

श्री मोहम्मद आजम खान: उपसभापति महोदया, मैं एक निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ।

{श्री محمداعظم خان:اپ سبھاپتی مہودے۔ میں ایک نویدن کرنا چاہتا ہوں۔}

उपसभापति: आप भी वाकआऊट कर रहे हैं? ...आप किस चीज़ के लिए बोल रहे हैं?

श्री मोहम्मद आजम खान: महोदया, मुझे भी सबके साथ वाकआऊट करना ही है। मैं सिर्फ इतना जानना चाहता हूँ कि यशवंत सिन्हा जी ने बड़ी लियाकत और सलाहियत से अपनी सफाई पेश की लेकिन आपको यह पता कैसे चला कि हम लोग वाकआऊट करने वाले थे? वह कौन था हम में से जिसने आपको यह बताया? इसी के साथ मैं वाकआऊट करता हूँ।

[इस अवसर पर माननीय सदस्य सदन से उठकर चले गए]

{श्री محمداعظم خان:مہودے مجھے بھی سب کے ساتھ واک آؤٹ کرنا ہی ہے۔ میں صرف اتنا جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ یشونت سنہا جی نے بڑی لیاقت اور صلاحیت سے اپنی صفائی پیش کی لیکن آپکو یہ پتہ کیسے چلا کہ ہم لوگ واک آؤٹ کرنے والے تھے۔ وہ کون تھا ہم میں سے جس نے آپکو یہ بتایا۔ اس کے ساتھ میں واک آؤٹ کرتا ہوں۔}

उपसभापति: कोई न कोई तो घर का भेदी होगा।

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम: वह तो उनके हावभाव से दिखाई दे रहा था।

THE FOREIGNERS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1998

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Foreigners Act, 1946.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Bomb Blast at Inter-State Bus Terminus, Delhi on 26th July, 1998 and Law and Order Situation in Delhi

VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM IN THE CHAIR) THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Sir, On 26th July, 1998 at about 1330 hours, a powerful bomb explosion occurred in a Haryana Roadways Bus soon after it had arrived at the Inter-State Bus Terminus, Delhi. The rear portion of the bus was completely ripped off and four other buses which were nearby were also partly damaged. The unfortunate incident led to the death of two persons and injury to other four persons. The loss of life is too precious to be compensated. However, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have in order to provide some immediate relief to the victims announced an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 1.00 lakh to the next of kin of those who lost their lives in this incident and Rs. 10,000/- to each of those who sustained injuries.

The investigation into this incident is in progress. It, however, appears that this is a part of diabolical design perpetuated by elements inimical to the security and integrity of this country over the last few years. The National Capital Territory of Delhi and its adjoining areas have since 11th December, 1996 witnessed as many

as 40 such blasts including the last one which occurred yesterday.

I would like to inform this august House that Delhi Police has been able to solve out 36 bomb blasts incidents with the arrest of 14 suspected militants, including 7 foreign nationals, during last few months. There are reports that these bomb blasts were organised by ISI outfit of Pakistan led by a militant group headed by Zaki-ur-Rehman and Abdul Karim Tunda.

In addition, Delhi Police and Hyderabad Police have through sustained efforts been able to expose Pakistan ISI/ Lashkar-e-Taiba network operating in India as a result of which four Pak nationals, one Bangladeshi national and a key Indian collaborator based in Hyderabad were arrested. A substantial quantity of arms and ammunition including 15 kilograms of RDX was recovered from this gang on 1st July, 1998. This was followed by another break-through when Delhi Police, on 10th July, 1998, recovered 18 kilograms of RDX and sophisticated timer devices from a truck in the Punjabi Bagh area of Delhi. This led to the arrest of two persons suspected to be Punjab militants. I take this opportunity to assure this august House that the Government will not leave any stone unturned to eliminate all threats to the security and integrity of this country.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM): Any clarifications? Mr. Doraisamy.

SHRI V.P. DURASAMY (Tamil Nadu): First of all, I must congratulate the Minister for admitting that the law and order position in Delhi is not good. It is a strong news also that the ISI activists are behind these operations. Sir, may I ask the hon. Home Minister— whenever these types of bomb blasts take place in various parts of India, particularly in Tamil Nadu, Coimbatore or whenever any law and order problem arises in Bihar and Calcutta—whether it

was under political pressure or administrative procedure that the Government of India used to send Central Teams to study the situation to find out the correct position? Likewise, I would like to know whether the Government of India is going to send a Central Team to study the bomb blast incident which took place in Delhi. Also, it is not correct to send a Central Team whenever a law and order problem arises in the States. Sir, I would like to know from the Minister whether the victims of this blast are going to be compensated with a higher amount. What action has already been taken by the Government? What action is going to be taken by this Government? Also, I would like to know whether the Government is going to stop sending any further Central Teams to the States for law and order affairs.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the hon. Home Minister has on record stated that the law and order situation in Delhi is not up to the mark. He was directed to make a statement in this House on Friday and this happened on Sunday. So, I share the concern of the Government of India. But, time and again we raised this issue as to how this RDX is smuggled across the border into our country. Though we fenced our borders in the North-West, I would like to know whether the Government has tightened the borders on international fronts. We see that ISI is more active in the South. We also see that ISI is operating from Bangladesh and from Nepal. The border between India and Nepal is open for any national to come without any hindrance. I would like to know whether the Government has taken any precaution to see that detection of RDX is done.

I raised this issue last time also. I belong to Goa and we have umpteen, at least a dozen, charters coming to Goa from foreign countries. There is laxity in security. You do not have sniffer dogs. So, how is the Government going to see that the smuggling of RDX into the

country is avoided/ Unless you tighten the screws at the international entry points, at least, at the declared entry points like the airports, the land routes and the railways, I do not think you would be able to fight insurgency.

It is not sufficient that we fence our border in Kashmir and Punjab. May I know from the hon. Home Minister as to what is the assessment of the Government in regard to the routes through which RDX is being smuggled into the country? Wherever there has been a seizure of explosives, wherever there has been some threat to public property, wherever the soft targets are being attacked, I think there have been some arrests. Therefore, the Government is in the know of information as to the entry points in the country. I do not think it is possible to smuggle it through the international flights. The only possibility of these things coming into the country is through the neighbouring countries—either Myanmar or Bhutan or Nepal or Bangladesh.

I hope the hon. Minister would address himself to the queries which I have raised.

Thank you, Sir.

श्री ईश दत्त यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय। माननीय गृह मंत्री जी ने 26 जुलाई, 1998 की जिस घटना का उल्लेख किया है यह उत्पन्न ही दुखद और गम्भीर घटना है। उन्होंने यह भी बतलाया कि 11 दिसम्बर, 1996 से लेकर 26 जुलाई 1998 तक 40 घटनाएं हुई हैं। उन्होंने कहा है कि इस संबंध में 233 मामले प्रकाश में आए हैं और 515 संदिग्ध व्यक्तियों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है। दिल्ली जो पूरे देश की राजधानी है इसमें इस तरह की घटनाएं हो रही हैं, 40 घटनाएं हो गई हैं दो साल के अन्दर और दिल्ली में रहने वाले लोगों को बराबर खतरा बना रहता है। चाहे रेलवे स्टेशन हो, चाहे बस अड्डा हो, चाहे हवाई अड्डा हो, चाहे जो भी स्थान हो वहां पर खतरा बना हुआ है। मैं गृह मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि देश के अन्दर, देश की सीमाओं के अन्दर और विशेष करके दिल्ली की सीमा के अन्दर इस तरह के अपराधी लोग, चाहे वह आईएसआई के एजेंट हों, चाहे जो भी लोग हों इस देश में खासकर के दिल्ली के अन्दर प्रवेश न करें इसके

लिए सरकार ने क्या प्लान बनाया है, क्या योजना बनाई है जिससे कि भविष्य में इस तरह की घटनाओं की देश के अन्दर अथवा दिल्ली के अन्दर पुनरावृत्ति न हो?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM): Mr. Minister, there was a direction from the Chair that on the question of law and order situation in Delhi also, you will make a statement. It is better if you make this statement now.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Vice-Chairman, earlier, I had been told that concern was expressed in the House both on the bomb blast incident and on the general law and order situation in the capital. A direction had been given to prepare a statement on that basis. Subsequently, when I saw the Revised List of Business, it mentioned that I had to make a statement only on the bomb blast. Therefore, it was that I read out only that portion. But, as you have just indicated,

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Kerala): It should be circulated.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: It has been circulated. I have been told to read it out. I will read it out.

The hon. Members of this august House also expressed their anxiety and concern on 24th July, 1998, about the law and order situation in Delhi. I would like to convey on behalf of the Government that we all share this anxiety and concern and are fully seized of the matter. In fact, some of my colleagues have told me as to why, as the Home Minister, I have said that the situation is not satisfactory. I have been cautioned that this is not the way in which a Government functions. But I have done it very consciously and very deliberately.

There has been since May this year undoubtedly a sudden spurt in the incidence of robberies. I personally reviewed the prevailing law and order situation in the National Capital Territory on the 18th July, 1998. In that meeting, not only the police officials and the Home Ministry officials were present, but Members

of Parliament from this House as well as from the other House, the Chief Minister of Delhi, and the leader of the Opposition in the State Assembly were also present. I found that the total number of heinous crimes committed in the first half of 1998 (January—June), was 1,277 and the corresponding figure for 1997 was 1,285. So, during this first half there have been lesser crimes in terms of the figures. It was presented by the Commissioner of Police that the crime had not increased but that it had decreased. I told this to him personally. However, it has to be conceded that claims about the law and order situation cannot be based on statistics alone. The real indicator in this regard is public perception which, at the moment, is that the law and order situation in Delhi is unsatisfactory. I said that this public perception should change. Therefore, it is imperative that the police should achieve results in curbing crime and a break-through in solving the crimes. At the same time, it must take new initiatives in identified thrust areas so that the public at large feels more secure and reposes more confidence in the police.

The Delhi Police has over the last few weeks taken several concrete measures to effectively meet the situation and instill a sense of confidence in the public. These include vigorous intensification of beat patrolling, especially from 6-00 P.M. to 10-00 P.M.; high visibility of police in vulnerable areas; intensified surveillance over the activities of known criminals, particularly on the known robbers who are out on bail; raids over the places of ill-repute and suspected hide-outs of criminals; improved intelligence gathering, including exchange of information about criminals through periodic interstate crime coordination meetings with the officers of UP., Haryana and Rajasthan; and launching of "Operation Black Rose" to check and sharpen the responses of the Delhi Police personnel in a simulated crime situation.

These efforts have begun to yield some tangible results. Out of 405 cases of

robbery reported during the current year upto the 15th July, 1998, as many as 233 cases have been worked out, and 515 persons suspected to be involved in these crimes have been arrested.

Let me assure this august House the Government is determined to deal with the crime situation in the national capital in a manner so as to ensure that the confidence of the people of Delhi is restored in the law and order machinery.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, the hon. Home Minister has made the statement in two parts. One is about the explosion in the capital, which has created a panicky situation or a panicky feeling among the local people. The other is about the increasing rate of crimes in the city, which we read everyday in newspapers.

Of course, I am not denying the fact that Delhi was witnessing the terrorist activities starting from the Punjab militants down to, as you say, some persons who are connected with foreign nationals. It is true.

You are narrating the incidents, and you are talking about giving some compensation. People everywhere are living in a high-tech world in every sense. So, Sir, merely watching and reacting to an accident is not enough. It is necessary that we must act in advance. It needs a special training. I feel that the technology has changed. Apart from human bombs, even a remote control can create explosions. You can make an explosion from a long distance and create a disaster and pack and kill people. So, it needs more advanced training. It cannot be done in one day. It is a continuous process. Unfortunately, in the police system, especially in the capital city of Delhi, it is lacking. I am not saying that it is only your mistake. But you have to evolve a new method. I am suggesting that you have to evolve a new method of preventing it. How do you do it? How do you act?

Merely having policemen in uniform will not help. These people will have to be trained in modern methods "as is being

adopted in Eurpoc and in America. Sir, we have already read in newspapers whatever the hon. Minister has said in his statement about the various incidents and arrests made. But, Sir, we have to go deep into the problem. No report has been given as to who owned the responsibility for the bomb blast, which took place in Delhi two days ago, in which a bus was blown up and two people were killed and several injured. Nobody has owned responsibility so far. So, the Home Minister has definitely come to the conclusion, going by the Police Commissioner's report. I wish the Home Minister had some other source to find out whether the Delhi Police was right in its conclusions or somebody else was behind the explosion. I would like to know whether we are going to adopt certain new methods to fight the advance technology being adopted by criminals for killing people. He must also know what are the new methods we can use to fight them. We read in the papers today that the President of a neighbouring country was about to be killed by a human bomb, but, luckily, his programme was cancelled. My fear is that the gun culture is coming to Delhi. I do not know whether Delhi is going the Mumbai way. Underworld in Mumbai is a threat to human life there. If you look at the newspaper reports, you will find that everyday a number of robberies are taking place in Delhi. It is an attempt by a certain group of people to establish an underworld gang here in Delhi so that they can dictate their terms to everybody. This is a matter on which immediate action has to be taken. Moreover, the Chief Minister of Jharkhand has made a statement that the border between Delhi and UP has become a no-man's land. Criminals take shelter there. In the background of these reports and the deteriorating law and order position in the perception of the public at large, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will take all these facts into account and tell us what steps he is going to take to prevent all these crimes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM): There is a request from the Home Minister. He has to go to the Lok Sabha to make a statement on atrocities committed on women. There are still a few names for clarifications. In the list of business it was included that he will make a statement on bomb blast in Delhi on 26th, but subsequently the Chairman directed him लिस्ट आफ बिजनेस में जो कुछ लिया गया था, सेक्रेटिरिएट को आपका खत मिला कि इस विषय पर, बम ब्लास्ट पर स्टेटमेंट देना है। लेकिन जब चेयरमैन के पास यह बात रखी गई तो यह हुआ कि जो पहले वाले वायदे हैं उनके बारे में भी बात हो। So, the Chair directed. It was not included in the List.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: May I submit that these are really two passages of the same problem? One relates to the bomb blast occurring in various parts of the country and this particular bomb blast, which occurred in Delhi, is a part of this. In that context I have already said. But, the other issue relates to general crime in Delhi. It is more related to the functioning of the police and the functioning of the Government etc. I would be willing to reply to this question, if you permit me, tomorrow or the day after. I have made a comprehensive statement now on both the issues—bomb blast as well as the law and order situation. In that context I would be willing to answer any clarifications that are sought.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री मोहम्मद सलीम): राज्य सभा की यह परम्परा रही है। कई सदस्यों के नाम हैं। मंत्री जी को क्योंकि लोक सभा में जाना है तो ऐसे रख सकते हैं कि या तो मंत्री जी चले जाएं और दूसरे मंत्री, जो क्लेरीफिकेशन पूछ जा रहे हैं, वह उनको नोट कर लें। या फिर मंत्री जी कल जब इसके लिए टाइम फिक्स हो...

श्री ईश दत्त यादव: दो-तीन नाम हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री मोहम्मद सलीम): कल मंत्री जी के सामने क्लेरीफिकेशन पूछ लें, मंत्री जी जवाब दे देंगे।

श्री ईश दत्त यादव: दो-तीन नाम हैं. उनको पूछने की अनुमति दे दीजिए। मंत्री जी जवाब बाद में देंगे, दूसरे दिन देंगे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री मोहम्मद सलीम): कल जब वे जवाब देंगे तो उससे पहले क्लेरीफिकेशन पूछ लिए जायेंगे।

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we can fix up the time afterwards. He can go to Lok Sabha now.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: We can have it tomorrow or the day after.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM): You can go now. The Secretariat will inform your Department.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Thank you.

THE ELECTRICITY LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1998—Contd.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM): Now we will take up further discussion on the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1998. Shri Viduthalai Virumbi.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, now we are discussing about an important issue concerning the country. Before we take up the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1998 into consideration, we have to go through the background which compelled this Government to bring forth this Bill. The Eighth Plan envisaged an addition of more than 30,500 MW energy. But the Government could add less than 16,500 MW energy.

During the Ninth Plan, the need-based energy capacity calculated by the Government is 58,000 MW. But the feasible capacity addition calculated by the Government is about 40,000 MW. Therefore, the difference between the need-based capacity and the feasible capacity is about 18,000 MW. So, there will be a shortage of energy. How is the Government of India going to bridge this gap? According to the Planning Commission, to achieve the Ninth Plan target like generation, transmission and distribution.

it would cost the Government about Rs. 2,50,000 crores. Out of which the Central sector will bear Rs. 1,05,000 crores leaving Rs. 55,000 crores expenditure to the State sector. They hope that the private sector would be able to bear an expenditure of Rs. 86,000 crores. But the past achievement by the private sector indicates that it cannot bear that much expenditure.

During the Eighth Five Year Plan period, hydel power and thermal power in the private sector could add only 1,430 MW of power. When this is their performance, on what ground could you say that private sector would raise Rs. 86,000 crores. I would like to know whether it is feasible. Are we going to repeat the same performance of the Eighth Plan? This is a moot question.

Even though an expert committee has submitted its recommendations, the hydel power policy is yet to be finalised by the Government. Why has the Government not finalised the hydel power policy? The hydel power is available abundantly in the North-East. They are having sufficient potential. If we have cordial relations with our neighbouring countries, we can tap this hydel power. Nepal is having nearly 90,000 MW of hydel power potential. We can be benefited from this by entering into an agreement with Nepal. We can tap the hydel power from the Brahmaputra river. I feel we need not go in for thermal power. But who has stopped the Government from formulating the hydel power policy? I suspect the people who are interested to invest their money only to earn profit from thermal power stations and sell their equipment have obstructed the Government from framing the hydel power policy. They would stop this. If it is not so, what are the other reasons for delaying the power policy, the hydel power policy by the Government? We want to know that. Regarding this, we want some comprehensive approach. Now, in the Objects and Reasons, you have said that it is proposed to provide for transmission as a