

(a) whether the Government are formulating any scheme to bring back the money deposited by Indians in the banks in foreign countries into the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[English]

**Insurance Scheme for Toddy Tappers  
in GOA**

1926. SHRISURYANARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has launched an Insurance Scheme for toddy tappers in Goa.

(b) if so, the details of the said scheme;

(c) whether LIC propose to launch this scheme in other States also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Life Insurance Corporation of India has recently finalised a Group Insurance Scheme to cover 4300 toddy tappers between ages 18 to 60 who are registered members of co-operative societies under Toddy Tappers Welfare Board in Goa. The scheme envisages that a Sum assured of Rs. 3000 in the event of normal death of the member of the scheme will be payable to the legal heir

of the deceased. In the event of death by accident, the insurance cover will be Rs. 6000. The premium for the aforesaid cover is Rs. 30; 50; of which will be financed from the Social Security Fund set up for the purpose by the LIC and the remaining 50% will be contributed by the Toddy Tappers Welfare Board.

(c) & (d). Yes, Sir. The offices of the Life Insurance Corporation of India in State Capitals are in touch with the respective State Govts. in this regard. At present, negotiations are in progress in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

**Foreign Investment in Coal Production  
Sector**

1927. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:  
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:  
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
SHRISOBHANADREES-  
WARA RAO VADDE:  
PROF. UMMAREDDY  
VENKATESWARLU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to allow foreign capital and technology into coal sector;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have taken steps to attract foreign investment in this sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some countries have shown

their interest regarding investment in coal sector; and

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (f). The Government have taken a decision to permit Private sector participation in Coal Mining for captive use. To enable this, A Bill to amend the relevant provisions of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 has been introduced in the Parliament.

Such Private sector participation would be open to both Indian and foreign investment.

However, such foreign investment would be regulated under the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957.

Offers received in this Ministry so far from foreign investors are:

(1) M/s Coleman Associates for captive lignite mine for a thermal power station at Bar-singsar, Rajasthan.

(2) Kalinga Power Corporation Limited (a company registered in India, which will shortly have majority equity share holding by foreign investors) for captive coal mines for a power plant at Duburi, Cuttack District, Orissa.

(3) NRI Group from Australia (Intex Private Limited) wants to set up a modular Coal Washery in India with complete foreign collaboration and finance from overseas.

[English]

#### Waiver of Loans to Special Category States

1928. SHRI V. SHRINIVASA PRASAD:  
SHRI M. V. CHANDRA SHEKARA  
MURTHY:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to waive accumulated loans of the special category States;

(b) if so, the names of these special category states and the reasons for waiving loans to these States:

(c) whether several States have not been repaying either loans or the interest accrued on such loans; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to recover the loans and interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). A statement is given below.

#### STATEMENT

The States of Assam and J&K have defaulted in repayment of their Central loan and interest of Rs.468 crores and Rs. 144 crores respectively in 1991-92 and their liabilities have been carried over to 1992-93. Pending a decision on revision of royalty on crude oil by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, the outstanding loan repayment of Rs.468 crores carried over from 1991-92 by Assam has been kept in abeyance. An Inter Ministerial Group was set up by the Ministry of Finance in May, 1992 to suggest a solution to the financial imbalances faced by Assam, J & K and Punjab. The report of the Group is under the consideration of Government of India. Pending the Government's decision on the report of the Group, recovery of loan and interest of Rs.144 crores due from Jammu & Kashmir in 1991-92 has been kept in abeyance.

(c) to (e). While the position in regard to the levy of excise duty is as stated above, the Bidi industry and others are eligible to avail of a number of other incentives offered for promoting increased use of solar power.

#### Small Scale Industries

1991. SHRI LOKANATH  
CHOUDHURY:  
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR  
PATEL:  
S H R I  
SOBHANADREESWARA  
RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to stop gradually all tax and credit concessions to small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). In view of the ensuing Budget 1993-94 it is not possible to offer any comments at this state.

[*Translation*]

#### Loan From IDA

1992. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:  
SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has sought assistance/soft loan from the International Development Association;

(b) if so, whether the Association has

agreed to give the required assistance;

(c) that amount thereof; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d) India is one of the largest borrowers from the World Bank group and has received loans and credits of over US\$ 35 billion to date. Assistance from the International Development Association is available to borrowers like India on a service charge of 0.75%, with commitment charge on undisbursed balances, and in repayable over 35 years a further grace period of 10 years. At present, the total amount of IDA assistance approved for India stands at US\$ 7946.64 million.

[*English*]

#### Unemployed Persons

1993. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of unemployed persons till date, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide employment to them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) The number of persons, not all of whom are necessarily unemployed, registered with the Employment Exchanges as on August, 31st, 1992, State and Union Territory-wise, is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The strategy of the Eighth Five

[Sh. Dalbir Singh]

- |            |  |  |   |
|------------|--|--|---|
|            | Gramin Bank, Nainital (UP)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2907/92]                        | (lxxxv)  | Basti Gramin Bank, Basti (UP)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2917/92]                                  |
| (lxxvi)    | Visveshvaraya Grameena Bank, Mandya (Karnataka)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2908/92]   | (lxxxvi)   | Farrukhabad Gramin Bank, Farrukhabad (UP)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2918/92]                      |
| (lxxvii)   | Puri Gramya Bank, Pipli (Orissa)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2909/92]                  | (lxxxvii)  | Siwan Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Siwan (Bihar)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2919/92]                     |
| (lxxviii)  | Champaran Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Motihari (Bihar)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2910/92] | (lxxxviii)   | Golconda Grameena Bank, Hyderabad (AP)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2920/92]                         |
| (lxxix)    | Samyut Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Azamgarh (UP)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2911/92]       | (lxxxix)   | Koraput Panchayati Gramya Bank, Jeypore Koraput Dist. (Orissa)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2921/92] |
| (lxxx)     | Bastar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Jagdalpur (MP)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2912/92]      | 14.23 hrs.   |   |
| (lxxxii)   | Thar Enchalik Gramin Bank, Jodhpur (Rajasthan)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2913/93]    | CONSTITUTION (SEVENTY-SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL                             |   |
| (lxxxiii)  | Baitarani Gramya Bank, Mayurbhanj (Orissa)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2914/92]        | (Insertion of new Part IX)<br>As Reported by Joint Committee<br>AND      |   |
| (lxxxiiii) | Kanakadurga Grameena Bank, Gudivada (AP)<br>[ Placed in Library See No. LT-2915/92]          | CONSTITUTION (SEVENTY-THIRD AMENDMENT) BILL                              |   |
| (lxxxv)    | Mahakaushal Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Narsinghpur (MP)  | (Insertion of new part IXA)<br>As Reported by Joint Committee-<br>CONTD. |   |

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We shall now take up Legislative Business.

Shri Shobanadreeswara Rao Vadde

SHRI SHOBANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, day before yesterday I was mentioning about the advantage of direction elections to the local self-governing bodies. This direct election has given a continuity to the body elected by the people, because the Chairperson is not simply sitting in that Chair due to the goodwill of the Members of that body, but the entire electorate of that village or the intermediate level Organisation or the electorate in the entire district has elected that Chairperson. He commanded respect both among his Members of the bodies at various levels, as well as the officials also. Then, there is better coordination and cooperation.

In the original Bill also, upto intermediate level, it was proposed to have direct elections, but in the Select Committee report, only upto the village level, it is proposed to have direct elections whereas for intermediate and district levels, indirect elections have been proposed.

The Committee has expressed its view. But that itself is contrary to what it said on p.6:

" The Committee notes that the issue relating to direct or indirect elections in panchayati raj institutions is very vital".

It has recognised this fact.

" Directly elected persons have an inherent strength of having been elected by the people. Moreover, indirect elections have led to various manipulative practices. The Committee, therefore, are of the opinion that in order to strengthen democracy at the grass roots level, all seats in a panchayati, at any level, all seats in a Panchayat, at any level, should be filled by direct elections".

I wholeheartedly agree with this opinion expressed by the Select Committee in its earlier finding.

It is common knowledge that earlier when there was indirect election, there used to be non-confidence motions against the President of the Panchayati raj Samiti or a Sarpanch of the village or a municipal council Chairman and there used to be lot of horse-trading and bargaining and again they will withdraw the no-confidence motion and ultimately it will reflect very badly on the administrative functioning.

So, my humble request to the august House is to adopt and accept direct elections to the local Bodies at all levels.

Regarding the Municipal Corporations, excepting Hyderabad city, for Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam Corporations also direct elections were held and, of course, in our Vijayawada, mayor candidate belonging to congress party was elected Mr. Janihyala Shankar and in Visakhapatnam, Dr. Subba Rao, from out TDP Party were elected. For five years, there was no interruption and the Government also gave the best cooperation to the local Bodies, including the Municipal Corporation. Nowhere a municipality was desestablished by the Government during the five year period. So, my suggestion is that direct elections will be having lot of advantage over indirect elections.

Regarding the composition of the intermediate level Bodies, the Chairperson of the lower level Body should be a Member of the Intermediate level Body and the Chairman of the intermediate level Body should be a Member in the district-level panchayat and the presence of MLAs and Members in those district-level Panchayat Bodies will definitely help the people's representatives to the Legislative Assembly as well as the House of People, or the Rajya Sabha to enable them to know how things are going on, what that Zilla Praja Parishad or the Municipal Corporation or a Municipality is taking up, what programmes they are implementing, how and to what extent, they are effectively implementing them, and by knowing the programme, plan and implementation, they can in turn coordinate

635 Const. (72nd Amend.) Bill  
(Insertion of new part IX)  
As reported by Joint Committee and  
[Sh. Shobanadreeswara Rao Vadde]

DECEMBER 4, 1992

Const. (73rd Amend.) Bill 636  
(Insertion of new part IX A)  
As reported by Joint Committee

with the State Government or the Central Government and help those local self-governing Bodies to further effectively function and cater to the needs of the local people who have elected them.

Regarding reservation, we fully agree with the proposals that have been made by the hon. Minister. Reservation for SCs and STs in relation to the percentage of their population is there. It is there already several States. It is there here also. It is really a very good thing.

Regarding women, I really congratulate the Government for reserving one-third of the seats to women. After so long a time, women are going to be given a due place in the administration of these local self-governing Bodies and, in our Andhra Pradesh, our former Chief Minister and President of the Telugu Desam party, Mr. N.T. Rama Rao has reserved 9 per cent of the seats to women for the first time. There are Mandal Praja Parishad Chairperson and Zilla Praja Parishad Chairperson from women who have done very well. Just because one is a lady it is not that we take it that she cannot manage the entire show. After all, this nation was governed by Shrimati Indira Gandhi and she won the acclaim of not only the people of this country but also of the people of other countries. So in Karnataka 25 per cent reservations were given to women. This is a very welcome measure. My only suggestion is that in case sufficient number of women do not come forward, then, that may be filled up by others.

Regarding the Backward Classes, here you have left it to the State Government. My feeling is that for the BCs also, the Government could have done it. In fact, in our Andhra Pradesh, for the first time, the Telugu Desam Party under the leadership of Shri N.T. Rama Rao had given 20 per cent reservation to the backward class people in all the local bodies, mandal Parishads, zilla Praja Parishads and the municipalities also. Further, the minorities were also given the

opportunity by means of co-option to all Praja Parishads zilla parishads and the municipalities. Everywhere, the minorities were given opportunity. My humble suggestion to the Government is that they should provide opportunity to the minorities also to engage themselves in the administration of the local bodies.

Another suggestion is about the rotation of the reserved posts. Here also, you have left it to the State Governments. If the same posts in the same place are reserved just like in the case of Assemblies and the Parliament, there will not be rotation. Earlier, sometime back several members cutting across party barriers suggested that there may be rotation. My suggestion is that rotation should be there to give opportunity to more areas to get the opportunity of reservation and the people who do not belong to the reserved categories also should take part in the administration.

Regarding the powers and responsibility, this is a very important measure. I really congratulate the Joint Select Committee headed by Shri K.P. Singh Deo. In the case of the 72nd Constitution Amendment Bill, the Select Committee's report is not did not mention it. But I am very happy that in the case of the 73rd Constitution Amendment Bill Select Committee Report proposed that there should be a District Planning Committee to formulate the plans at the village level, intermediate level and the district level. This Committee for District Planning will coordinate the developmental plans for the entire district including the panchayats and the municipalities. Really, I express my fullest agreement to this proposal. It is a long overdue one. It is in tune with what Mahatma Gandhi told this nation; what Mahatma Gandhi wished very long time back. He suggested that the villagers should be given proper power to shape their destiny. The Gram Panchayats set up has come into being since 1959. Because of certain deficiencies they could not really fulfill these the aspirations of the people as a result of which slowly they lost importance. Because of lack of funds and because of the overthrow of these Panahayati Raj institutions and

637 *Const. (72nd Amend.) Bill* AGRAHAYANA 13, 1914 (*SAKA*)*Const. (73rd Amend.)* 638  
(*Insertion of new part IX*) *Bill (Insertion of new part IX A)*

*As reported by Joint Committee and municipal bodies by the State Government and not conducting the elections, slowly they lost the importance and the enthusiasm among the people. But the 72nd Constitution Amendment Bill and the 73d Constitution Amendment Bill are going to refurbish that image, restore the strength and the vitality to the local self-government bodies. The items which you have proposed in the Eleventh and Twelfth Schedules are good. I fully agree to those items.*

Regarding funds, this is most important aspect. Because of lack of adequate funds, these organisations could not effectively serve the people in the local bodies' areas. You have suggested in this that a Finance Commission may be appointed at the State level to examine the aspect of devolving more funds to these institutions.

At the Government of India level, the Select Committee proposed in the 73rd Amendment Bill, the constitution of the Central Finance Commission under Article 280 of the Constitution. The Central Finance Commission should examine this aspect also, now that we are giving a statutory mandate if regular elections to the local bodies and also the powers and certain parameters in which they can effectively serve the people and to develop this nation. For that, they must be provided with necessary funds. At the present, the State Governments are Starving for funds. Over a period of time, slowly, the Centre had usurped more powers and the State Governments are not able to help these local bodies.

So, under this Article 280 of the Constitution, the Central Finance Commission should be entrusted with the task to see how many funds can be devolved to these local bodies whether it is panchayats or the municipalities. It must not only be from the State Government funds but they must also be from the Central Government funds.

In this context, I would like to say that as far back as in 1972, the then Union Minister

*As reported by Joint Committee for Planning, Shri D.P. Dhar had confessed in Parliament on 23rd August, 1972, and I quote:*

*"One of the causes for the failure of planning in India was that the leadership had not succeeded in involving the people at the grass-roots in the process of planning and implementation."*

So, let us keep this in mind. Earlier also, the Local Finance Enquiry Committee appointed by the Government of India in 1951, in its report, recommended that one particular tax from the Union List, that is, terminal tax on goods or passengers carried by Railway, sea or air and 12 other taxes from the State List should be reserved for utilisation by these local bodies. The Committee had also suggested that the State while investing in these local bodies with wider responsibilities, must also place at their disposal adequate funds to supplement their revenues. The Enquiry Commission on the Taxes in 1953-54, headed by Shri John Mathai, had also recommended certain items for exclusive utilisation by these local bodies. So, three decades back, they have suggested this. I hope the Government of India will take adequate steps under this Article 280 of the Constitution, by entrusting the Central Finance Commission to examine these aspects and to devolve more funds to these local bodies.

Sir, another point is with regard to the right of recall, Late Jayaprakash Narayan was advocating the right of recall to strengthen the democracy and to give the people who are responsible for placing us in this seat, whether it is yourself or myself and when the people are not satisfied with our performance, when they feel that we are not standing up to their aspirations, when they are convinced that the peoples, representatives are not rendering any service, the people must have the right to recall. I hope these Panchayat Raj 72nd and 73rd amendment Bills will make necessary amendments so that at least in the Gram Sabhas they will be given that power. The electorate of a Panchayat

it. Make the villages livable, provide minimum facilities like drinking water, roads, etc.

when they feel that the Sarpanch and members of the gram Sabha are not serving them really and they are harming their interests; when a meeting on an appointed date takes place two-thirds of that electorate, when they come and express their no-confidence in the Sarpanch and the Panchayat members, they must be removed. Such type recalling power should be given to the people.

Finally, I would like to say a few words about the municipalities. Right at the moment, the municipalities and the corporations, they are starving for funds. Similar is the case with Panchayats. In the days of Janata Government the Food for Work programme had come into being. It had helped to some extent the rural development—formation of roads, drinking water schemes, etc. Subsequently the NREP and RLEGP schemes for rural development have come. They have also helped to some extent. Of course wastage may be a lot. Even the former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi himself agreed on the floor of this very House. I was present in the 8th Lok Sabha - that not even 25 per cent is going to the targeted sections. In spite of that something has been done.

After NREP and RLEGP now you have taken up the Rozgar Yojana scheme. That has to some extent helped the Gram Panchayats. Otherwise there is nothing that can be done in the Gram Panchayats. So both for Municipalities as well as Gram Panchayats making availability of funds is the most important task without which, in spite of your bringing the Bill or taking any other measure, the situation will not really improve.

I hope the Government will keep in mind that particular aspect and see that local self-government bodies at various levels really function and cater to the needs of the people. Today the villages are not actually livable. Many people from the villages are coming and settling in the nearby semi-urban areas. Every person in this House is well aware of

Thank you very much for giving me time.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I rise to support the 72nd and the 73rd Constitution Amendment Bills. It is really a red letter day as we are going for our major structural changes in our Constitution after 45 years of independence. I must thank the hon. Ministers for Urban Development and the hon. Minister for Rural Development and also the hon. Prime Minister for bringing this comprehensive Bill in time.

From the interruptions in the earlier discussion, it seems that when the hon. Members from this side of the House take the name of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, it tastes bitter for the hon. Members sitting on the other side. But you must try to realise that we cannot avoid taking the name of Shri Rajiv Gandhi not merely because he was our leader but because of his contribution. He was the main architect and the main moving spirit behind these historic Bills. I would like to quote the remarks Prof. Ranga which he made while initiating the debate on the same Bill in this House in 1989 after the introduction of the Bills by the then Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi I quote:-

" Fortunately for us we have had this young Prime Minister coming with a fresh mind without any prejudice and predilections, going around the country for more than two years from place to place, from slum to slum, from Moholla to Moholla, learning how we go on living in our country. Yet another leader discovered India".

That is what Prof. Ranga remarked. So we must remember on this historic day our leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Many hon. Members have said while passing this historic Bill it will fulfil the long



MR. SPEAKER: Whatever you feel about, you express.

SHRI A. CHARLES: However, I will go by your suggestion.

In respect of pharmaceuticals, I see that there is a fear that the prices of life-saving medicines will go up exorbitantly. But at present whatever preparations are available, whatever medicines are available, they will not be affected. Only about 10 per cent of the future preparations and medicines prepared with new technologies may be affected. Of course, that is also very dangerous. But we have the system of compulsory licensing. We have to respect the changes that are taking place all over the world. If we cannot accept the protection of patent rights, how can we say that we want human rights? After all, this is a developing country. The world is fast changing. We have to adapt ourselves to the changing circumstances.

So, I request that these doubts will have to be clarified and we should give a lead in the GATT negotiations among the developing nations because even though there are about 108 countries, most of the countries are only developing countries. They are also finding it difficult to face the negotiations. As leader of the Third World, I request that our Government should take every initiative in presenting our case and placing our problem, and taking decisions which will not be harmful to us. The discussions will start on the 15th January and they may go on for quite a long time. Under no circumstances, we should surrender any of our interests, may be economic or trade or commerce in any field so that our poor farmers and weaker sections of the society can be benefited.

With these words, I request that this Draft can be carefully gone through and whatever problems are there, they have to be removed and we should not surrender any of our rights.

I also agree with the hon. Members on the other side that we should consider the issue with an open mind to the best interests of the country because this is a national issue. We should stand united. We on this side are unanimous and willing to come to common consensus and to take decisions which will be in the best interests of the country.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to say a few words in this very important item.

I share the views expressed by my learned colleagues who have suggested to the Government to take necessary steps to constitute a Committee of Members of both the Houses of Parliament to assist the Government in arriving at a neither and correct decision which we have to take in the GATT negotiations.

As you have directed me to be brief because of lack of time, I would confine my speech mostly to the field of agriculture, the impact of Dunkel Draft text on the field of agriculture.

I feel that there is a concerted effort by the developed countries to pressurise the developing countries and less developed countries, to enable them to continue to have their superiority and their dominating position in the field of marketing of agricultural products. This will have serious repercussions on our Indian agriculture. Just now, my colleague, Shri A Charles has expressed the hope that Dunkel's provision may lead to reduction or the necessity to give up subsidies to the agricultural sector. But there are different view points. It all depends upon the figures we arrive at when we calculate the domestic support that is extended for a particular product. There are different calculations. Some say - though apparently it may appear so because of our difficult balance of payments position or our lower

[Sh. Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde]

per capita income - that immediately the Dunkel proposals relating to reduction of subsidy may not affect our Indian agriculture. But the Government must make it precisely clear in respect of different products such as paddy, wheat, sugar and several other agricultural products to what extent the domestic support will come to be calculated and to what extent the subsidy can either be given or cannot be given. Till now, we are having some edge in the global market because our prices of paddy, prices of wheat are comparatively less than in the world market. If we have enough surplus we will be in a position to export. But already, the Government has reduced the subsidy on fertilizers. I will not go into the details of it now. But we have already come across a position where the consumption has come down, production has come down. Now, we are importing wheat; we are also importing rice now. So, my feeling is that these developed countries are doing precisely one thing to see that their dominate position continues. In this connection, I would like to say that earlier America and Japan have exempted Agriculture from any of these GATT negotiations. Even the European Economic Community also requested that their common agricultural policy should be exempted from these GATT negotiations. Now, the same countries have brought this matter of agriculture also into negotiations.

Sir, in this connection I would like to say one thing. Mr. Senator Bolshwidge of USA sometime back was commenting on the Ronald Reagan's agriculture policy. He said:

"If we do not prevent the competition in the agricultural products from the developing countries now by reducing prices of our agricultural products, we may able to be to retain our place in the global agricultural economy".

They have subsidised to a very huge extent and they are dumping at a very far lesser price over the world thereby putting the developing countries or less-developed countries in a very awkward position. I will quote one example. Nigeria used to import a lot of wheat from the American multinational Company called Cargil. When the Nigerian Government thought that it should ban import of wheat from that multinational company to enable the Nigerian farmers get a better price and achieve self-sufficiency in wheat, the Government of the USA has threatened that it would cross-retaliate by banning the garments that are being exported from Nigeria to the USA. That is how these multinational companies like the Cargil or several other big companies which are doing a lot of business in foodgrains especially from the USA and other European countries are handling nearly 85 per cent of the wheat; they are handling 95 per cent of the corn of these countries. They are very powerful. They are, in fact, getting their purposes served through the American Government or the other Governments. So, in this context, we must be very careful regarding that one.

The other one of which I want to warn the Government is regarding the patent relating to the agricultural sector. Till now there is no patenting of the plants or the plant gene. In fact, it is the developing countries especially India and Ceylon and several other countries which have evolved, over a period of centuries, the present races of food and cash crops. They have taken the wild plants from the forests; they have selected the plants and they have cross-bred and evolved these strains. Now those developed countries have spent large sums of money on bio-technology and they want to patent these plants and plant gene. Now the Indian farmer or the farmers of the developing countries will not be in a position to purchase seeds from those multinational companies. Till now it is the precise view with that these plants and plant gene which have been

evolved over centuries and centuries period of time belong to the entire humanity, the human heritage. Developed countries should not be allowed to corner the patent rights putting the developing countries and the farmers of these developing countries in a very precarious position.

Then we will have to pay a very huge royalty. You also know now that the International Rice Research Institute at Manila is doing a commendable work by taking research programme of evolving suitable strains of paddy and other crops which are suitable to different countries because right now there is no such patent rights. There are, to some extent, some right available to the scientists or the inventors who have evolved it. But the farmer has got every right to grow that, to produce and to store also for his future needs. There is no bar of his selling the seed to his neighbour. There is no bar on the scientists to take up the research work in the laboratories. Now if we accept the patent rights of these multinationals, we have to pay a very very huge royalty to those multinationals. Otherwise, these poor farmers of this country cannot face such a situation.

My suggestion is already the country is facing lot of difficult situation. My friend, Shri D.P. Pal spoke about globalisation and internationalisation. Already the country is facing the consequences of adopting these liberalised policies without care, without much safeguards. Now a situation has reached contrary to your expectations. The quantum of imports is increasing like anything but the exports are not increasing like that. As a result of which the balance of payments position is going from bad to worse and in the future days, it is going to be still worse and will make us to depend continuously on the foreign loans. The country is already burdened with rupees two lakh crores of foreign debt and your governmental efforts are going to put much more burden on the

people of this country for the generations to come. The coming generation is going to pay a very heavy price. My request to the Government is that this is such an important matter that do not take a hasty decision. Do not commit yourself to the GATT negotiations and to the Dunkel proposal American people have got every right to say that....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to say all these things. It is known to everyone.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: It is applicable to the people of America. Why should the people of this country have any second position without consent, without approval of this Parliament. The Dunkel Draft should have no bearing on the people of this country and the present Government has no right to play with the interests of the people.

With these words, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity. I hope, the Government will pay heed to the suggestions of the several hon. Members from the opposition benches.

SHRIP. C. CHACKO (Trichur): Sir, after great strain you could allow some valuable time of this House for such an important discussion. But, unfortunately, the suggestions which have come - I do not want to say that the suggestions have to come with good intentions - have thrown the whole discussion into an anticlimax. This whole discussion came up, once again, because of the suggestion of the opposition parties mainly during the previous discussion which came up before this House on Private Members, Resolutions. As Shri Jaswant Singh had pointed out, there is time pressure on this Government. It is not due to the fault of this Government or of the Minister. There is a time pressure on this subject. We can go out

[Sh. Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde]

of the GATT; we can be independent; we can be isolated. We are free to do that. Shri Kurian had pointed out very categorically that 106 countries who are participating in this Uruguay Round, barring India, almost all of them have agreed either wholly or partly to the proposal which is being discussed there.

Sir, I hope that the Minister will explain the time frame by which this Government has to take a decision. It was suggested that a Joint Parliamentary Committee should be constituted to consider this issue. Shri Jaswant Singh that JPC is a term which this Government do not like. I do not think that that is the view of this Government at all. I wish that the hon. Members who had made the suggestion, at that time when this had come up in the form of discussion on the Private Members' Resolution, have discussed this issue in detail. I would like to say that whether this Government likes it or not is a different matter altogether. What line this Government is going to take on this is a different matter importance. But, at least, the consensus or the opinion of different political parties could have been placed before this Government, had the suggestion come at the appropriate time, from the hon. Members who made this suggestion now.

Sir, I want to express my opinion on one or two very important aspects of this subject. In fact, we wanted to hear from some of the very learned Members of the opposition, about their opinions. They have not expressed their opinions and instead, they have asked for the constitution of a Joint Parliamentary Committee. I also had an opportunity to glance through this 400 page report of the Dunkel Draft. If all that has been said about this Dunkel Draft, by Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya and some of the other hon. Members, is true, then no Member or no party will support a proposal such as this of the Government of India, to go and sign it. We have to apply our mind and we have to

come to certain conclusions as to whether these things which are being said is correct or to. I am not an expert but I have glanced through some of the suggestions that were made here.

About the Agriculture, Shri Charles has made a point. The Gross National Product is for 300, billion Out of this one-third is agricultural products which comes to 100 billion. on 10 per cent of the agricultural product, they can give subsidy which comes to Rs. 36,000 crore. Our total subsidy for fertiliser was only Rs. 6,000 crore. Then where is the real danger lurking in this? I am not defending and I am not whitewashing anything. And also, I am not saying what the Government should do.

The thing is that the learned Members of the Opposition said that this Government is going to surrender the economic sovereignty, the political sovereignty and all. They have every right to say that. But, they should also tell and how it is happening.

Sir, three-fourths of the Indian population is depending on the agriculture. I plead with the Minister that this Government has no right to surrender the rights of the farmers for before any multinational arrangement. I am of the opinion that on the question of seeds, on the question of subsidies, the Government cannot do away with this subsidy or the rights of the farmers to use the seed of his choice.

A silent revolution is going on in this country. The farmers are doing their own research. They are producing their own seeds. If the farmers are not in a position to use their own seeds which they are producing, if there is any ban due to this multinational arrangement on the seeds which they are producing. I do not think that this Government will be a party to agree to this part of the Draft.

Due to paucity of time, I do not want to go into the details.

Another most important thing that Shri Vajpayee has mentioned here is about the pharmaceuticals. I do not know whether the hon. Members are aware that this Dunkel proposal here has been agreed to by many countries especially China. I am not saying that if China has agreed to it, we should also agree to it. I am sure that there are countries who *en bloc* - without even going into the details - used to support that. China and the United States - even though China is to a member of GATT - only for months back, in August 1992, have come to bilateral agreement. According to that agreement, 20 years patent rights in the pharmaceutical industry has been accepted by China. I expected that some of the hon. Members who are very much informed about these matters will come before this House and say something. (*Interruptions*) We expected that some sort of a clarification would come out. I am sure that the Government will be there to find out who are our friends, in the 108 countries which are participating in the Uruguay round of negotiations, whom we can support and go with Countries like Mexico, Argentina and some South American countries and also China - even though China is not a member - have taken some position. But may I know whether we are going to have friends? Fortunately, the European Community has taken some definite opinion now. France has come out openly. Let us also find out whether we can have some useful and similar opinion which can be helpful in these negotiations; and we should go in for that.

I am concluding. But in a few minute, I want to say something. Rs. 3900 crores worth of medicines are being sold in India. Out of this Rs. 3900 crores worth of medicines, 90 per cent of the medicines sold in the country are not patented. If that is the case, even as Shri Vajpayee has said, the prices of the drugs are going up. The prices of the 90 per cent of the drugs which are being sold in the country are definitely not going to go up,

the prices of ten per cent of the drugs, the essential drugs, are likely to go up. So, we are not for it; we should not agree to this sir, we are not prepared to go into the merit of the question. The very same people who wanted a discussion and who said that this is such a serious matter - we agree that it is a serious matter - they did not go into the details of this. I am really sorry about the way in which the whole discussion has been brought to this stage.

My request to the hon. Minister is this. I have seen something which is very much detrimental to the export of Indian textiles. We should not agree to that. 30 per cent of the Indian export is in textiles. Anything in the multinational arrangement which restricts and which is disadvantageous to our textile exports, we should not allow. Like that, in the pharmaceuticals industry, in the agricultural sector, wherever it is against the interest of the average Indian, wherever it goes against the Indian interest, we should not agree to that. But the experiment of opening up of the Indian economy and our efforts to integrate our economy - whatever our friends may say - is being appreciated not only in India, but also all over the world. So, this experiment has to go on. We cannot isolate ourselves from the world.

In the East European countries and in the erstwhile a Republic of the Soviet Union - the Republics - what are the changes that are taking place? Can we close our eyes to what is happening there? In view of the changes which are taking place in the world, we cannot isolate ourselves from them. (*Interruptions*) Throw away Dunkel or boycott GATT — this sort of an approach may not help us. We have to analyse the whole question in its merit and decide what line we have to take, what line we have to pursue. Who are our enemies at the negotiating table of the 106 countries participating in Uruguay rounds the merit of the issue, on the basis of the benefits, we have to decide. How can we

[Sh. Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde]

make maximum benefit out of these negotiations, that line of approach we have to take. For any issue, we have a solution and that is to dodge the issue or delay the issue. The pressure of time on the Government is there, because it is an international discussion. So, the Government may be kindly helped to solve these problems. Prof. Kurien has come out very openly and said that he has an open mind. We want to take an opinion. But where is the opinion? Let the parties come forward with concrete opinions. The Government has given you the assurance that we will act on the opinion of this House—at least on the consensus. Opinions are not for the coming. These are not certain things which we can discuss in our party forum and come here and keep silent.

I want that anything which goes against the interests of the country should not be agreed to. But, at the same time, there should be constructive participation in this international discussion which is going to be very import on the part of the Government. Media or the Government are not attaching any importance to this issue. We have been expelled and we have been castigated at the international level. In this situation, I think the government might have felt these things and it might have been afraid of all these things. We are now certainly a developed country. We are not certainly a developed country or say to so, a semi-developed country. Hence, we have to suffer much. I would cite some examples. I was then a Member of this House when the Government, after considerable thought passe the Patent Act in 1973 which is about the process and not about the products. I would further like to cite examples — our scientists have developed hundreds of varieties of seeds. The Potato Research Institute has developed a new variety of seed. Now 100 gram of this potato seed will be sown in three square metre of land which can again be sown in two and a

half acre of land. That is to say potato seeds worth crores of rupees may now be saved from getting rotten. Similarly, new bamboo-seed has been developed which may be sown as paddy supplings are sown. Now if we accept the Dunkel Proposals of America this will impose ban on our yield itself. Patent will not be there for process. Potato will be produced through various processes. Fruits will be grown through new process. The variety of potato being developed in the country will be banned. The American Congress has termed us as patent thief. I am not going into that dispute but this is a serious matter. If a country like India with a population of 90 crore marches ahead in the field of seed, medicine, agriculture and industry through latest technology, it may prove dangerous to America. That is why we are termed as patent thief. Mr. Speaker, Sir, as our hon. Minister has said and none of us says that we should alienate ourselves from the world but India should adopt firm attitude. China is our prominent neighbour and it is also an important country of the world. We should cooperate with it. We should also cooperate with Arab countries as well as South-East Asian countries. We should frame our policy in a way that the U.S.A., which burns wheat and gives grants for burning it if it does not sell at the prescribed price, may not burn wheat. Also, we should raise the matter in the UN Human Rights Commission as by burning wheat, the U.S.A. violates human rights. Crores of people are dying of starvation, yet, grants are being given to capitalist farmers for burning wheat crop. It should nto be allowed to happen. A number of seminars on patent, agriculture, medicine and industry have been held by our scientists. This will lead to imposition of restriction in every field, Neo-colonialism of each and every field like industry, agriculture and medicine is gradually taking practical shape. If we accept the proposal, it restricts our economic freedom too. That is why we are saying that today all of our efforts for Swedeshi, self-reliance and development

are being jeopardised, I request the hon. Minister to think over this matter and take it seriously. A joint committee of both Houses may be constituted keeping in view the national interests and current situation of the world. Its meeting should be convened every day without any interruption as India is not a backward country. India should march ahead taking the developed countries of the world with it. Whatever competition would be there with America, we are ready to compete. There are no two opinions on this that we will not cooperate with America. If India is to survive in the world, a joint committee may be constituted. With these words, I conclude. This proposal is not acceptable to us.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very unfortunate that the Central Government has not framed any policy with regard to Dunkel Draft as yet. The way the Ministry of Commerce is functioning shows that Government has not issued any guidelines to it because a team of the Ministry of Commerce had recently attended the talk where this fact came to light.

Mr. Speaker, Sir since no time is left to go into details of the matter, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to agriculture under the Dunkel Draft. It will have serious repercussions in the field of agriculture. The patent law will cause serious set-back to agriculture. At present the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is doing a commendable job in the field of developing advanced quality of seeds. After signing the proposal, seeds of improved quality will be imported from foreign countries and multi-national companies will start selling such seed. They will advertise their product in such a way that our Indian Council of Agricultural Research will have to stop its work and our scientists working in this field will be rendered jobless. The most dangerous aspect of it is that there will be patent for living objects. While patent is not done for any

living object at present. But then there will be a patent for a living object in the form of development of gene. In fact America has never produced food grains. The countries which are called developing countries the countries, of Asia and Africa are producing foodgrains. If patent is to be made, this right should be given to India and to the countries of Asia and Africa. It should not be that a particular country may develop a particular type of gene and then goes for its patent and then introduce that improved quality of seeds in the market. Another dangerous aspect of this proposal is that when a farmer purchases such seed and when the crop is harvested and if he wants to save such seed for future use, he cannot do so as Super-301 will come in the way as a measure of cross relation by America.

If an Indian farmer brings seed from multi-national company, sows it and when the crop is harvested and if wants to store seed thus produced, he will be prosecuted under section 301 by the Government of India. It means that the agents of multi-nationals working here will report about such storage and the police inspector will arrest the farmer at the behest of the Government of India, any State Government. How horrifying the situation will be! Imagine what sort of resentment will be there throughout the country. It is beyond imagination.

It is a matter of great concern that the work is being done in *ad hoc* manner. We have *ad hoc* Minister of Commerce. He has not been given full charge of the Ministry of Commerce. Earlier Shri Chidambaram was performing this assignment. We are the members of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of commerce. We raised this issue at the meeting.

Secondly, a Private Members' Resolution was introduced in the House on which detailed discussions continued for many days together. Though Shri

[Sh. Nitish Kumar]

that this Bill be passed and the rural people may get their due rights. This session of the house on this occasion was a historical one, it will be remembered forever and the 10th Lok Sabha will also be remembered for this great act. This session of the 10th Lok Sabha efficiently dealt with this Bill which was being described as an ill fated one. I hope that it will be able to remove the tension prevailing among the people as well as an ill fated atmosphere prevailing in the country and pave a new way for the development and progress of the nation. Today, we find an atmosphere of tension prevailing in the society and I hope that the Parliament will sort out a way in order to overcome this tense situation and to save the country from disintegration and make it more strong. This is the main speciality of the Parliamentary Democracy and this speciality very well exists in our democracy. This institution will get strengthened and give a direction to the world.

With these words, I thank you and also congratulate you, I also thank the employees of the secretarial and media persons for their good cooperation.

SHRIBHOGENDRAJHA (Madhubani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today it is the last day of the session. We have had sweet and sour moments, but we are concluding it in a sweet atmosphere. We have a civilization and traditions which goes back to 5000 years. We have a history of unity in diversity and we will continue to have this capability to solve the forth coming problems. Differences are natural, but despite these differences we will march ahead unitedly. The House has done a great deal of work and has shown an extraordinary patience under your leadership. I convey my greetings and conclude.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I express our heartfelt thanks on behalf of Telugu Desam Party to you, to the Deputy-Speaker and to other members of the panel of Chairman, who have given us an

opportunity to express our views on several important Bills and other matters that have been discussed in this House.

I will be failing in my duty if I do not congratulate you for the way in which you have efficiently and orderly conducted this House in most trying times as our respected Prime Minister has said.

Sir, presently the country is passing through a very grave crisis and we are all returning home after conclusion of this Session with all hope that normalcy will be restored, again communal harmony will be restored and our country will raise its head again with all pride in the comity of nations.

Sir, I thank you once again for giving me an opportunity to say these few words.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Vajpayee, Shri Nitish Kumar, Shri Bhogendra Jha and Shri V.S. Rao for the good words that they have said about the Presiding Officer. The success in transacting the business in the House belongs to all honourable leaders, the Members and to the staff of the Secretariat.

[Translation]

SHRINITISH KUMAR: Let us get ready for a feast.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Well, we are told that Shri Vajpayee was born on 25th of December.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Chimur): Happy birthday to you.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, we would like to congratulate him in advance. I wish him on behalf of all of you.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIGULAM NABI AZAD): Now I have come to know about the venue of the party



[*Translation*]**Bridges in Madhya Pradesh**

1239. SHRI ASLAM SHER KHAN. Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct overbridges in Betul, Amla, Harda, Timli and Khirkiya in Madhya Pradesh keeping in view the convenience of the people; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Work on Road overbridge at Betul is in progress. There are no proposals from State Government for construction of Road overbridges at Amla, Harda, Timarni and Khirkiya.

(b) At Betul level crossing No. 256-A at Km. 850/7-8 is being replaced by Road overbridge at an anticipated cost of Rs. 3.00 Crores.

[*English*]**Family Planning Norms for Representatives**

1240. SHRI SOBHANADREE-SWARA RAO VADDE:  
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHIA:  
SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:  
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD.  
SHRI M.V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:  
SHRI RAMCHANDRA GHANGARE:  
SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Development Council has recently resolved to debar those with more than two children from holding any elective office from Panchayat to Parliament;

(b) if so, the details of the decision taken by the N.D.C.;

(c) whether the Government propose to amend the Representations of people Act for this purpose applicable to all citizens;

(d) if so, the time by which the new policy is to be implemented; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THAKRA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). The Report of the N.D.C. Committee on Population has to be considered by the N.D.C.

**Privatisation of Catering Service**

1241. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:  
SHRI BALRAJ PASI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to privatise pantry car operations on railways completely;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the total investment on setting up new base kitchens during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

passport office in each divisional headquarters so that the people of the concerned division may be relieved of some of their difficulty getting the passports issued.

In the end I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards two things. One is the wide spread corruption prevailing in the passport officers, and it needs to be effectively checked and the second thing is that there is generally an undue delay in issuing the passports. The hon. Minister is not paying attention towards my speech. Please pay some attention towards my suggestion that there should be no undue delay issuing the passports to the public and there should be a guarantee to be given by the Government that the passports would be issued to the concerned persons within a period of 4 weeks. The House should also be assured in this respect.

**SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, thank you for giving me an opportunity to say a few words on this Passports (Amendment) Bill; 1992.

Sir, I agree with the several provisions that have been placed in this Amendment Bill to amend the Passports Act, 1967. In this Bill no specific mention has been made about the passport fee that is to be collected. The Government has said that it will consult the Department regarding the cost that is actually involved in the preparation of the forms and other incidental expenditure. I suggest to the Government that the fee should be quite reasonable without taking into consideration the cost involved.

Secondly, in spite of the promise by the Minister of External Affairs on the floor of the House, even now Passports are not issued within five weeks—not five weeks, even for five months they are not issued. The most important factor that is delaying the issue of a Passport is the police verification. I hope you also have your own experience. Many a time the Passport application come to us and ask us to write a letter to the Police Commissioner or the District Superintendent of Police to take a verification certificate from

the Police Department immediately and enclose it with the Passport application and send it to the Passport office so that they can get the Passport in the quickest possible time. Otherwise, by submitting the Passports application in the office of the Regional Passport Officer, Sending the application for police verification is taking very very long time. So, something should be done and I agree with the suggestion made by the speakers who proceeded me that a time limit of two weeks should be fixed for receiving the police verification certificates falling which the Passport office should be in a position to issue the Passport.

Sir, I feel so sorry to say that the hon. Minister's statement on the floor of this House was not implemented in letter and spirit. I would quote one example. In reply to question, the honorable External Affairs Minister has stated that the number of Passport applications pending with the Hyderabad office on 31.12.1991 was 84,085.

15.00 hrs.

On 23rd March, 1992, the hon. Minister stated:

"In Hyderabad passport office 988 applications are received on an average per day and on an average, 1,222 passport have been issued per day".

So, if we take these facts into consideration, we are made to understand that the Hyderabad Passport Office is able to give passports to all these 988 applications within a very reasonable time and in addition to that, they are clearing a backlog of nearly 344 applications per day. That means, by the end of June, 1992, the backlog should be only nearly 20,000 applications. You will be surprised to know that in reply to a question on the floor of this House, it is stated:

"The number of passport applications pending with the Hyderabad Office on 19th June, 1992 is 91,075."

That means, the hon. Minister's assurances on this House do not stand the test of reality. I humbly urge upon the Government to take suitable steps to re-open the Passport Office at Vijayawada which had functioned for some time. It was opened in 1983-84 and functioned upto 1985 and in 1985 it was withdrawn for reasons best known to the authorities. I agree with my colleague Mr. Shahabuddin when he stated that presently certain officers are overloade and they cannot process the applications properly. So the workload of such offices should be reduced and more offices should be opened.

In Kerala, there are three offices at Trivandrum, Kozhikode and Kochi. In Tamil Nadu there are Passport Offices at Madras and Trichy. In Maharashtra, there are Passport Offices at Bombay and Nagpur. While that is so, I do not see any reason for not re-opening the Passport Office at Vijayawada. At Vijayawada, when the office functioned, it has processed a very large number of applications when compared with several other offices. For example, at Nagpur only about 10,000 applications are processed and in Vijayawada about 30,000 applications were processed. So, for the convenience of the people located in the coastal Andhra districts from Srikakulam to Nellore districts where the literacy is more and from where a very large number of people go to Gulf countries and other countries in search of employment, studies or some other avocations, I strongly urge upon the Government to reconsider the issue of re-opening of the Passport Office at Vijayawada. I also urge upon the Government to take necessary steps to instal sophisticated machinery such as laminating machines and they should also computerise the whole process of issue of passports so that in the shortest possible time passports can be issued and issuing of passports do not become a lengthy procedure and also if there are some deficiencies, they can be taken care of. **with these words, I conclude my speech.**

SHRI P.M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, let me offer my thanks to you for having given me the opportunity to speak on this Bill. This Bill seeks to achieve only two objectives. I must congratulate the hon. Minister for having brought this Bill in time. If this limited purpose is achieved, I think, we may have to demand from him that certain things are to be set right in the Passport offices.

I come from Lakshadweep and our jurisdiction fall in Kerala and that too in Ernakulam. I happened to go many times there. With a great difficulty, we were to come out of it. It was so suffocating, we were not in a position to get out from there easily. Such is the situation because the space for the office is too small and the number of passport applicants is so large in number, I do not know how they are accommodating themselves. I have to inter-act with the Regional Passport officer.

He said, "You yourself see, how we are working". Some of the staffs are not visible because files are above them. Such is the situation. We are authorising the Ministry to rise the passport fees. Now it is Rs. 50. Even if you make it Rs. 1,000, it does not matter but the intended purpose should be achieved. The applicant should be issued passport with least difficulty and also with least time factor. I think, it is high time we must computerise our passport offices.

You are seeking to give rigorous punishment through this Bill. We welcome it. There is certain amount of complaints I heard from various parts, particularly from Calicut passport office. The Regional Passport office at Ernakulam has a certain amount of goodwill. The officials have a number of problems to attend to. The Regional Passport office at Calicut, I am told, has been instrumental in turning the public hostile, particularly even to the MPs and MLAs. The Passport officer does not care to lift the receiver. I draw the attention

a technoeconomic feasibility study to set up a 5-8 MW OTEC power plant in Andaman Islands.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. M/s. Sea Solar Power of USA has made an offer to Tamil Nadu Government for sale of OTEC generated power. Under this proposed project M/s Sea Solar Power have proposed installing a 100 MW TEC plant at their own cost, off the coast of Kulashekharapatnam in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu Government will need to create some infrastructure for evacuation of power from the coast and sign a contract for purchase of power @ about Rs 2.50/KW Hr. on long-term basis. M/s Sea Solar Power has desired the payment in foreign exchange. The matter is under consideration of Tamil Nadu Government. No agreement has been signed in this regard.

#### **Bench of Karnataka High Court**

1553. SHRIMATI BASAVA  
RAJESWARI:  
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a persistent demand by the people of Karnataka for the establishment of a permanent Bench of High Court of Karnataka in the Northern part of the State; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said bench is expected to be set up in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. However, the Government of Karnataka have not, so far, sent a complete proposal, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court, in terms of Section 51 (2) of the

States Re-Organisation Act, 1956.

(b) It is not possible at this stage to indicate the time by which the said Bench is expected to be set up in the State.

[*Translation*]

#### **Crisis in IDPL Units**

1554. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:  
SHRI SOBHANADREE-  
SWARA RAO VADDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hyderabad and Muzaffarpur units of Indian Drugs and Pharmaceutical Ltd. are facing financial crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to revitalise these units:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These units are facing financial crisis because of continuous losses. The cumulative losses of Hyderabad and Muzaffarpur units of Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited upto 31.3.1992 are provisionally estimated at Rs. 180 crores and Rs. 48 crores respectively.

(c) A proposal for revival of IDPL has been prepared. The proposal, inter alia, envisages restructuring of the capital, expansion of capacities of Penicillin G, Vitamins, setting up of captive power facilities and sub-stations at Rishikesh and Hyderabad besides funding of renewals/replacements, working capital, repayment of loans, discontinuation of non-remunerative

activities. The proposal has been under consideration of the Government and its viability is still to be established. Meanwhile, the company has, in compliance with the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 referred its case to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

(b) whether any financial assistance has been provided to Bihar for this purpose during the year 1991-92; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

**Schemes for Khadi and Village Industries in Bihar**

1555. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated any scheme for the development of Khadi and Village Industry in Bihar;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). For the development of Khadi and village industry in Bihar, KVIC provides funds to KVIBs and directly aided institutions. Funds disbursed during 1991-92, for the implementation of several KVI programmes were as under:-

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Grant	:	451.71
Loan	:	510.19
<b>Total</b>		<b>961.90</b>

In addition to above, bank finance sanctioned and availed during 1991 was as under:-

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sanctioned	:	1916.29
Availed	:	473.43

KVIC has also sanctioned Rs. 500 lakhs for Central Silver Plant at Saharsa, where a major project has been taken up by KVIC for employment generation through Khadi and poly-vastra.

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the allocation of funds to each State for the rural development programmes during 1993-94 vis-a-vis allocation made in 1992-93;

[Translation]

**Funds to States under Rural Development Programmes**

1556. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:  
DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY:  
SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI  
THAKORE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and programme-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) to (c). The outlay for rural

Somebody from the treasury benches was making a mention and again do not try to blame me for that. Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi was dreaming of the 21st century. But we would like to get the provisions implemented in the 20th century itself so that it will become true at the earliest time.

**SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada):** Sir, I rise to support the Constitution (Seventy-second) and (Seventy-third Amendment) Bills. I would like to make some suggestions. I agree with the proposal of five year terms of the local self-Government bodies like the panchayats and municipalities. This is very very essential. The main reason for the ineffective functioning of the panchayats which was initiated earlier as far back as in 1959 was that in many cases, they were superseded and elections were not held in some States even for decades, as Mr. Sharad Dighe was telling. So, this continued and definite time frame of five years is essential and it is a welcome measure. But my suggestion is, if for any reason elections cannot be held before the expiry of five years or if elections are to be held within six months from the last date for some reasons, then let the elected bodies which were there for the five years period who came into office with the support of the people continue for the six month period instead of the officials who are appointed by the Government to discharge the duties of those local bodies.

I also agree broadly with the suggestion of a three-tier set-up. This set-up is there in several States. In some States, all the three levels are effective whereas in some States, the main facilities and Zila Parishad whereas taluka Panchayat Samiti is almost a supervisory organisation and a coordinating organisation where the MLA is the Chairman of the samiti. We agree broadly with this three-tier set-up.

Regarding elections to the bodies, I do not understand why there is some contradictory statement both in the Bill that has been placed here and in the Select committee report. At one place, they say:

" All the seats in the panchayats at the village level and intermediate level, if any, shall be filled by persons chosen by direct elections".

**19.00 hrs**

In another place<sup>d</sup> on page 3, it was stated:

" The Chairperson of a Panchayat at the district level, if any shall be chosen by election in such manner as the Legislature of the State may, by law, provide."

and

" a Panchayat at the village level or intermediate level, if any, shall be chosen by direct election".

Somehow, I feel there is some rethinking on this. Our experience is that direct elections are desirable. We have direct elections in Andhra Pradesh for Gram Panchayat wards, sarpanches of the village, Chairman of the Mandal Praja Parishad, Chairman of the Zila Praja Parishads and so on. Of course, the Sarpaches of the Village Panchayats are members of the Mandal Praja Parishads.

**AN. HON. MEMBERS:** Is the Chairman of Zila Parishad also elected directly?

**SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:** Nearly seven lakh people have voted to elect the Zila Praja Parishad's Chairman., Similarly, in the municipalities., municipal chairman and the councillors are elected directly by the people.

**AN. HON. MEMBER:** It is two minutes past seven o'clock Sir. Are we extending the time of the House?

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Should we sit for another 20 or 30 minutes so that some of the hon Members can express their views? Otherwise, tomorrow, there will not be much time and it is not fair to expect that a Member should express all his views and suggestions

739 *Constitution (Seventy- Sec. Amend.) Bill (Ins. of new part IX)* DECEMBER 2, 1992 *Constitution (Seventy- Third Amend.) Bill (Ins. of new part IX-A)* 740  
in just two or three minutes. At least 10 (Katwa): We want to hear him tomorrow also. minutes are required to put forth the views.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD): Let the Member continue and finish his speech. We have no objection.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: We have to speak on both the Bills and I have to make many points. I will continue tomorrow. I am the only Member from my party to speak on these Bills.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Let him be the night-watchman.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: So, the Members are not in a mood to sit any longer. The House stands adjourned to reassemble tomorrow at 11 o'clock.

**19.04 hrs**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, December 3, 1992/Agrahayana 12, 1914 (Saka)*

minister is the repetition of what the previous minister of Agriculture had said. I would like to know what measures have been taken or are likely to be taken in regard to the production of green manure and compost. I would also like to know the results of the measures taken in the recent past. Besides, what were the effects of propagating compost for agricultural purpose. No reply has been given to

So far as my second supplementary question regarding the proposed preparation of 'Neem' seed based agricultural pesticide is concerned, it is being prepared well in other countries of the world. Is the Ministry of Agriculture thinking seriously to prepare neem seed based pesticides, if so, I would like to know the details thereof....

MR. SPEAKER: If the question is too long it would be difficult to reply.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: I would like to know whether the Ministry of Agriculture proposes to convene an International conference on neem seed based pesticides? If so, the time by which, it would be convened?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: The hon. Member also knows that neem was grown first in India. So how is it possible that India may remain ignorant of neem qualities which are known to the outside world. We also know these qualities and it is being used in the form of insecticides too. It is being used as fertilizer, 'Datoon' and medicines too. Our forefathers prescribed it as the best medicine in Ayurved, and thus we are the leaders in this field. The other countries have followed the teachings of our forefathers. We will let you know later on about the effects of all these things because it may take some time in arriving at the conclusions.

[English]

SHRI ANIT BASU: He is avoiding the whole answer. He is not telling how neem seed is used for production of pesticides.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: I wanted to know the measures already taken and proposed to be taken regarding the use of neem seed for production of pesticides. The hon. Minister has given no reply to it.

SHRI TEJSINGH RAO BHONSLE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know that keeping in view the non-availability of cow dung, whether the Government propose to prepare organic manure with the waste that gets accumulated in big cities like Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta etc. Has the Government of India issued a list to every State and if so, the target fixed for each State and whether it may meet the requirements of the country?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: It is absolutely correct. We are taking measures but the expenditure on the preparation of compost is comparatively high, and we are trying to lessen it.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I answer to part (e) and (f), it is stated that the Government is interested in recycling of farm and city wastes as source of nutrients. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister that sufficient funds are not made available for this purpose. The city people especially Municipal Corporation people think of only disposal. They do not care about further utilisation of wastes as manure. For that, the



coordination is required between your Ministry and the Urban Development Ministry.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has come across a news-item where a cane grower in Shimoga district in Karnataka State is utilising sugarcane leaves.

Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde - Ctd He is utilising the sugar cane leaves which are left out, after cleaning that cane. He is utilising the sugar cane leaves by application of some superphosphate and limestone. It is yielding very good results to the farmer.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come out with the question.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: In view of the fact that very good result has been obtained there, I would like to know whether his Ministry will take suitable steps in coordination with the Minister of Information and Broadcasting so that large publicity will be given to the farmers to utilise all these very huge quantity of sugarcane leaves which are otherwise burnt and wasted into the atmosphere. They can be utilised as manure.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: We are always doing it and about the rural waste, the State Governments are also advised to tap all organic waste to step up the production.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: It has been stated in the answer that about 71 Kg of chemical nutrients per hectare are being used in the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the quantity of nutrients used in Punjab vis-a-vis State of Assam and what are the remedial measures we are going to take.

MR. SPEAKER: It is on organic manure.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: The same thing. It is only from the answer that I am reading. In Assam, the organic manure is being used but chemical fertiliser is not being used and to increase production, we have definitely to take measures. In Punjab, we have the highest yield today. The area under cultivation in Assam is much more but the yield is less. What are the measures that the Government is contemplating to take to increase food production in Assam.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Punjab is using 168 Kg per hectare and Assam is 11. It is only now that we have come to 11. It was really about 7 earlier to that. It is right that we have some sort of stabilisation whereby something is good both ways organic as well as inorganic to enhance the productivity of the soil which is very essential.

*[Translation]*

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has pointed out that 37 pesticides out of the total pesticides for chemical fertilizers are poisonous. The hon. Minister rightly pointed out that neem seed was being used to overcome such difficulties. In view of this I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that the ratio of organic and inorganic fertilizer is 1:20, and the price of organic fertilizer is lower than that of chemical fertilizers. Keeping these factors in view will the cattle wealth in the country be utilised? Just as Shrimati Indira Gandhi had written a letter that animal slaughter particularly cow-slaughter should be stopped in States and organic fertilizers should be produced? Will the Government take measures to close the slaughter houses particularly in Devnar and Akalovir?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: This does not come out of this question.

[English]

(c) the funds earmarked for the purpose?

**Fruit and Vegetable processing Units**

1637 SHRISOBHANA DREESWARA RAO VADDE Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state

(a) the installed capacity of fruit and vegetable processing units at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan

(b) the details of plans relating to increase this processing capacity during the Eighth Plan and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHARGOMANGO) (a) to (c) The installed capacity of fruit and vegetable processing units at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan (as on 31st March, 1990) was of the order of 7.54 lakh tonnes. This Ministry has formulated a number of Plan Schemes being implemented during the Eighth Plan Period and it is estimated that the installed capacity of fruit and vegetable processing units in the country during the Eighth Plan is likely to increase to 20 lakh tonnes. The details of the Plan Schemes of fruit and vegetable processing sector and the funds earmarked for the year 1992-93 are given below -

(Rs in crores)

S No	Name of the Plan Scheme	Funds earmarked for 1992-93
1	Scheme for setting up food processing and training centres in the rural areas	1.50
2	Scheme for assistance for State Governments undertakings and States Cooperatives/ Joint Sector for establishment of F&VP units	3.00
3	Scheme for strengthening backward linkages between processors and growers	0.75
4	Scheme for assistance for Development of infrastructure for mushroom cultivation and processing	1.00
5	Scheme for development and processing of Hops	0.40

*(Rs. in crores)*

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Plan Scheme</i>	<i>Funds earmarked for 1992-93</i>
6.	Scheme for generic advertising on processed foods and for providing marketing assistance.	1.50
7.	R & D in F & VP	0.10
Total		8.25

**Property Tax in Delhi**

1638. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:  
SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether report of the High-Power Committee on the property tax in Delhi has been considered by the Government;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken thereon;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Union Government are considering to amend the Delhi Municipal Act relating to the provisions of the property tax; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (f). This Ministry has recently received copies of the report of High Pow-

ered committee on Property Tax along with draft legislation from Delhi Administration. The matter is under examination.

**University Status To Raja Balwant Singh Agricultural College.**

1639. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh have submitted a proposal to ICAR for granting University status to Raja Balwant Singh Agricultural College;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b). Sir. A proposal for the establishment of an agricultural University in Agra Division with its headquarters at Raja Balwant Singh College was received from Uttar Pradesh Government.

[Sh. Atal Bihar Vajpayee]

date for the construction of the temple... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRISHOBHANADREESWARARAO VADDE (Vijaywada): They do not have the mandate. You did secure the majority vote.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government of Uttar Pradesh is bound by the constitution of the country. It has also given an assurance to the effect that the court orders will not be violated.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: When you will come in power in the Centre, then you may do this. Forget about it right now.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not very difficult, neither for the House nor the Government, to find out as to what all is going on at Ayodhya. Anyway the Supreme Court has already appointed an observer there, who is daily submitting report. The Government is aware of these reports.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Will you repeat what did you say?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I only submitted that the Supreme Court has already appointed an observer, whose mention has also been made in the statement given by the hon. Minister. Though, the observer is daily despatching his reports yet no mention about it has been made in the statement. Only the appointment of an observer has been mentioned in the statement.

The observer appointed by the Supreme Court is keeping a watch on the develop-

ments in Ayodhya. Are you not going to trust him?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, by the number and nature of cases filed in the Supreme Court by the Government of India counsels and the arguments put forth by them, it quite reasonably justifies the contention that the Government is not at all sincere about avoiding the precipitation of the crisis. Is it proper to entrust this responsibility to the Supreme Court time and again ask it to intervene in the matter too. This has been widely condemned in the country. The politicians should be prepared for taking political decisions in all such matters and should also always be prepared to tackle the crises of this type. There is no need to take recourse to the courts. However, such a course is being adopted and when it is condemned it is alleged that the sanctity of the courts is being challenged. Even by the figment of imagination we are not prepared to belittle the courts. Prestige of judiciary should be fully maintained in the country. We all owe allegiance to the constitution of the country. Therefore, it would be nice if the band of secularism is not played too much.

Then it is very good. When Indian Constitution was being framed Professor K.T. Shah moved a resolution that 'secular' word should be included in it. But it was not included because the Fundamental Rights guaranteed each citizen equal rights irrespective of his caste, creed and religion. There was another reason also. The Constitution makers knew that 'secular' is an alien word and it echos anti-religious voice and it seems indifferent to the religion. It is a western hypothesis. You read the speeches of Dr. Munshi and other leaders. They always propounded this concept that state would be or should be a secular state. We also believe in secular state. But secular means equality of all religions- no opposition to any religion. But during the course of time there were some happenings which indicated that feel-

declared *kar seva* on 6th of this month. Sir, I do not know what is the sanctity of this date.

MR.SPEAKER: No, no, please. This will not go on record. (*Interruptions*)\*\*

SHRI P.M.SAYEED: That is the day they have selected.

MR. SPEAKER: These kinds of statements are not necessary.

SHRI P.M.SAYEED: Sir, Vajpayeeji has very frankly admitted that it is a political issue. May I ask him with earnestness when this has happened - a political issue - and from what date. Only from 1989 election they have started Ram as an issue. Otherwise for 40 years starting from 1952 till 1984 Ram was not an issue, Ayodhya was not an issue. He himself was sitting here, we all were sitting in his place. For two-and-a-half years they have not even done the slightest movement to point out to the countrymen that Ayodhya and particularly now they call it as 'the disputed structure' was in existence. Never I can challenge; anybody can stand up and I will yield to them. They can show it nowhere in the history of this country. I respect Mr. Vajpayee very much and he is one of our respected leaders. For a moment, for argument's sake, let us assume that the mosque was built in 1528 on the ruins of a temple and if that mistake was committed, are you going to commit another mistake now? Can two wrong things make one right thing? This is what the people ask now. Are we to maintain the secularism of this country or not? That is the question now. This dispute can be taken to the Supreme Court. Somebody has to decide; who else can decide better than the Supreme Court of India. Under Article 138 of the Constitution we can refer it to the Supreme Court. The Babri Masjid Action Committee and all of us agree that whatever decision is given by the Supreme Court, we are prepared to accept that. Why do you not have faith in the Supreme Court of India.

Sir, I only appeal to them in the hope that better senses prevail on them.

" May Good senses prevail

There is but one God"

'Ekam Kshipra Vidha Vadanti'

SHRI SHOBANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to express our party's view on this very important problem. I would like to say that I was very much disappointed after hearing Vajpayeeji. We all have a lot of respect for him.

MR. SPEAKER: Please state your party's stand.

SHRI SHOBANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, the entire country is very much agitated as to what is going to happen on the 6th of December. You will very well recollect the anxiety that was expressed on the floor of this very House a few months back when a *kar seva* took place. At that time, the Prime Minister talked to the saints and he made a statement that efforts will be made to resolve this issue amicably and if it is not resolved then this matter will be referred to a judicial authority and without waiting for the reference to the judicial authority, it is most unfortunate that the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and the Bharatiya Janata Party have taken a unilateral decision of announcing the *kar seva* from the 6th of December, 1992.

Sir, I would like to ask one question to the BJP leaders. Mr. Vajpayee was mentioning about the archeological facts. When you are so confident and 100 per cent sure about the genuineness and the correctness of the historical fact about the existence of a temple ruins beneath the Babri Masjid, why do you take this course of action? You abide by the decision of the judicial authority or the Court's decision.

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\*\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Sh. Shobanadreeswara Rao Vadde]

Sir, I felt very happy when Mr. Syed Shahabuddin made it clear about the BMAC's stand on this issue, the other day. Today also, I feel very happy that Mr. Owaissi has categorically stated about BMAC's stand that if the Supreme Court or the judicial authority expresses an opinion that there was a temple beneath the Babri Masjid structure, then they will not insist for the continuation of that Masjid. They are prepared to leave their right over that structure. We are very happy. Today before the hon. Home Minister makes his reply I appeal to Mr. Vajpayee to categorically say, why BJP party does not subscribe to it. If the court gives such a decision why it does not abide by it. When you say you are abiding by the Constitution by the rule of law, it is your minimum duty. Otherwise, you are exposed that with your game plan that you are really not for construction of Ram temple but only for your political advantage and taking this issue to the people and getting the votes. You may think that from with two Members, you have now come to 119 Members. But when the people understand your game plan, again the same old story will be repeated. I warn the BJP and other people who are connected with this. I was very much pained when they said, it may take several months for the court to give a judgement. I ask the BJP, today in four States, your Governments are there. What have you done to bring down the litigation time? Have you brought in law reforms to see that justice is delivered within the shortest time? So it takes such a time to get and you yourself taking this course of action can we find any fault with the Naxalite people who say "Do not go to the court; it will take a long time; we will ourselves deliver the judgement". Will you accept that?

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very good speech. Please conclude.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I may not have a command over the

language. But in simple language, I want to say what I felt in my heart. It is an important matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Now I would say that you are off the mark. You have to come to the point and make the speech (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you to speak. Do not quarrel like this. You should also understand we are sitting here for a long time. You should conclude now.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I earnestly urge upon the leaders to think over this particular aspect of abiding by the court verdict. Otherwise, it will lead to chaos. Communal harmony is at stake. A large number of people are very much agitated over this. I heard Shri Indrajit Gupta saying going from climax, it came to anti-climax. Earlier, they said, they will simply observe *kirtans* and *bhajans* and no construction work will take place. But from 1st of December, several leaders including some leaders who are Members of this august House and have given Affidavit to the Supreme Court also say: Kar seva does not end with *kirtans* and *bhajans*; but it will be much more. If it really takes place if the Supreme Court judgement is going to be negated, going to be disobeyed what will be the fate of this country? What will be the fate of the people in Ayodhya and in other parts of the country? I urge upon the BJP people and the VHP people to kindly think once more and come up with that type of attitude of abiding by the court judgement. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is all right.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I urge upon the Union Government to take all stern action against the persons and organisations which flout the court order and which will cause danger to communal harmony in this country for which our fathers of the freedom struggle and fathers of our Constitution have struggled so much.

[Sh. Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde]

With these words, I thank you very much.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K.JAFFER SHARIEF): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity. I have been seeing that we are all sitting so late and I do not want to tax the time of the House.

Before I could say anything, let me acknowledge that the minorities of this country are grateful to the Indian people, that they have been so magnanimous.

I acknowledge this with great humility. It is not anything relating to the outside. If the majority would not have been magnanimous, I would not have existed 22 years in Parliament in this House.

Let me also remind, as many speakers have repeatedly said, that the mandate of the people is very clear and that is how today we are in this House and that is how they are that side. If the mandate of the people in this country is otherwise, things would have been different. May be, it is their thinking that they can continue to explore their path to change the sides.

Today you go to any part of the country. You search the mind of the minorities or the majority. Every one has respect to Shri P.V.Narasimha Rao, I must say, even the minorities.

It will not be out of context if I say today that when the Ramayan serial was going on, the children and women of minorities never used to leave the TV and go elsewhere to any other programme. If they had not that respect, if they had not that tolerance or religion, they would not have shown that interest. Not all the Indian people, but very few sections of the people of our society, are bent upon poisoning the minds of our people.

Let me tell you today, I must tell Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee here, to whom all of us have respect, and he knows it, not that we have to say it here, I must tell him that his impression, the people's impression about him, is totally different. Please do not be an advocate for a bad cause.

Luckily, God has been kind and we thought that you have to speak here. You have already spoken outside. People of the country have seen you. I know your worry. I know where your heart is. I only hope please do not sway with them, please try to assert yourself. Stand like a pillar, not for anything else, not for the Party, be for the people of India, people of this country and to this great nation. As I said, nobody is opposed to Ram or Ram temple. I cannot understand. In a democratic set up, the responsibility of the Leader of the Opposition is as great as the Leader of the Government. I do not know how can the leader of the opposition go and say something outside against the Judiciary of this country. How can he say so? What is it that we are going to teach to our posterity. One thing is worrying the people outside. I must tell you about this. In your path to capture power, do not always show that there is a sword which is hanging on the minorities' neck. We can tolerate it. We can understand it. Who will advise the younger people to tolerate who have no jobs? You talk all the time that the minorities are being appeased. What is that the minorities have got? They are in the slums. Today, they are worse than the Scheduled Caste people. They have no jobs. They have no trade. They have got nothing. They are worse than the beggars. Where do you want to drive them? I beg of you to consider this. Let us build a good Ram Temple befitting the Indian nation. Let us not touch the Mosque. Let us think of the posterity. Let us build up a healthy climate in the country so that the secular India not only survives and survives for today but survives for the future and for the posterity.