

have a discussion.

SHRIP. CHIDAMBARAM: We are taking action.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: We have asked about punishment.

(Interruptions)

S. BUTA SINGH: Saifuddin Sahib, as my colleague has stated, the State officers are under the State Government. We have no objection if you allow us to take action directly from Delhi.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: We cannot, definitely.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: What about the Chief Minister of U.P. who was there in Meerut while the riots were taking place?

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: You can talk to the Prime Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Has the State Government taken action against the IPS and IAS officers?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I request the Members to take their seats. Please take your seat. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: The Chief Ministers have to be sacked.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Banatwalla, we are going to discuss this matter

separately and we are going to have a discussion on all the things.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Next question. Mr. Raghuma Reddy. He is absent. Shri Dharam Pal Singh Malik. All of you take your seats.

S. BUTA SINGH: I am willing to take action against IAS and IPS officers, certainly, if you allow.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, order, please. Take your seats.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. I would not allow like this. Next question.

AN HON. MEMBERS: You have got the power.

(Interruptions)

Supply of Awacs to Pakistan by US Government

*85. **SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK[†]:**
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the US Government has since agreed to supply AWACS to Pakistan;

(b) the reaction of Government of India thereto; and

(c) the likely impact of this step on the sub-continent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Although the US Administration is known to support the trans-

fer of an Airborne Early Warning (AEW) system to Pakistan, Government are not aware of any final decision on the type of system to be supplied and the manner of its transfer.

(b) The acquisition of an AEW system by Pakistan would have serious security implications for India. The deep concern of the Government and Parliament has been suitably conveyed to the US Administration and members of the Congress.

(c) The transfer of an AEW system to Pakistan would lead to an escalation of the arms race in the sub-continent and divert resources from development to defence. This would not be conducive to the improvement of the political climate in the Indian subcontinent.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: In the light of the reply given by the Hon. Minister that the Government are not aware of any final decision on the type of system to be supplied and the manner of its transfer, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister what do the Government propose to find out a final decision on the type of system and manner of its transfer? Further, Sir, are we in a position to check acquisition of an Airborne Early Warning system by Pakistan?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Sir, as I mentioned in my answer, we do not have any information about the final decision because as far as I am aware, the final decision has not been taken by the US Government about the manner, the timing and the type of system that is to be given. I did not get the second part of the Hon. Member's question. Could he repeat it.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Are we in a position to check acquisition of an Airborne Early Warning system by Pakistan? Are we in a position to check the transfer of the system?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: We have conveyed our views to the US Government at the highest level. I personally was in

Washington in the month of April. I had spoken to the United States leaders.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Whether we are in a position to check transfer of such a system. He wants to know that.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: This is what I am trying to answer. We have made known our views to the US Government, to the US Congress. We have made our views known to the Pakistan Government and the Pakistan leadership at the highest level that if this particular system was made available by the United States, it will have serious repercussions in this part of the World and also in Pakistan.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): Let me just add that no time will be allowed for the situation to come about where our security will be compromised in any way.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: May I know from the Hon. Minister whether we are taking all precautions to ensure full peace in the sub continent which is in great danger because of the transfer of the system of AEW? If so, please give details and further Sir I want to know the details of the AEW system for information.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: The Prime Minister has just assured the House that under no circumstances the security of the country will be compromised. With regard to the details of the system, I respectfully suggest the Hon. Member to address the question to the Minister of Defence.

SHRI G.G. SWELL: The Minister of State has just now stated that the US Government has not finally made up its mind to supply these AWAC aircrafts to Pakistan whether on hire or sale. Would he be in a position to confirm or deny that it would be in the interest of the United States of America to supply these AWAC system to Pakistan just as it has done to Saudi Arabia? Do we have any system in the world anywhere to which we may resort to match this system? Or have we

any other means of counteracting this system in case the aircraft are in Pakistan?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: With regard to the policies of the United States Government I am not in a position to say as to what precisely they are going to do, whether they are going to repeat the performance of Saudi Arabia. What I will assure the House is that we are fully vigilant about this matter. We have conveyed to them that whether it is a matter of outright sale, gift or lease it does not really matter. It is a distinction without a difference. The consequences on the security of India and the sub-continent are the same, they are grave. We have made these views known. With regard to the question as to what we can do in reply, this is for the Minister of Defence to answer.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: In case it is pursued and acquired by Pakistan from the United States, what steps we are taking to counteract that?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: The Prime Minister has given an answer.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: I want to know more details.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Is the Government aware of the capability of Pakistan to steal AWACS like it stole steel for the manufacture of atom bomb? Are you aware of their stealing capability?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Having served as the Ambassador to Pakistan I am fully aware of their capabilities.

Talks With GNLF Leaders

*86 **PROF. K.V. THOMAS†:**
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of his recent talks with GNLF leader in Delhi;

(b) Government's position on the various issues raised during the talks; and

(c) whether the talks have also been held with the Government of West Bengal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b). The Central Government have initiated discussion with the GNLF leadership for finding a peaceful solution to the agitation. Talks are continuing. Government have already made their position very clear that the State of West Bengal will not be divided. Efforts are underway to find a solution to their demands.

(c) Yes, Sir.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: It was in 1980 that Mr. Gheising started this agitation. At that time there was not much support. It was clearly shown in 1982 when he asked to boycott the elections and people did not give any support to him. But later it got momentum. One of the reasons apart from political is that Darjeeling is economically backward. There is a feeling among Gorkhas that they are second-rate citizens. They do not have equal opportunities in jobs. There is not much opportunity for educating them. My question to the Government is: what steps have been taken to develop Darjeeling area and to remove this feeling among the Gorkhas?

S. BUTA SINGH: I would like to request the hon. Member not to press for an immediate reply because these are the things we are discussing with the hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal. Any solution to the problems of the areas of Darjeeling will have to be initiated by the West Bengal Government. We are working in full cooperation with them and it will be premature for me to spell out the things that are being discussed.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: The Communist Party of India had asked for a separate State for Gorkhas as far back as 1947. But when GNLF started its agitation, they said that it