना चाहिये। यह सैकिड लाइन
ग्राफ डिफेंस है। हमारे क्षेत्र के लोग अगर

युद्ध होता है तो युद्ध के प्रहरी हैं और वह डटकर मुकाबला कर सकते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister, Mr. K.P. Singh Deo, has already dealt with it yesterday. Now please conclude.

श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन : मंत्री जी ने इसके बारे में कह जरूर दिया, लेकिन अभी तक कोई परिणाम नहीं आया है, चार वर्ष तो हो गये हैं। एन सी सी और प्रादेशिक सेना के बारे में सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों में किस प्रकार का बिस्तार किया गया है ?

इन शब्दों के साथ में रक्षा मंत्रालय की मांगों का समर्थन करता हूँ।

DR. KARAN SINGH (Udhampur): While intervening in this debate on the on the Defence Ministry, the first thing that I would like to do is to pay my very warm tribute to the Armed Forces. As you know, I live on the mouth of a volcano. From the very day that our freedom was achieved from that very day the area in which I live and to which I belong has been subjected to prolonged and continued aggression from many quarters. I have had a very close association for four decades with the Armed Forces. I have had a very close association for four decades with the Armed Forces. I have seen them in war and in peace. I have seen them on the ground and in the air. I also happen perhaps as you know, Sir, to be an Honorary Maj General myself in the Indian Army. Therefore, I look upon the services not simply as just another force.

These people are going a splendid job, and I would like to make one additional point which I think was made by one of the earlier speakers, that apart from defending the nation when the crises arise, in their continuing activities in the border areas the Armed Forces are extremely helpful to the local population. I can give you example. Whether it is in Ladakh, whether it is in

the Valley or whether it in the Jammu, the way in which the medical facilities, the educational facilities, the road and other facilities are made available to the civilian population is something which is not publicised because, strictly speaking, perhaps, according to the rules, I am not sure, whether they can do it. But they always go out of their way to help. Just one month ago I was in one of the border areas and there was an Army function—what is known as Fauji Mela—and it was heartwarming to see the way the local population, regardless of religion or party affiliation, is interacting with the Armed Forces. I think this is a point which should go on record.

I am not going into the point of the pensions because our dynamic and young Raksha Rajya Mantri has no doubt dealt with it yesterday. On this occasion I would just like to say there is a severe disappointment in one section of the people who have not really benefitted from the pension. I would urge upon our Raksha Mantri, who is a very experienced and senior Minister, to kindly look into that matter again, because when you have done such a lot for the Ex-Servicemen and when you spend hundreds of crores of rupees for their welfare, why should a small section of the Ex-Servicemen continue to remain disgruntled? This is a point which I am sure is already receiving their attention.

There are two major points I want to make in the very limited time at my disposal. The first is that deterioration in our security environment which has been mentioned both in the External Affairs Ministry and in the report of the Defence Ministry is something which cannot be dismissed. I have heard some views mentioned—I do not want to mention names—in which a line has been taken that this is a 'political ploy' that is being built up. This is a line that is being taken, and I would like to say with all the conviction that I can carry that we must not forget our history since 1947. Let us not forget that on four separate occasions—in 1947, in

1962, in 1965 and in 1971—Jammu and Kashmir was subjected to aggression. Let us not forget that despite the much-wanted Simla Agreement, Pakistan has never accepted the finality of Jammu & Kashmir's accession to India. Let us not forget that. Let me make it very clear. I do not want to create any sort of fear. I am not suggesting that there should be a panic reaction. But these are certain facts. Let us not forget that thousands of square miles of Indian Territory in Jammu & Kashmir State continue to this day under adverse foreign occupation. These are facts which many people somehow, with the passage of time, seem to forget.

Sir, these races and nations which forget history and destined to repeat it. Let us not forget history, and let us be very clear in our minds that this threat has got to be taken seriously and the threat is not only directly from Pakistan. Certainly, Pakistan is being armed with offensive weapons, ostensibly in order to fight a threat through Afghanistan. But have any of the weapons which have been given to Pakistan ever been used anywhere else except either against the people of Pakistan or against the people of India? Please give me one instance of one bullet ever given to Pakistan having been used anywhere else to fight any other aggression.

A lot of people saying that India is very much bigger, we are 10 times of their size, why should we worry? This is a misunderstanding. A whale is very much bigger than a shark. But if the whale is not properly armed, it is the shark that attacks the whale and not necessarily the whale that attacks the shark. I do not want to oversimplify the matter. India has got multiple threats to its security, whereas Pakistan has not got this position vis-a-vis India. And, as very rightly said by the earlier speakers, there are powers and forces which are behind which are causing the deterioration in this security environment. There is a threat from Pakistan; then there is a threat from the Super-power rivalry at our door steps. The Soviet troops are in Afghanistan; the American troops are in Diego Garcia. I am not equating, as

the other people have said. I am saying that they have to be equated because when they fight, they will look to their own interests—not to our interests.

So, Sir, with these nuclear capacities now developing in the Indian Ocean on our very door steps, and with the general escalation in the temperature of the cold war, I think that our security environment in fact has gravely deteriorated. If there is any criticism about this report, I would say that the Defence Ministry Report has perhaps not as clearly stated this deterioration as did the report of Ministry of External Affairs. I know both are Government Reports. There may be a division of labour, that Defence Ministry is dealing only with defence issues. But, I think, this is a point which has to be noted (*Interruptions*) that debated together, since all the demands are the Government has got the collective responsibility. I am simply saying that the External Affairs Minister while introducing his report better puts out the security environment problems than this particular report published by the Defence Ministry.

Now, in this report, there are many points. I cannot deal with them. There are very many technical points also. Many have been raised by the earlier speakers. There is however one aspect which I think has not been raised by the earlier speakers, and it finds no mention whatsoever in this report. That is the danger to India in the event of a nuclear war between the Super-powers or backed by the Super-powers. There is a misconception that this is only a danger faced by the developed countries in the West, or by the two Blocs. That is not so.

Nuclear technology has developed now in a such a way that if there is a nuclear conflagration anywhere in the world, the entire planet is going to be brought within its grip. I do not know how many members present here have seen this film called 'The Day After'. May I suggest that the Defence Ministry or, perhaps, the Education Ministry,

whoever is dealing with it, organises a special showing of that film to Members of Parliament? My criticism of that film is that what they have shown in 'The Day After' is a gross understatement. What in fact will happen is very much worse. One book—you are an intellectual Sir, I would like to recommend to you is called 'The Fate of the Earth' by Jonathan Schall. We should read this. We should study what Carlsagan and other groups of world famous scientists have said about what would happen in the event of a nuclear conflict?

The amount of pollutive materials that would be thrown into the atmosphere could totally cut off of the Sun. There could be a black cloud covering this world; the temperature would drop; the temperature in Delhi would drop to 40 degrees centigrades below the freezing. Do any of us have any idea on what may happen in the event of a nuclear conflict? When you travel abroad, this is the major pre-occupation now of people everywhere, and yet we in India seem to be blissfully unaware of this dimension to the threat.

I would like to say that we are today at a crucial stage where the humanity is at the cross-roads of history. Science and technology have given us tremendous power that power can abolish poverty, disease and misery from the face of the world and yet that same power if misused can destroy not only the human race but perhaps all major life on this planet. Therefore, we in India have to be cognisant of this.

Sir, we are the only country which has both philosophical heritage and the modern scientific heritage. If there is any country which can pioneer a synthesis between science and spirituality it is only in India. Whereas we should continue our diplomatic efforts—this is not an External Affairs debate so I do not want to go into that—Not only as a leader of the NAM but also within these two blocs themselves there is tremendous sentiment of the younger people towards peace. Younger generations today who have a vested

interest in the survival of the human race are deeply disturbed. If India takes a lead against this lunacy that gripped the human race we will be doing a great service.

Sir, what I would like the hon. Minister to touch upon is, would he let us know whether there is any clear perception of the threat posed to India by a nuclear war outside India's borders? If so, have we initiated any studies? We have some of the world's best minds—scientists, technologists and thinkers of the highest level. Have any studies been initiated to try and see what sort of scenerio could develop and what could be the impact on India? Are we starting to think about some possible survival strategies? I know if there is a large war perhaps nobody will survive, but there is another possibility—the possibility of a limited nuclear engagement not directly between Super-powers—in that event have we thought through the strategies. And if we educate our people on the possibility of the danger may be millions of lives can be saved. Today in India nobody knows about it. We know about F-16s which are direct threat. Apart from that are we aware! Do we not have to educate our people?

Sir, I want to tell you something very interesting. Two weeks ago a group of youngsters in Bangalore—young engineers—had a seminar on the 'The day after the day after—India's survival in the nuclear age'. Now these young people invited me. It was really interesting to see how these youngsters were involved. They were committed. They were thinking about these problems but, unfortunately, our traditional wisdom is still stuck in the old technological grooves. We do not seem to realise that the weapons of war have totally changed, and there must be a corresponding change in consciousness; that India must not only be on the receiving end but should also be able to develop political initiatives, diplomatic initiatives and scientific initiatives to see that this terrible threat to the human race could be averted. I would be grate-

if the hon. Minister could let us have his views on this.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am indeed grateful to all the Members who participated in the debate for the very valuable suggestions which they made and the criticism they offered in respect of certain aspects of the Defence programme. This is a debate without a difference. In fact, everybody in the House is agreed that India's defence should be strong. Everybody is agreed that we must not waste our money that we must get our rupees worth for the expenditure that we incur. In fact, if you look through all the speeches, which I did very patiently sitting, you would find that barring some differences in respect of whether there should be an army helicopter force or whether there should be a joint Commander or a separate Commander or things like that, there has been absolutely no difference of opinion with regard to our defence or the necessity for strengthening it. Therefore, my task is rendered easy in replying to the debate. I will broadly deal with a few general aspects and then I will proceed to deal with the individual Member's suggestions. I want to lay at rest the myth that India's expenditure on defence is very high. It is sedulously propagated by some people that we are spending too much, that this kind of expenditure cannot be afforded by our country.

AN HON. MEMBER : Not in this House but outside.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : That is why I did say 'sedulously propagated by some people'. Our Defence Expenditure in 1980-81 was 3.37% of our GNP. In 1981-82, it was 3.53%. In 1982-83, after Pakistan started getting the sophisticated weapons and equipment, it went up by 0.2%, to 3.73% and in 1983-84, our budget estimate is 3.7%. I would like to compare these figures with some other countries.

For instance, Dr. Swamy may be interested to know this. Israel's expendi-

ture on defence is 37.9% of its GNP. Egypt's expenditure is 7.4%, the UK—5.1%, the USSR—not available and the USA 7.2%.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay North East) : 14%.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is your guestimate. Pakistan 7% as against India's 3.2% for the year 1982-83 according to the *Military Balances*. I am taking for comparison the figures given by *Military Balances*. In actual terms, Israel's per capita expenditure is \$2060, Egypt—\$56, the UK—\$432, the USA—\$938, Pakistan—\$20 and India—\$8.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Population is more.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : If you take it either as a per centage of the GNP or you take it as a *per capita* expenditure on defence, we find that we are among the lowest among the countries. Therefore, to argue that we are spending too much on our defence and that we are creating a hysteria and therefore, we are trying to spend more on defence is not borne out by any comparison. Personally, I should think 5% of the national income should be an appropriate expenditure for defence. I am not talking of India, but generally in the world. I would like to impress on the House and on the country that our defence expenditure is among the lowest. We are not war-mongering, we are not going in for equipments and weapons, merely for the sake of accumulating them for us. But we are doing the barest minimum that is necessary for our defence. I would also like to show you, how defence expenditure as compared to non-developmental expenditure has been coming down. In 1964-65 the defence expenditure as compared to non-developmental expenditure was 44.41 per cent. In 1982-83, it has come down to 27.77 per cent. Even as a ratio of Central Government expenditure, we are hovering around 16 per cent. In 1980-81, it was 16 per cent; in 1981-82, it was 17.61 per cent

and in 1982-83, it was 15.82 per cent, and in the current budget estimates, it will be 15.98 per cent or roughly it will be 16 per cent. Therefore, even in absolute terms, our military expenditure is not that high as to attract any criticism.

Over the years, we have had to increase our defence expenditure, and we have had to distribute this expenditure amongst the various arms, so that a sort of distortion that had crept in earlier could be rectified. Actually before 1980-81, navy was getting less than 9 per cent; over the years we have increased it and in the year 1983-84 budget, navy will get 11.1 per cent and in 1984-85, it will get 11.7 per cent. Some hon. Member, I think, Shri Sivaprakasam, said that we are spending only 7 per cent on navy. It is an erroneous figure, he must have referred to the earlier state of affairs.

The defence has had to revise upward its plan. There was a plan for defence for 1979-84. At that time, the threat from the increased supply of arms and ammunitions to Pakistan did not exist. In early 1980, the global situation changed and the neighbouring country Pakistan became an important part of the strategy of the United States, and, therefore, we found that the original plan of 1979-84 could not meet the new situation that had arisen, and the plan was revised as 1980-85 plan. We have also had to go in for a perspective plan for a period of 20 years. Hon. Member are aware that either to develop an aircraft or to build a warship and all the naval equipment etc. it takes more than ten years, and, therefore, our original idea of having a plan only for five years would not fit in the new situation that has arisen. Of the 1980-85 plan, we have allocated Rs. 13500 crores for the army, Rs. 3488 crores for the navy and Rs. 7477 for the air force, Rs. 4569 for defence production, and Rs. 679 crores for the R&D.

One hon. Member had asked: "How can you start a plan in 1980-82, which can refer to 1980-85?" Apparently, the

hon. Member did not know that there was a previous plan 1979-84 and that in the first two years, the previous plan was followed. When we found that the situation had changed and we had to provide more resources for keeping our defence in proper shape, we had to increase it; and then the increase takes place from 1982-83 onwards.

I would, in passing, refer to one or two things. The Defence public sector undertaking have done very well. The capital invested in the public sector units upto 1982-83 was Rs. 610.28 crores, and in 1983-84 it is Rs. 711 crores; and the value of production in 1982-83 is Rs. 1144 crores, and in 1983-84 the estimate is Rs. 1392 crores. When all over the country, the capital-output ratio is 6:1, 5:1 or 4:1, so far as the public sector in defence is concerned, the capital-output ratio is 1:2. As against one unit of capital invested, the output is two.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
 It depends upon what prices you are using.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Dr Swamy may not waste his lungs, because I will not reply to anything he says by way of side remarks.

The profit has also increased. It was Rs. 69 crores last year; now it is Rs. 72 crores. This Rs. 72 crores is after making up a loss of Rs. 32 crores in three units viz. the Garden Reach Workshop, the MIDHANI and the Bharat Dynamics. MIDHANI and Bharat Dynamics are research oriented institutions. In fact, MIDHANI is doing a lot of research and development in metallurgy. The Kanchan armour about which I spoke with so much pride on the last occasion, and still continue to praise it, was actually to be produced in MIDHANI. Even after setting aside the loss, the profit is Rs. 72 crores, which is more than 10% of the capital.

My esteemed colleague, Mr. Singh Deo had dealt with the subjects he is in

charge of *viz.* defence production, ordnance factories, NCC, TA, ex-Servicemen and so on. He did it so well that I have hardly anything more to add, except a word of appreciation for the excellent way in which he dealt with the subjects. In fact, he is so modest that he did not tell the House that he is the chairman of the high-power committee to go into the question of ex-Servicemen. I will not deal with those aspects.

In a Defence debate, what really concerns people is the national defence and security environment.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
And the doctrine to meet that.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : All other things just fall into the periphery. So far as the national security environment is concerned, we must understand India's responsibilities first, before we look into the security environment. We have far-flung island territories, *viz.* Lakshadweep and Andamans. We have oil installations in the Bombay High. We have a coastline of over 6,000 Kms.; and the land frontier is also of an equal length. Therefore, we have greater responsibilities than any other country which is a neighbour of ours.

Last year I pointed out the basic features of our defence policy, the defence policy, I said, of India is a commitment to non-alignment on peace; we have no territorial ambitions of any kind and we have not attempted to acquire even one inch of territory of any other country. We have also no desire to assume the mantle of leadership of any region or group. We know very well that it is the desire to assume leadership that causes rivalries and then bitterness and then leads to war; and we have absolutely no such ambition to be a leader, of any group or region or anything of the kind.

And lastly we are committed to the principle of settlement of all disputes through peaceful negotiations. We have strictly honoured the Colombo proposal in respect of China, we have strictly observed the line of control, so far as Pakistan is

concerned. In fact, if you look at the long period of history you will find we have not committed any violation. And therefore we have to frame a defence policy consistent with these principles; and we should try to equip ourselves with such weapons as would further the principles which I have inunciated. But the situation unfortunately in the neighbouring area has been deteriorating in a very rapid fashion. From 1981 onwards, Shri Indrajit Gupta said, Pakistan become a centre of the strategic consensus of the United States of America; and in furtherance of their policy, they have gone on supplying equipment and weapons which, according not only to India but every thinking person in the world is far far in excess of the defence requirement of that country.

I shall take the house into confidence and give some of the things which Pakistan is acquiring. This is nothing secret; it is available in the latest *Military Balances* and other available informations. The only thing is that I must utter a word of caution. All that appears there is not 100 per cent correct. Pakistan will get now M48 A5 tanks—400; I-59 tanks from China 80; about 400 armoured personnel carriers, about 100 towed 155 mm guns and an equal number of self-propelled 155 mm guns which is now considered to be last word in artillery and a number of TN missiles amounting to 2000. And a number of night vision observation equipment, electronic measures, counter measures and so on.

The Pakistan Air Force will get, F-16 forty numbers; A-5 fiftyfive numbers; F-6 two hundred and one numbers; Mirage 33 and MRD Mirage five numbers. In addition, they are getting as a Member of the F-16 Multi-Stage Improvement Programme all the future weapons system for F-16, such as AMRAM, that is, Advance Medium Range Air to Air Missiles, and so on.

So far as the Navy is concerned, they will get destroyes tender, patrol and hydro-foil missile boats, harpoon missiles Vulcan-Phalanx system and a number of others which I need not mention.

My submission to the house is that such a large inventory of weapons systems in our neighbourhood cannot but cause concern to India.

Mr. Swamy said, that it is not the intention of the persons that should be taken into account, in defence. A very wise statement.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
Thank you. You are improving.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is actually the potential of that equipment that is important.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
May I interrupt to say that, when you are talking of Pakistan, you may also mention about Afghanistan, side by side ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Are they my neighbour ? Do they constitute a threat to me ?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
They are brothers.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
You may have your associations.

So far as I am concerned, I am only concerned with the Defence of India; and I am concerned with the country being fully prepared to meet any eventuality. That is all our concern. God has not appointed us as arbiters of propriety in the world and we have never attempted to do that kind of function. But I will be failing in my duty, this Government will be guilty of gross negligence and dereliction of duty, if it did not take into account the circumstances that surround India and make adequate preparation for it.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
That is exactly what I said. Intentions are not important ; capabilities are.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
So far as we are concerned, we have

made it very clear to Pakistan that we want to have good neighbourly relations with them. We have also continued our dialogue with them in respect of the Joint Commission which has been appointed. But as Cromwell said, "While you trust in God, you must keep your powder dry." If you want to safeguard the national interest it is absolutely necessary for us make adequate preparations to meet the threat generated by such acquisition of arms. I do not know if anybody in this House or elsewhere in the country believes or thinks that all the sophisticated equipment which Pakistan is getting is necessary for their defence. In fact, some of the arguments which they used to advance earlier have been contradicted by themselves. At one stage they said that they want this equipment and missiles to fight against the possible threat from Afghanistan & others. I asked the same question last year in the debate : Can submarines be used against Afghanistan? Can Harpoon Missiles be used against Afghanistan ? Therefore, the way in which they are going on accumulating the lethal weapons cannot but cause concern to us. While dialogue will go on, talks will be carried on. there is no doubt that we have to keep our preparedness at the peak.

Some Member asked : What is the deployment of Pakistani forces ? The deployment of Pakistani forces on Indian border is three times as against their deployment in other areas. If the objective is really to fight the other areas, then why is the concentration of troops and weapons on our side of the border ? I also wish to bring to the notice of Parliament that Pakistan did make a very big exercise recently, bigger than any exercise they have done before. You want us to take this as an expression of goodwill.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
Who suggested that ?

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY :
Simla Spirit.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
Therefore, I have no option whatsoever
except to go and find the matching
equipment for all these things. There is
no alternative to it.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
You could not get Harpoons from the
Soviet Union.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
Dr. Swamy is not familiar with all the
defence aspects. In fact, nobody can be.
I am also instructed by experts and,
therefore, I am able to put forth a
number of things. In defence prepara-
tion you do not match weapon for
weapon ; you match a system by a
system, And I can say with confidence
that we are matching that system by
our system of defence.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK (Kendra-
pura) : Then what is the problem ? If
you are better why do you make so
much noise ?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
We are matching and we getting all
these things because we spend money
and you people say that you should not
spend money.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
No, no.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : No. Do
not try to be navie.

(Interruptions)

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
I am coming to you, I am glad you
have come here. I am coming to you..
Please wait.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : He will
have to come to me. I will meet you
after December on this side. And then
we will be talking not of war but of
peace.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
Hope springs external in human heartitis,

(Interruptions) Why should I deny at
least some flight of imagination ?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Truth is
not imagination.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
He is a grey youth.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Mr.
Biju Patnaik suggested in the other
debate that we should start a dialogue.
Pakistan has assured him and his
colleague that "they have absolutely no
intention of attacking India and if they
want they can send a team to inspect nad
go and see the installations." Is it going
to be a mutual inspection or unilateral
inspection ?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
Mutal.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Naturally,
mutual. I would like to clarify what I
told in the House three days back; what
I understood from the President of
Pakistan was that if the Government of
India wants to send a team of high
military officials to inspect our
installations, dipositions and what you
call very big manoeuvres, they are
welcome to come, see, inspect and advise
us what to do".....

(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon.
Minister is there, he will reply.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take
your seats. You have made your point,
the Minister will deal with it in the way
he likes.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will
go on record.

(Interruptions)**

*Report recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will request the Members to maintain order. Please take your seats. The Minister is there to reply....

(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing is going on record. You give chance to the Minister to give reply. Please do not interrupt.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : I Will request all the hon. Members to maintain order. A very important subject is being discussed and the Minister is replying.

15.00 hrs.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I have already said that Pakistan is arming itself beyond its legitimate requirements, which causes a threat to us. If Pakistan really wants that this psychology or psychosis should be changed, it could very well have said "we are not going to get all these things which are beyond our needs", and I would have appreciated it very much. If Shri Biju Patnaik had told them "why do you want to have inspected teams, this and that the other ?" India is worried because you are going on accumulating sophisticated equipment.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : That has been told.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : If you stop it, "there will be a certain amount of harmony and good relationship generated by your own voluntary act", if you had said that, the country would have given you an ovation and a hero's welcome. On the contrary, you bring a message from them saying that I could go, see and inspect all these.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Why not ? What is the problem ?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The problem is that the whole situation is created because Pakistan goes on arming. They are not only getting it now, in September they are going to get certain things, in October, 1984 they are going to get certain things, in December they are going to get certain things. If they go on accumulating and getting all these things, what is the point of inspection? If they are really honest and sincere about normalising relationship, they would have only to say "all right, we will not get this equipment ; therefore, you need not also get further arms". But they have not said it. You have not told them that.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: May I.....

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I will sit down after I have finished this argument.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Do not put words into mouth.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Please allow me to put my point. Secondly, how am I sure that this is not a game to buy time from me. In October they will get certain equipment, in November they will get certain equipment Shri Indrajit Gupta was not pleased with me when I said that at the moment I have an edge, I have superiority over Pakistan. But by October I do not know, by November I do not know, at the rate at which America is going to supply, or the other countries are going to supply, equipments to Pakistan, what will be my position. How are you sure that they are not paying the game of buying time from India by suggesting dilatory tactics ? You may now answer it.

15.03 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

(Interruptions)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : War is not a game ; war is very Important

matter. (Interruptions) I think the Minister is quite competent to handle this matter. Mr. Minister, I would like to know two things. Is it our contention—it cannot be our contention; I hope it is not—that another nation, whether it is our close neighbour or beyond our boundaries will have to seek our sanction before they arm themselves, whatever be the arms? If that is not so and if it is our neighbour, and if it is stupid enough in one way or another to go on falling into somebody's trap and arm itself, whatever be the reason, we will have no option but to arm ourselves with modern weapons, to match system by system; in fact, because of our greater size and far greater strength in general, we will have to maintain that edge; whatever be the cost, the nation must bear that cost.

Coming to what I said three days back—Shri Venkataraman might go through my speech carefully—I have said “three times you have attacked us; how do we trust you? Why do you do all these things?” He said: “What has happened; we have also the right to correct ourselves or learn from the experience.” Sometimes we have to learn, Mr. Venkataraman. Twenty years back this House nearly threw away Nehru from the Prime Ministership. Don't forget that this nation had gone through this problem. It was my fortune or misfortune at that time to assist Prime Minister Nehru, a great leader. And that man died only because we could not take our revenge against the Chinese. Now these are our problems. I know the parameters of India's defence. I don't need to be taught by some of our colleagues here on the nature of the nation's defence. But while Pakistan is arming itself, we cannot deny them the right. I told them “what is it that you make us and you spend so much for defence? Why this spending of Rs. 10,000 crores on defence in this poor sub-continent? Why?” They said “let India come and inspect. Let them say how much we have to cut down. Let them proportionately cut down and that is the end of the story.” I would beseech you Hon. Defence Minister, take them on their words. What is wrong with it? Take them on their words.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Now, please sit down. I categorically state in this House with the full responsibility of this Government that I cannot accept their words.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : But you must also give the reason why you cannot.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): The simple reason is that they are not free agents. They are somebody else's agents. Why don't you say that?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : When a person goes on accumulating gunpowder and says you take me at my words that I am going to use it for making poor is...

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : As if we don't have the gun powder. Are we so weak that we don't have the gunpowder? We can blow up Pakistan ten times, you know Mr. Venkataraman. You know it. So what is the problem?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I repeat, I cannot take them at their words, because of their past history: their past conduct and the past performance always shows that whenever they got the sophisticated weapons they have tried them on India.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Mr. Minister, the Chinese have far more gunpowder. Then why are you talking to the Chinese? Chinese can blow up India in five minutes. And you have no defence.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : When Hon. Member, Shri Biju Patnaik ever come to this side of the House and takes this portfolio, he may do what he now considers.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Why may, I will.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I will close this chapter. There is no more to be said.

Now Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, having given a picture of some of what Pakistan is getting, if I don't say how I am prepared, I am likely to be misunderstood and it may cause certain apprehensions in the minds of my countrymen that we are not matching it or are not prepared for it. I would say we have the Vijayanta Tank, the T-72 tanks. Dr. Swamy may think that these T-72 tanks are tinder boxes.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Made of card-board. That is what he said last year.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : But I wonder why the NATO powers are afraid of these.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : The Israelis showed that in the war. You know that.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Why did not you go to Pakistan with Mr Patnaik?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Why don't you all come?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That problem is settled. When he comes, he comes, he will do it.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : He also said T-82, which he has given to other countries....

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : T-80.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : T-82 or T-80 are all figments of imagination. They have given the latest to us and I don't want to give the number. We have been assured and we know that they have given the latest to us. We are also going in for 105 mm guns which we have ourselves produced. The Indian field gun Mark-II is a match to any gun of its class which is produced by anybody. We are also going in for 155 mm guns. They may get it from somebody,

we will get it from somebody else. Likewise we are making efforts to help night flight capability fixed in our tanks and also electronic digital equipment.

So far as the Navy is concerned, we have an indigenous construction programme of frigates, corvettes, seaward defence vessels, landing craft etc. In fact, the Mazagoan Docks have produced three Godavari class frigates and it is a matter of pride to us. We are also acquiring a certain number of submarines, mine sweepers etc. Hon. Members are also aware that we have increased the capability of our Vikrant, the aircraft carrier, by induction of the sea Harrier aircraft. Some of you had the opportunity to see the Sea Harriers perform in the Bombay naval exercise—a fixed wing aircraft which can go up vertically, come down vertically move backwards, forwards and sideways, and is considered to be a very effective weapon. We are also acquiring the anti-submarine warfare helicopters, TU-142 aircraft, from the Soviet Union and a number of other things. I want to put these things on record because I have said a lot of things about what Pakistan is getting and therefore, I have to show that we are matching them with our purchases as well as production/manufacture. We have a very effective Air Force. Somebody said that we have given up manufacture of Jaguars. Was it Dr. Swamy who said it? I thought you know better.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : You are only doing licensed production. What about light combat aircraft?

(Interruptions)

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Without mentioning the figures I can tell you that we got a certain number of Jaguars in fly-away condition, and a larger number is going to be manufactured in our HAL in India.

Then we have a whole range of Mig-21s, Mig-23 and Mig-27 and are considering an advanced version of the Mig, a

much more advanced version of the Mig. Some Members say it is 29, some people say it is 31, I do not know the number, but I have been assured that I will get an aircraft which will be twin-engined and superior to F-16s....

We are also going on the Mirages which we have. (Interruptions). Our transport fleet will be (Interruptions). Just let me put on record. These are all non-contraversial things, I said, I am going to tell.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : He is giving such an excellent account of our armed forces. Then why is he worried ? What is the worry ?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Nobody says 'I am worried', but everybody says, 'I am prepared'. That is the point.

Who told you that we are worried ? If that were So, I would not have said I have an edge over Pakistan.

भाषार्थ भगवान देव (क्षत्रमेर) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इनको रोकिए। ये बार-बार खड़े हो जाते हैं।

(व्यवधान)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : There is a saying—the best way for defence is to prepare for war. I am glad that you are doing preparation. Why should we worry about sore little neighbour ? This is my question.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Mr. Patnaik may not be worried. I am worried.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur) : What has gone wrong with you ? You are a different Biju. You are not Biju of 26 or 30 years ago.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : We are prepared and we should be prepared.

We are prepared and we should be prepared. (Interruptions). If somebody attacks us... We will give every body nose. Why are you worried ?

PROF N.G. RANGA : You should be worried.

भाषार्थ भगवान देव : इस समा का कोई नियम है। किसी नियम के आधार पर ये बार-बार खड़े हो जाते हैं। यदि ये खड़े होते हैं तो हमें भी कहना पड़ेगा कि इनकी मर्यादा शक्ति समाप्त हो गई है।

(व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Any information or anything said in this House is only in his personal capacity. It is not binding on you or on the Government.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I will not be able to finish within fifteen minutes. Therefore, I would have to continue on Monday.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Or you can complete it by 4 O' Clock.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I am ready.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You may continue.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : If Mr. Patnaik co-operates, we can finish it.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : I will extend more than co-operation. But I am not satisfied with his answer.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you can complete it by 4 O' Clock.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
If there is no war psychoses, he may do.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : If
Mr. Patnaik does not go on delivering
a speech, at every stage, I will be able
to finish, even quicker.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Don't
put words into my mouth.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Minis-
ter, You need not yield, every time you
yield and therefore he gets up.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I am
a gentle person, incharge of a very
difficult portfolio.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
The way you are acquiring weapons,
you do not sound like a gentle.

What about Main Battle Tank ?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I
am going to deal with that.

We have ourselves launched a pro-
gramme of the Main Battle Tank. I
told the House last year that I will be
able to produce prototype by December,
1983. Hon. Members know what a
prototype is. Prototype is an assembly
of various things put together to
test the efficiency of the whole system.
You do not produce everything and
then make a prototype. It is not done
anywhere. I am very happy to say that
we have produced a prototype. We
are working on an engine of our own.
Most of the modern tanks have upto
1000 h.p. But we set for ourselves a higher
target of 1500 h.p. so that it may be
futuristic and it will be, of value and
effect during 2000. Though we have
not succeeded in our engine picking up
to 1000, we have now made a prototype
with imported engine to test various
things. It is being evaluated by the
Army in conjunction with the R & D,
Normally the trials will take two years.
Normally they do not do trials within
three or six months. A number of
snags are bound to occur in a prototype

and they will have to be rectified then
and there and it will be done.

After it is approved by the Army,
then we will launch on a production
programme.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
Where ?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I
cannot give you that now. (*Interruptions*)
We will choose the site according to the
then prevailing circumstances.

We are going for the manufacture of
T-72. It has a higher priority now.
And, therefore, after that, we will decide
where exactly this would be manufactur-
ed. But the place is not so vital. It is
the tank which is vital, which is
important and not the place where it is
manufactured.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
But you will have to build a new factory.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
Shri Amal Datta has said that he has
read some journal, in which it has been
said that these MBTs are produced in
4 years or 3 years and what information
I gave about Leopard-2 is wrong. I am
sorry, he has been misinformed. I will
give him the details. In 1963, the
United States and West Germany
embarked on a joint project to produce
what was then designed as MBT-70.
They went on in collaboration for three
years. They could not bring out any-
thing. They broke. And America went
on developing the XM tank and the
Germans went on to develop and
produce Leopard-2. And XM tank was
available in-1980 and the Leopard tank
was available in 1979.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond
Harbour) : Well, you are giving their
production date. But what about the
development trial, when did it take
place? It was within 4 years after
specifications were given.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I
know arithmetic. If the scheme was

started in 1963 and then if the prototype was approved in 1975 or 1976, it is not three years. It is not 4 years. Everybody knows these things. What I am anxious to do is this. We do not have the technology which the United States has or the Soviet Union has. We are a developing country. And we are trying our best to catch up with the rest of the world. And what you do is to denigrate the efforts of the R&D of our own country. It is not possible to do it in a short time when other countries have taken 15 to 16 years. You ask me to produce MBT as if it is a platform ticket coming from a vending machine.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Nobody asked you to produce MBT in a short time. You chose your own time.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : All that I say is, don't denigrate our R&D. You also said that this Defence Minister knows nothing. It is the only point on which I agree with you. On all other points I disagree.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : But he does not agree with you.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is because I belong to a fraternity of democratic Defence Ministers who are not experts.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : You should be like Gen. Ustinov taking the Soviet example.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I shall deal with the Light Combat Aircraft. Even here, we are working on an engine. In fact, it is not easy to develop an engine of that high horse power and Mr. Biju knows this better because he himself had been a pilot. He knows these things and there is no point in decrying all time our efforts.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Nobody is doing that.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I am very glad and I am very happy and

let this go on record that nobody is decrying.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Why should we not accelerate, Mr. Minister ?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : That is all right. That we should try to do. Can we do it without collaboration ? Well, somebody says "No" and somebody says "Yes".

(Interruptions)

So far as the Light Combat Aircraft is concerned, till now other countries were coming and saying that they will only sell this aircraft to us. They would not collaborate with us. Today our R & D has developed to such an extent that there is a competition amongst 3 or 4 countries who want to come and collaborate with us.

I will now take up some of the points raised by hon. Members. One point which has been raised by almost all hon. Members is that there should be a standing committee of Parliament to deal with defence matters. The Defence Ministry alone individually cannot have a standing committee. The concept of having a standing committee with powers to scrutinise budget estimates is slightly different from the present parliamentary concept of passing the estimates. In those countries where you have standing committee system, they have a different parliamentary procedure. Unless the Parliament in its wisdom agrees to substitute that for all the Departments, the Defence Department alone will not be able to do it.

There is another point which has been made, namely, that there should be a Chief of Defence Staff. Different countries have in the world have different systems. There are some countries which have the system of Chief of Defence Staff and there are some countries which do not have the system of Chief of Defence Staff. So far as this Government is concerned, it is of the view that the system which is now prevailing has worked satisfactorily and well and it

has stood the test of two war in 1965 and and 1971. Unless there are very compelling new circumstances they are not inclined to change.

The next point that has been raised by some hon. Members is that you must have an Army Aviation Corps. The Army Aviation Corps. is also a kind of system which prevails in many countries. The point is not whether you should have an Army Aviation Corps, or not. But the point really is how effective is your rapid attack system and how you can ensure it. Our Chief of Staff are working on it and they will find a solution. You cannot impose a system merely because it is being practised in other countries. Therefore, we can have a rapid deployment force or we can have a coordinated system. There are a number of other alternatives and variations available for this. To merely say that just because some people have written in the newspapers that you must have an Army Aviation Corps and then we must immediately accept it is not a scientific approach to the problem.

The Army and the Air Force do exercises in which both these combine and carry out their respective exercises. I have myself gone to many of these exercises and I have found that the coordination is the best. It is very high. If on somebody's stray statement that there is no coordination and you change me and say that there is no coordination, how can I answer that? There is nothing wrong with the system that is now prevailing our defence. There is room for improvement and the persons concerned are looking into it—we have to improve—and they will certainly find a solution for this kind of a problem.

I have already said that we have not given up Jaguars. We are going to produce it. Somebody said that we have purchased the German submarines as against the Swedish submarines or something of that kind.

If you are going to base your criticism of the Government on the versions of disgruntled persons and

disappointed tenders, I have no way of answering it.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
 Are other versions available to us ?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
 Certainly. Disgruntled persons and disappointed tenderers have their versions. How can anybody say that the Swedish one was better than the German one ? After all, I depend on my experts in my Department.

Whatever their decisions, we accept. Only when there is a difference between R&D and others and even some of us, the Political Affairs Committee is called upon to decide. Otherwise it goes through.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
 When you were in the opposition, you objected to Jaguar from your side.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
 Did it ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :
 Somehow, Dr. Subramaniam Swamy remembers all these things.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
 And, therefore, I would plead.....
 Of course, I know the handicaps in which the hon. Members function. The information is not readily available. But, whatever information is available, is not utilised by you people also. You are all experts. I do not want to talk to you. I want to talk to the younger people.....

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY :
 They are already convinced. You try to convince us.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK :
 He is totally convinced. Now you convince us.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
 I want to tell my friends that defence is a very difficult subject. It is not that

anybody can get up in the House and talk of defence. It requires a certain measure of study and a great deal of home-work. In fact, when I was asked to do this, for three months I went through all the Jane's books, the artillery, navy, air force and all that, so that I could not mistake the corvette for an aircraft. I am appealing to my young friends that if you really want to make a contribution to defence, please collect all the answers that we are giving to questions. Please classify them under Army, Navy and Air Force.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Will you complete your speech by 4 O'Clock ?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Is it the sense of the House that we will take up the next subject after 4 O'Clock ?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : So Private Member' business will go upto 6.30 p. m.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : You classify all the answers which we give. I can assure of you one thing. No answer which is given in reply to your question will be anything but the truth. It will always be true because we know our responsibility to the House. If you get all the answers and if you classify them under Army, Navy and Air Force and then sub-classify them as artillery and those relating to personnel, the Services, the Commands etc., in one year's time, you will be able to make much better contribution than you are.

The second thing is you must also read the reports which we given. A very well-informed person like Dr. Subramaniam Swamy said that ;

“Previously, you used to make the Ajit and other trainer aircraft. Now you are making nothing.”

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
Except licenced production.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
Except licensed Production. I am glad you confirm. Please refer to page 50 of my report. That is what we have said :

“Production of Kiran Mk. II basis jet trainer and HPT-32 Basic Trainer aircraft has commenced in the Bangalore and Kanpur D.vision, respectively. Deliveries of these aircraft to the Air Force are likely to commence during 1983-84.

I am citing that, as an instance that unless you read the report it is.....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Have you read it ?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
Yes. I am talking of the fighter aircraft, no trainer aircraft.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : He is shifting the ground,

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, he has agreed that he has not read it.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : I have read it.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
At that time the election result came and he forgot it,

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
Why don't you hold elections in your Party ?

SHRI SOM NATH CHATTERJEE :
He is not permitted,

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :
Since information is not available, certainly people do make this kind of statements. My submission is that you can

use the facility of interpolation to get all information which you want in respect of these matters.

I will now pass through a number of points raised by others. Gen. Sparrow as usual, made his very valuable contribution. He said that the T.A. and the N.C.C. should form the second line of defence. I am in full agreement with him. In fact, my view is that the N.C.C. should devote more defence training rather than to adventure and other activities which they are now doing.

Dr. Vasant Kumar Pandit referred to the internal situation in the country, I am sure that this will be taken up by him during the debate on the Home Ministry. I have nothing to do with the internal situation. He asked about MBT and helicopter. I have answered that question. He has said that the international cartels are wantonly delaying the decision. Of course, everybody who wants to sell his equipment will do all that is in his power to lead, mislead and all that. We have got to be wary and careful about it. Then he said that in the purchase of indigenous goods there is politics. I can assure you that there is no such thing. You merely make a blank statement that there is politics and I also make a statement that there is no such thing. If you have any particular aspect, you must write, you must bring it to our attention; then we will certainly look into it. His two other points are very valid, that is, the doctor-patient and the nurse-patient ratio should be improved. I agree with him and we will do all that we can to help.

Mr. Arjun Sethi laid emphasis on the coastline and sea defence. We are, as I said earlier, strengthening our Navy with a number of crafts which will take into account not only the territorial waters but also the blue waters.

Mr. Vairale also spoke elaborately on a number of things. Of these, I will only deal with one aspect and that is, the nuclear capability of Pakistan. Here I would also like to deal with another

aspect raised by Dr. Karan Singh. The Prime Minister is doing everything possible to bring about a consensus in the matter of nuclear disarmament. She raised it in the NAM Conference. She went to New York and then had a meeting with the various Heads of State and she impressed on everybody about this holocaust which threatens the very existence of humanity. In fact, if there is one person who has consistently gone on with a campaign for nuclear disarmament, it is our Prime Minister. Now, I do not know, and I cannot say, whether Pakistan has nuclear capability. How can anybody know? Just as you have read reports, I have also read reports, some saying that their effort at enrichment through the centrifuge process has failed and there are other reports that they are very near achieving nuclear capability.

DR. KARAN SINGH : What is Mr. Biju Patnaik's information ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is taking rest. Don't disturb him.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : They are ten years behind our time.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : There may be various reasons why they say this also.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Various reasons why they have failed also.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : You know, the membership of the IAEA the International Atomic Energy Agency. In order to get membership, they may say so.

- DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : In order to get that, they are boasting,

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : But as far as Defence is concerned and as far as this Defence Minister is concerned, I will proceed on the footing that they have nuclear capability. But what we do on that is a different thing...

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHARRA-BORTY : Has your attention been drawn to a disclosure being top-ranking Pakistani scientist that are producing, they are capable and they are producing it. He is a top nuclear scientist.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Yes, I have read that. It may be for the purpose of getting membership in the IAEA, Also it can be. I do not say it is. It can be. *(Interruptions)* I have to look into every possible angle.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : You had kindly mentioned just now that you will go on the impression that they are successful in developing nuclear capability and you will take steps accordingly. Would you take the House into confidence as to what steps you are talking ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : No. I merely said...it does not mean that. I have already said earlier in my speech that you need not match the tank with the tank and this and that. All that I am bound to do is to take note of such a situation and then make arrangements for meeting a contingency of that kind....

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : No joint strike with the Israelis, I hope.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Which country you represent, Dr.Swamy—Israel, America or Russia or India ?

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRA-BORTY : He represents his constituency.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Thank you. I wanted this information only.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The question is, where is his constituency ? Israel or....

(Interruptions)

I will take only 10 or 15 minutes more. Please, I beg of you....

AN HON MEMBER : We don't want to force you on that issue.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : But, at the same time, I want to make it clear that it is the definite, determined and express policy of this Government to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. This is our policy and I want to restate it and reiterate it.

Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh made a very valuable and very weighty contribution. In fact he asked me what is the disposition of the various forces on our side and on the other side, I have given it already. He asked what are the sophisticated equipment Pakistan is getting, I have given that already in the earlier part of my speech. Then he made one year valid point. He said—and Biju may kindly hear this - he said that Pakistan is always getting modern weapons earlier than India. And this is exactly what I have been trying to impress. I suppose since it comes from the same opposition it will carry conviction.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : He is from Lok Dal.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It does not matter. It will carry conviction with all of you.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Don't worry. We will convert him very soon.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : He expressed an apprehension about the gap in missiles. We are fully aware of the development in missile procurement by Pakistan and as I said, our endeavour will be to take measures to counter the possible threat.

He also mentioned that we should have an intelligence agency which is able to get information about the other side.

Nobody can have any quarrel with it. I also feel that our Intelligence agency must be strengthened. It is very difficult to get Intelligence from outside. It is all right that we can get local intelligence amongst our people but to get intelligence from other countries is not possible. And his point that we should try to strengthen our agency is well taken.

I have answered already the point about the Army Aviation Corps. He referred to the poaching which is being done by the ships from Thailand and other countries. Recently we had captured one or two of them and then we brought them to Madras port. The Coast Guards are doing fairly effective work in this regard. We have to provide them with the tools. We have to give them the fast boats. Howercraft is one of such thing. Howercraft is a fast boat. You know it goes over the surface of water.

As regards the Leh-Manali Road, I know, it is very important. Already we have taken steps. This was also mentioned by Shri Negi and others. We are now looking into the alignment of that road. Shri Rawat mentioned about the Pershing missiles being secured by Pakistan. We have no information on that.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : I put the question to Dr. Swamy, not to you.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : I said it is not true. Is it not so ?

(*Interruption*)

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I do not know what is your credential to speak on behalf of that country which you always speak about.

Then he said that Pakistan is getting not only from U.S.A. but also from the Gulf countries. We have taken note of this. He also mentioned about a very important point about the radar coverage. We have a fairly good system of radar

and some of my friends also came with me recently to our Radar Station. They saw for themselves the kind of radar coverage that we have. The Members of our Consultative Committee came. Of course, we have certainly to catch up every day with the modern development in the radar system and we are keeping abreast.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : That is enough.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : One more point. The other Members will feel disappointed if I do not deal with their points. I think I have dealt with Dr. Swamy in every one of his points that he raised.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : What about U.S. Navy in the Arabian Sea ?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I have only one quarrel to pick up with him. He said that we must have national security doctrine, (*Interruptions*) We have a national defence policy. If you want, I can say that our approach is not doctrinarise but pragmatic.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Whatever it means.....

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : You must really thank Pakistan for helping you to modernise your armed forces. Otherwise you would take 20 years.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : In fact, the definition of 'Doctrine' according to Oxford Dictionary is :

'religious, political, scientific, etc., belief, dogma or tenet.'

We have no tenet. We have a pragmatic approach to the Defence problems.

MR. DEPUTY SPOKESMAN : Because you are dealing with Dr. Swamy, you must be careful.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : He is confusing the enemy. They do not know what our doctrine is ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you do not confuse him, that is all right.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : He mentioned about the U. S. presence in the Indian Ocean. Yes, after the Territorial Waters of 12 miles, anybody will be in the open sea. What is the great thing about it? There are all other countries. France is there; U. K. is there; their submarines are there. The whole of the Indian Ocean is riddled with a number of other things. (Interruptions) He made a very valuable suggestion that we must take diplomatic efforts to prevent the tie-up between Pakistan and China. I hope he will be able to help in this matter.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Yes, I will.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : And bring down the temperature in the sub-continent.

He made a mistake about the import.

SHRI SOM NATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur) : Only one.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : No, several. So far as the imports are concerned, he said that it has increased. It is not so. It is ranging 12 per cent all the time. I have got figures. Since I have no time I will not go into the same. Sir he also made a number of side remarks—about Russian equivalent of Harpoons etc. whether we asked for it and they refused it and so on. I do not know whether I should take them up. Let them remain as his statements. There is at least one point on which I will agree with him.

I agree with Dr. Swamy that the allocation of 2½% for R&D is not adequate.

We must increase it. Shri P. Namgyal brought out an important thing about Skardu and Gilgit. We have taken note of this. In Skardu and Gilgit Pakistan and China are extending the runway so as to take in larger aircraft. Now, we have taken note of it, We are trying to find a runway for ourselves which will be able to meet that kind of situation. We have taken note of it and we are doing something about it. He also mentioned about the J & K infiltration. It is a matter which worries us. Dr. Karan Singh also mentioned about it. So, the point about J & K infiltration is taken note of and we are trying to see that we get full information on this.

Shrimati Shaktawat made a reference about the various amenities to ex-servicemen. My colleague has already dealt with it yesterday. Now it only remains for me to reply to Shri Indrajit Gupta's points & then conclude.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir he is always a very delightful speaker. I enjoy hearing him whether he criticises me or he appreciates does not matter. He makes his points very well. The most important point which he made is that the import is becoming an unmanageable burden and this import is necessitated by the Big Power rivalry. In fact, his suggestion was—though he did not spell it out—that sometimes for economic interests, for selling arms they keep on creating such kind of rivalry between neighbouring countries and their objective is to sell these things. The truth is that when one neighbour gets something we have got to go and buy equipment from the other. It does escalate the situation. There is no doubt about it. We have therefore, to see that we do normalise our relations. Well, I have always been saying that. I have got to be 100 per cent prepared for any eventuality. I have never said that the dialogue should not be continued or that there should be let-up in our efforts to normalise our relations with our neighbours but one should not be at the cost of the other.

Sir, he also asked about the L-60 engines being imported. I want to

emphatically say that we are not importing any engines for Vijyanta. I have said this several times even in answer to questions but somehow this never dies. We are not importing anything like that. Our view is that our own engine is quite good for this kind of tank. I have already mentioned about LCA and the steps we have taken.

Shri Indrajit Gupta referred to the retired officers being consultants. I do not know how to deal with this matter. I am really at loss, because some of these people do not take employment so that they do not come under the Government Service Rules under which we can refuse employment. They put up independent things like consultancy in that area, this, that and the other and some of these people do interfere, but I must, on this occasion, say that by and large, the majority of officers who retire are all very good, very straight-forward and they carry the traditions of our Defence very well. It is only a few black-sheep who create this kind of impression and I do not want the country to have an impression that our retired personnel are in any way inferior in their quality to the best standards known.

Lastly, I will have to say, it is for me to pay a tribute to the Services for the excellent way in which they have carried on. The Officers and the men have given of their best in the service of the country. It had been my privilege to go and see them in the farthest posts, in conditions of extreme rigours of climate. I have been in Poonch, Bimbergal and other areas in mid-winter at -5°C and the morale of the people there is excellent and I want to pay my tribute to them. I also want to pay tribute to the Civilian Defence—Territorial Army—the TA and NCC and others who have done a very good job and who have carried the burden when occasion arose.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : What about the Border Security Force ?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I am coming to say about that. The third

one is about the Border Security Force and the Assam Rifles.

AN HON. MEMBER : They are not under you.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It does not matter.

They all come under our defence—the Border Security and Assam Rifles ; and lastly I want to pay tribute to the Border Roads Organisation which has done an excellent job. People who have gone and seen for themselves the kind of roads which they have laid in most difficult terrain solicit the admiration of everybody. I thank the House for the patient and very friendly hearing you have given me. Thank you.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : We pay our tribute to the Minister also.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN
Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put all the cut motions to the vote of the House, unless any Member wants any particular cut motion to be put separately.

All the Cut motions were put and negatived.

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 complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1985, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 18 to 23 relating to the Ministry of Defence.”

The motion was adopted.

Demands for Grants, 1984-85 in respect of Ministry of Defence Voted by Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand	
		for Grant on account voted by the House on 14th March, 1984	for Grant voted by the House
1	2	3	4
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE			
18.	Ministry of Defence	69,14,31,000	26,18,50,00
19.	Defence Services—Army	648,68,25,000	—
20.	Defence Services—Navy	83,94,82,000	—
21.	Defence Services— Air Force	237,80,84,000	—
22.	Defence Services— Pensions	93,97,33,000	—
23.	Capital Outlay on Defence Services	—	119,92,83,000

15.58 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

(Seventy First Report)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we go to the next item of the Business Order, Shri Chitta Basu to move.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Seventy-first Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 21st March, 1984.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Seventy-first Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 21st March, 1984."

The motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we take up Private Members Legislative Business. Shri Ram Lal Rahi—absent, Then, Shri K. Lakkappa.

15.59 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Article 130)

SHRI K. LAKKAPA (Tumkur) : I beg to move :

* Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2 dated 23.3.1984.