

धन्यवाद। श्री के० आर० मलकानी। कृपया संक्षेप में कहें, ताकि एक बजे के पहले कम से कम दो-तीन विषय और हमारे आ जाएं।

**RE: MISUSE OF GOVERNMENT
MACHINERY AND MILITARY
ESTABLISHMENT BY AMITABH
BACHCHAN CORPORATION LIMITED**

SHRI K.R. MALKANI (Delhi): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, recently the Amitabh Bachchan Corporation Limited organised a mega event in Bangalor. This even has been variously described as a beauty contest, flesh trade, meat market, a parade of giggly girls etc., but I will not go into that Mr. Amitabh Bachchan is a very well-known artiste, a man of education, culture and influence. We all wish him well. He was a Member of Parliament. One thing mystifies me. Why did he seek so much Government assistance and why did the Government go out of its way to extend to him all kinds of help? Two questions arise here. In Karnataka, 12,500 policemen were kept at his disposal. This was not all. Central force, like Rapid Action Force, BSF, even the NSG-National Security Guard-were kept at his disposal. Why? The matter did not stop there. Even the Defence Ministry stepped in to help him. The Air Force Training Command's help was made available to him. These three Ministries need to explain to the country as to why they made all these facilities available to this particular outfit. The Civil Aviation Ministry directed Air India to make foreign travel available to the ABCL. All these three Ministries need to explain as to why went out of the way to identify themselves with this affair. Mr. Bachchan has been very candid about it, very straight about it. He said, "This is my personal affair and nobody has any business to ask me what money I have made and what loss I have suffered." He is entirely welcome. But, here is a pure personal affair of an enterprise, and why did the Government identify itself with

it? There was a financial aspect to the matter. The Karnataka Security alone is supposed to have spent Rs. 10 crores on security arrangement, but the ABCL has given it only Rs. 1.91 crores. The question arises, why? Why has he not parted with the money? Why did the Government content itself with a fraction of the cost? Mr. Bachchan was good enough to say that he would make over for charity part of his profits earned. The only charity announced so far is the to Spastics Association of India. We are very happy to know that. But the country would like to know as to how much his profit is, what portion he has passed on to them. The interesting thing to note is that he did not even bother to invite the President of the Spastics Association of India, who is none else than the Governor of Karnataka.

The third question which arises is this. Why did the Government go out of the way to exempt this whole mega event from entertainment tax? Here is a mega actor, organising a mega event, making a mega profit and the Government does not charge entertainment tax. Why?

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): He should pay a mega tax.

SHRI K.R. MALKANI: This is the time when the Government and all these Ministries should explain the position to the country. Actually, he should not wait for the end of the year only to say that this is my income-tax return. The whole thing has become controversial, for the present. He should make very clear how much income he had, how much expenditure he had and how he intends to dispose of that profit.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): Mr. Narayanasamy, please be brief because Mrs. Natarajan is also here. This Cauvery affair has already been discussed in this House. Please be brief so that we could take up one or two other items before we adjourn for lunch.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL

(Rajasthan): You adjourn the House after this issue is over.

**RE: DELAY IN APPOINTMENT OF
CHAIRMAN OF CAUVERY WATER
TRIBUNAL**

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on this issue. Sir, the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal was set up in 1990. An interim award was passed by the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal. Though the State of Karnataka is a party to the award, it did not respond. The Central Government also did not take any step to execute the interim award. The genuine and right claims of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry for a share in Cauvery waters were denied. The Prime Minister had to intervene in the matter for additional waters when there was drought in the States of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry. Sir, the present Prime Minister, who was the Chief Minister of Karnataka earlier, did not cooperate with the Cauvery Waters Dispute Tribunal. The Government of Karnataka even boycotted it for some time. Sir, the present Prime Minister, when he was the Chief Minister of Karnataka blamed the Chairman of the Cauvery Waters Dispute Tribunal. When he became the Prime Minister, Karnataka Government chose to say that they wanted scrapping of the Tribunal. They even went to the Supreme Court. A situation has arisen where the Chairman of the Tribunal resigned. I do not know whether it is due to the difference of opinion between the Prime Minister and the Chairman of the Tribunal. The Chairman resigned about four months back. There has been a consistent demand from the States of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry for immediate appointment of the Chairman of the Tribunal.

Five meetings have been held between the Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka to arrive at some kind of

settlement on the basis of the Supreme Court direction. Three meetings were held in Bangalore and one in Madras.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): Please conclude. Make only points; the details are known.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I would like to point out that the meetings are held between both the Chief Ministers but the details of the meetings, whatever they are, were not divulged to the public. This is the point I wanted to make. I want the Government of India to come forward and tell us what the nature of the discussions was and what solutions have been there and what conclusions they have arrived at. The Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry have made fervent demands several times. They met the Prime Minister also. I think, they also met the Water Resources Minister for immediate appointment of a Chairman of the Tribunal because without Chairman, it is not functional. When there is no Chairman, they are not able to take any decision. I would like to know from the Water Resources Minister, who is sitting in this House, when they are going to appoint a Chairman for the Tribunal. I would also like to know whether they are going to appoint or not. If they are not, let them inform the House what the reasons are.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): Jayanthiji, you may now give a chance to the Water Resources Minister to respond.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, this is a very important issue for the people of Tamil Nadu. I have raised the same issue myself even during the last session and the Government has not bothered to reply to any of the issues that we raised regarding the appointment of Chairman of the Cauvery Waters Dispute Tribunal. Sir, what has happened is that this issue has been hanging fire for more