

17.30 hrs.

**STATEMENT RE. RECONSTITUTION
OF MINORITIES COMMISSION**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): Madam Chairman, consequent on the resignation of Shri M. R. Masani as Chairman, minorities Commission, Government have decided to reconstitute the Minorities Commission with Shri Justice M. R. A. Ansari as Chairman and Prof. V. V. John, Dr. Miss Alooji Destur, Shri Kushak Bakula and Air Chief Marshal Arjan Singh (Retired) as Members.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal): Madam, he said that the Prime Minister was misleading the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. He did not say that. You misheard him.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Madam, I am referring to Mr. Masani's speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry, on a statement made like this, there are no questions allowed.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

BAR ON NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS BY INDIA

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contal): Madam Chairman, the statement made by the Prime Minister in the course of his visit to USA that India will not undertake nuclear explosions even for peaceful purposes has created much concern in the minds of people like me, a humble student of science.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): May I correct the hon. Member? I made the statement first here and not outside.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: But it has received quite a lot of publicity all over the world.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Idukki): In our country also.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: In our country also, or wherever it may be. It has created some concern, I should say great concern, in the minds of people like us, humble students of science, as to why and what stands in the way of not having nuclear explosions even for peaceful purposes.

Madam, I want to draw your attention to the fact that during the last 35 years, since 1944 when the first nuclear blast was made, once every 10 days there was one nuclear blast undertaken by one power or the other. All told, about 2000 nuclear devices have been exploded by USA, Russia, France, China and UK. This is not all for developing destructive weapons, but also for peaceful purposes. I want to draw the attention of this House to the fact that our present industrial civilisation based on coal and oil energy is likely to be extinct by the next century. Unless we can devise some other new sources of nuclear energy such as nuclear power, it has given, I should say, a new leap to the world's civilisation, some kind of a second industrial revolution has been brought in. That itself is a serious concern for the whole of the world as to how much we can harness this nuclear power for sustaining, helping and for the survival of our industrial civilisation of the future.

Madam, I will not deal with the destructive objective of nuclear explosion although I want to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister to the fact that after development of nuclear technology for explosion, the whole concept and character of war has undergone a revolutionary change. Even the conventional arms mostly of the nuclear powers are possessed with nuclear weapons of 1 kilo tonne or 2 kilo tonnes which are called nuclear guns. And these nuclear guns can be used anywhere and they are included in the conventional arms and these