

12.00 Noon

RE. BOMB EXPLOSION AT THE R.S.S. HEADQUARTERS AT MADRAS ON THE 8TH AUGUST, 1993

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, clarifications...

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, we want to raise a matter of urgent public importance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, Mr. Reddy would...

(Interruptions)

[The Deputy Chairman in the Chair]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Madam...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just a minute.

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त) :
सदर सहिव, मैंने चेयरमेन साहब से
इजाजत ली है। मैं यहां मद्रास में
हुए ब्लैस्ट का सवाल उठाना चाहता
हूँ (व्यवधान)...

† [श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सदर صاحب: میں نے
چیئر مین صاحب سے اجازت لی ہے۔ میں
یہاں مدراس میں ہوئے بلاسٹ کا سوال
اٹھانا چاہتا ہوں۔ ... مداخلت]...

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM (Andhra Pradesh): During the Question Hour, the Chairman said...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know. It is before me. Both the matters have been allowed. I have no objection whether the bomb blast in Madras be taken up first or...

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Madam, please see the sequence of events.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Sadar Sahiba, it has been regulated in this manner... (व्यवधान)... हमें वहां चेयरमेन साहब ने कहा है, पहले मुझे इजाजत दी है, मेडम, ब्लैस्ट का जिक्र करने के लिए। (व्यवधान)...

† [श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: ... मداخلت]...
ہمیں وہاں چیئر مین صاحب نے کہا ہے۔
پہلے مجھے اجازت دی ہے میڈم۔ بلاسٹ کا
ذکر کرنے کے لئے۔ ... مداخلت]...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: It is not of less importance.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (Maharashtra): We are not saying that it is not important.

श्रीमति सुषमा स्वराज (हरियाणा) :
जयपाल रेड्डी जी जब लीडर आफ द
अ.पोजीशन थे तो हमेशा हम आपको
प्राथमिकता देते थे।... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Let the two issues be taken up.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सदर साहिबा, मैं
दो मिनट में अपनी बात खतम करूंगा, फिर
आप अपनी बात फरमाएं।... (व्यवधान)...

† [श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सदर صاحب: میں
دو منٹ میں اپنی بات ختم کر دوں گا۔ پھر
آپ اپنی بات فرمائیں۔ ... مداخلت]...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Both the matters... (Interruptions) Please. Both the matters have been permitted by the Chairman. Both the matters, bomb blast and this, have been written here.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Please see the sequence of events.

† [] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : कोई कर्टसी नाम की चीज है? जब लीडर आफ द ऑपोजीशन खड़े हैं तो उनको प्रायमिकता दे दीजिए। हम भी जयपाल रेड्डी जी को देते रहे हैं, जब वह लीडर आफ द ऑपोजीशन थे।

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Sadar Sahiba, on the 8th, there has been another bomb blast in the office of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh in Madras. There is another cowardly act, a premeditated, pre-planned act of specific targeting this time. Madam, there has been a very specific targeting this time. And, again, it has been an example of complete failure of the Intelligence Department. And this blast is a link in the whole chain of Bombay and Calcutta blasts. The Intelligence Department had warned this country, had cautioned this country that RDX is being off-loaded in the Southern coast. And no pre-emptive measures were taken against such acts. Why could this blast not be pre-empted? That is the question. Palani Baba's name is being mentioned in a number of places. In my opinion, that is absolutely unimportant and useless. There have been too many pre-planned blasts in the country. The Government should have come out with a White Paper on the whole chain of blasts. The Madras blast can be an incident related to the RDX which was off-loaded in that area. It, therefore, points clearly to the involvement of elements outside India. The Madras blast can be the result of the Government's failure to take proper follow-up actions after the Bombay and Calcutta blasts. These two blasts at Bombay and Calcutta have already established that they have been masterminded by the ISI. Hence, this has an inter-State ramifications. How does the Government propose to fight the externally sponsored terrorism? How can it really fight this externally sponsored terrorism when it is busy fighting disturbances in its own party, when it is busy fighting the question of its own survival? This country seems to have been overtaken by these blasts and this Government does not seem to move. We look at it as a very, very serious matter. This can have very serious

inter-communal effect on different communities in the country. The Government seems to be totally immune to these requirements. We want the Government to make a statement on the Madras blast and also to come out with a White Paper on the entire chain of blasts. Thank you.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Madam,...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, I have also to speak.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will call you. I will call the names which are written before me. We are not doing it party-wise but I will call all the names which are written before me. Now, Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: On this issue I would like to speak.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will call you. Now, Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Madam, the blast has taken place in the headquarters of the R.S.S. That does not prevent me from condemning the blast in the way I should have condemned if it had taken place elsewhere. This is number one.

It is a total failure on the part of the Government because they have not been able to locate the chain of the terrorists who have been operating in the country, more so on the question of the delivery of the RDX powder.

Thirdly, I read the statement of Mr. Pilot with a little embarrassment. If the Bombay blasts could be looked into by the C.B.I., why should he say that the C.B.I. should not look into the blast in Madras? I think, Madam, if the C.B.I. enquiry is rejected, that will give credence to an air of suspicion that the Government of India do not want that a full-fledged, effective and objective enquiry should be undertaken. In the case of Bombay blast, the Chief Minister, Mr. Pawar, had stated that his people would like to do it but even then the C.B.I. is undertaking the enquiry. In this case, Miss Jayalalitha

[Sh. Gurudas Das Gupta]

says that the C.B.I. should undertake the enquiry. Why should the Government of India say 'no'? Why should there be double standards? Therefore, my third point is that the Government of India should change its position and there should be a C.B.I. enquiry.

The fourth and the last point is that this is a dangerous situation in the country. One Prime Minister was killed; one ex-Prime Minister was killed and a number of blasts have taken place. The situation is that the terrorists can do anything in the country. Therefore, the Government should do more than what it is doing. It should do a little more than only protecting the VVIPs. It is not a question of protecting the VVIPs. It is a question of protecting the country's credibility, the law and order and the common people, and in this regard I believe that something which has happened in Hyderabad also points to the serious situation of gross erosion of public responsibility on the part of the Government. Therefore, I denounce the blast. I want a C.B.I. enquiry and I denounce the role of the Government and I believe that the Government should do more than what it is doing.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): It is very shocking that a blast should have taken place in Madras city in the way it did. One did not anticipate that a blast of this kind would take place in Madras. We are told the Government of India had some information in regard to the delivery of R.D.X. in Southern India. I do not know what the Government of India has done to alert the State Governments and its own machinery. The Government should, therefore, come forward to make a statement on the entire issue.

We are all unanimous in condemning this. Now, we must create conditions so as not to allow this to become a new phenomenon. Madam, I do not have sufficient material to venture any conjecture, but all possible angles must be investigated.

The last point I would like to make is, why did our Minister of State for Home

Affairs, Mr. Rajesh Pilot, refuse to entertain the request of the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for an enquiry by the C.B.I.? When it came to enquiry by the C.B.I. into the Bombay blasts, the Government of India said that the Chief Minister of Maharashtra was not ready, to begin with. Later on, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra himself suggested that the matter should be enquired into by the C.B.I. Here, Miss Jayalalitha has come forward readily and spontaneously. Then, what is the reason for the hesitancy on the part of Mr. Rajesh Pilot? To throw light on all these aspects, the Government must come forward with a comprehensive statement.

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, this is a very serious incident.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN (Tamil Nadu): The incident has happened in Madras, but we are not being called.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ramachandran, whoever has given his name, whoever the Chairman has permitted, I am calling them.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: I condemn this incident.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Madam, we have given our names first, but you are calling first those persons who have not given their names. At 10.15 in the morning, myself and Mr. Viduthalai Virumbi had given our names.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: After Mr. Upendra, your name is there. The names are here. After Mr. Upendra, it is Mr. S. K. T. Ramachandran; then Mr. Viduthalai Virumbi and then Mr. Gopalsamy. All the names are written here.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Madam, in this blast, as many as 11 people have lost their lives.

What surprises me is that the Minister of State for Home Affairs or Internal Security is prejudging the whole issue and giving out his views there in Madras. On the one side, he says that when he visited

the State in July, he told the Chief Minister and other State officials about certain forces trying to create panic and asked the State Government to take all necessary precautions. The Chief Minister had assured him then—as also today—that the State Government would do everything to maintain law and order. The Chief Minister has also admitted that when Mr. Pilot met her in July, the Minister had expressed apprehension about the smuggling of R.D.X. into Tamil Nadu. That is the report. On the other hand, he says that there is no possibility of R.D.X. having been used and that there is no similarity between this incident and the earlier incidents in Bombay and Calcutta. I do not know what made him prejudge the whole issue.

More surprising is his attitude towards a C.B.I. enquiry when the State Government itself is asking for it. He says that the State police are more qualified to do its job. That means, indirectly, he is admitting that the C.B.I. is not capable of handling this case. At the same time, he says that if the State Government asks for a C.B.I. enquiry, they will go for that. Madam, the Chief Minister has already told Mr. Pilot that the State Government wants to have a C.B.I. enquiry. What more does he want? If he wants a formal communication, it can come in no time. Within five minutes, they can get a formal communication from the State Government. This sort of attitude only shows the Minister's callousness in this regard. He did not take any action to prevent it. Now, he is trying to avoid responsibility when the State Government itself is asking for Central assistance.

I would, therefore, demand that this case should be handed over to the C.B.I. and a thorough enquiry should be conducted.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Madam, it is painful to note that this pre-planned and ghastly bomb blast has taken place in Madras. Of course, it is another in the series of earlier bomb blasts. I do not deny that there is a connection between this blast and the earlier bomb blasts that took place in the country. One was in Bombay and the other was

in Calcutta. Instead of fighting over the causes, let us all unite together and try to put an end to all such events that are threatening the very unity of our country.

Madam, it may be the handiwork of some foreign elements, some anti-social or anti-national elements. *(Interruptions).* Madam, I think you are listening to me. I am addressing the Chair.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am listening, the record is there. The final reply will come from the Government and not from the Chair.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Madam, it is a very serious matter. It is not only rocking this House, it is rocking the whole country. It is because of a conspiracy to destabilise the whole country. So it is high time we all unite together to save the independence of our country.

Madam, it is said that Shri Rajesh Pilot did not show any interest in this. As soon as he got the information, he rushed to Madras and visited the spot. He consoled the relatives of the victims. So, I congratulate Mr. Rajesh Pilot for going there immediately and also consoling the relatives of the bereaved ones. Let us not try to politicise the whole issue and take political mileage out of this. This concerns the whole nation. If it was like that, why did the Chief Minister of the State leave for election campaign after knowing about the bomb blast? Nobody has made a mention about this, which is important. What is of importance, calamity or the party interest? When one becomes the Chief Minister, he or she should rise above petty politics. So, it is highly painful to hear such news.

On the whole, I condemn such a bomb blast. I would like to make an appeal to the whole country, through this august body; when the country is in such a deplorable condition, let us all unite together. *(Interruptions).* Yes, it is not because of the Government, it is because of selfish politicians, it is because of some selfish people that we are suffering. We are always carried away by egoic and egoistic

[Sh. S.K.T. Ramachandran]

considerations. We are seeking our own interest. None of us is seeking the interest of the people and the country as a whole. So, let us all rise above party considerations, let us rise above region and religion, let us rise above our own selfish interest. Madam, I should feel "I am an Indian first and Indian last. I will fight for the cause of India. I will die for the cause of my country". Everyone should feel "I am not only a Congressman, I am not only a BJP man, I am not a man of any party, religion or region. India is my country above religion". (Interruptions). Why do you disturb? Whenever you talk, I never interrupt.

Whenever I talk, why do you unnecessarily... (Interruptions). Mr. Jaipal Reddy, you are junior to me in politics. Madam, I am sorry, when I say this, I am full with agony. I have in mind the interest of the country. The bomb blast is not a unique one. It is happening in most of the places. Why should we unnecessarily blame the Government? Is this the time to blame the Government? No. Let us rise above everything, let us rise to the occasion, let us fight against the evil forces, let us save the country, let us save the democracy of the country and let us all unite together and fight the forces which are out to destabilize the country. Thank you, Madam.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Madam, Deputy Chairman, we have to deal with a very sad thing. What ought not to have happened in India has happened in one metropolitan city after another. It first happened in Bombay, then in Calcutta and now in Madras. In Madras, unfortunately, it took a toll of more than 11 lives.

Madam, the day before yesterday the bomb blast took place in the heart of

Madras city at about 1.45 p.m. A warning was given about this previously. On 2nd July, when Mr. Rajesh Pilot visited Madras, he warned the State Government, and I quote:

"Union Minister of State for Internal Security, Rajesh Pilot, said on Friday (2nd July 1993) that the Centre had received information as early as in March about explosives being smuggled into the State. The State Government has been warned of the possibility of bomb blasts, as Madras was one of the key commercial cities in the country."

From this it is clear that the Central Government had warned the State Government during the month of March about the smuggling of RDX. Now there are two opinions. Some people think that it was not RDX. If it was RDX, the explosion would have been much bigger than what it was. But some other people say that two buildings were completely smashed, the middle of one building crashed down and the sound of the blast was heard from nearly three kilometres away. It actually ripped through the building. The blast was quite big and so they think that RDX was used in this. What I feel is, had the State Government taken precautions, as it was warned by the Central Government, this could have been averted.

Another thing is, our hon. Chief Minister left Madras for election propaganda at 3.05 p.m. This explosion occurred at 1.45 p.m. After the bomb blast took place, for about one hour and fifteen minutes the Chief Minister was in Madras, but we were told that the Chief Minister was not at all informed about it. When she went to Dindigul by helicopter, then only she came to know of this explosion. This is very shameful. If the Chief Minister was not informed by the police officials, then the mistake lies with the police officials. But I think that they would have informed her. No police official withholds such type of information from a Chief Minister. Therefore, what I think is, having known fully well that the bomb blast had taken place in the city, the Chief Minister had gone for election propaganda, which means it is very regrettable.

Apart from this, our Governor, Dr. Channa Reddy, was not at all informed on time. It was very late. He came to know of it only through press reports. After having known it from the press, he visited that place and it was only subsequently that the Raj Bhavan was informed by the State Government. I want to know what prevented the police officials from informing the Governor of the State. He is the head of the State. The head of the State was not informed. The head of the Government also was not informed. It is very pitiful.

Madam, some people died, and their children became orphans. One Mrs. Lalitha has actually succumbed to her injuries in this bomb blast. Her husband was killed some months before in an accident. Their children became orphans.

Madam, I want to know how it is that while Delhi was informed of the matter, while the people living in Delhi came to know that the blast had occurred and they were sending messages to the bereaved families, at the same time the State Government was not informed of it.

When the blast occurred, we are told that actually the DGP was not in town. He had gone to Dindigul, I think. But the other person responsible for this should have done the job and informed the people concerned. He has not done it at all.

Madam, on behalf of the DMK Party, to which I have the honour to belong, on behalf of our leader, Kalaighnar, as well as on my own behalf and on behalf of my friends, I condemn wholly this type of violence, whoever has committed it.

Secondly, Madam, whoever may be the culprits, the Government should find them out and punish them according to the law of the land.

Thirdly, apart from punishing them, the Government...*(Time-hell rings)*.

Already there was something happening.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Be a little brief so that I can allow some other people who have given their names.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Yes, Madam. It is a very sensitive issue relating to Tamil Nadu, Madam. I hope you will understand the sensitivity.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know everybody is sensitive about it. But the thing is that others are also wanting to say something.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: In Tiruppur law and order has broken down. One person was stabbed to death. From city to city it is actually spreading. That is why, I say that the Police Department should take strong action and find out the culprits. Previously there were some cases like this. The people were left in the lurch. A similar situation should not arise now also.

Through you and through this House, Madam, I request that strong action should be taken. I also condemn the State Government for not having taken proper action at the proper time.

With these words, I conclude.

Thank you.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu): Madam Deputy Chairman, in no uncertain terms I strongly condemn this dastardly, gruesome bomb blast which took place in the city of Madras. The bomb blast sent shock waves, creating panic amongst the people of the capital city of my State, Tamil Nadu.

Madam, my point is that the hon. Minister, Mr. Rajesh Pilot, Minister for Internal Security, had already cautioned the State Government when blasts had taken place in Bombay and Calcutta that there was the potential danger of such blasts in the city of Madras also.

Madam, when a series of bomb blasts took place in the World Trade Centre in the United States and subsequently when there was a plot to blast the United

[Sh. V. Gopalsamy]

Nations Building and two bridges on the Hudson River, the FBI traced out the culprits and put them behind bars.

Madam, whosoever is responsible for this dastardly bomb blast which has taken the lives of eleven persons, should be severely dealt with according to the law of the land.

Madam, through this House, I express my heart-felt condolences, my painful condolences to the members of the bereaved families who have lost their bread-winners also.

Madam, the blast took place at 1.45 P.M. in the capital, but the spokesman of the Raj Bhavan has said that only by five o'clock the Secretary to the Governor had been informed of it by the Chief Secretary of the State. Never before has this happened in any State capital of this country. After three hours, more than three hours, the Chief Secretary informed the Raj Bhavan of the matter. The Governor rushed to the spot with shock. The Governor rushes to the spot with shock, but at the same time, after the occurrence i.e. after one hour and 20 minutes the Chief Minister boards a helicopter for the election campaign. My point is that the Chief Minister took it very lightly. Within 15 minutes the Commissioner of Police of Madras City reached the spot. The police knew pretty well that more than 10 persons were killed and many more injured. By 2 o'clock the Commissioner of Police knows what exactly happened, but the Chief Minister says when she was about to board the helicopter at 3 o'clock, she came to know about it. Then what was the Government doing? Then she put the blame on the police which is under her control. It is very serious. When the person had lost their lives and the whole capital was in terrible shock, the Chief Minister callously, recklessly and irresponsibly started for an election campaign, when there was no possibility of the election being held on the due date. Elections have already been postponed by Mr. Seshan. Then for what reason did she undertake that trip? It is a very irresponsible attitude on the part of the State Government.

Mr. Rajesh Pilot says, he received the information by 2.45 p.m. He told this to the press people. I say within a minute they could have reached the Internal Security Minister. That should have been done not only by the State Police, but by the intelligence agencies.

Madam, already the Intelligence Services Intelligence agents has infiltrated into India. That news has already appeared in the press. My point is we do not blame the State Police about its capability...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, who is taking down the notes? will anybody responsible for the Government be present or is this discussion taking place in a vacuum?

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Madam, we are discussing two very important issues. Both the issues pertain to the Home Ministry. None from the Home Ministry is present here. Neither the Home Minister, nor his junior Ministers, nor even the Minister of State is present here. It is very serious. What is the use of discussion taking place on these two very important issues?

श्री प्रमोद महाजन : इस सदन को गम्भीरता से न लेने का... (व्यवधान)
गृह मंत्री सदन के नेता है... (व्यवधान)

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: This amounts to insulting the House.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Bomb blast has taken place in Madras and the Government does not seem to have a feel... (Interruptions)

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Hon. Chairman had made it clear that the House would take up the issue after the Question Hour. The Government was well aware of it. Nobody from the Home Ministry is now present here. What is the point in discussing it here? What are we discussing here? (Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Madam, you adjourn the House till the Home Minister is present in the House.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, we address the Government through you. You are not the person to reply.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Madam, are we discussing the issue for our own satisfaction?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Government is present.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: It is not the Government. The Home Minister should be present.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): Hon. Members, will you give me one chance?

श्री प्रमोद महाजन : महोदया, पहले हमको सुनिये... (व्यवधान) वे क्या बताएंगे। वे यह बताएंगे कि मैं जाकर कह दूंगा। पोस्टमैन के सिवाय क्या करने वाले हैं... (व्यवधान)

उपसभापति महोदया, 8 अगस्त को ये बम विस्फोट हुए। कल छुट्टी थी। आज संसद के दोनों सदन में यह विषय आयेगा, यह छोटा बच्चा समझ सकता था, इसके बाद भी। गृह मंत्रालय में स्वयं गृह मंत्री हैं। उनको मदद के लिए दो राज्य मंत्री हैं। अब इन तीन मंत्रियों में से एक भी मंत्री को अगर राज्य सभा में आकर यह सुनना आवश्यक नहीं लगता तो इस सदन की कार्यवाही चलने की क्या जरूरत है। आप इस सदन को एडजर्न कीजिए और जब उनको समय मिले तब हमको बुला लीजिए, फिर हम बात करें। पांजा जी क्या कहेंगे। वह तो यही कहेंगे— मैं अभी कहता हूँ कि वह क्या कहेंगे—आप सब बोलिये, मैं नोट करूंगा और मैं गवर्नमेंट के संबंधित मिनिस्टर को बता दूंगा। यह तो हमने बहुत बार सुना है।

उपसभापति : फिर भी मैं सुनना चाहूंगी कि पांजा जी क्या कह रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) मुझे सुनने दीजिए। बोलिए पांजा जी, आप बोलिये ... (व्यवधान) मुझे सुनने दीजिए।

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : लोक सभा के लिए तीन गृह मंत्री और राज्य सभा का काम करने के लिए पांजा जी... (व्यवधान) लोक सभा का काम करने के लिए तीन मंत्रियों की जरूरत है।... (व्यवधान)

श्री बिष्णु कान्त शास्त्री (उत्तर प्रदेश) : आप गृह मंत्री जी को बुलवाइये।... (व्यवधान)

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Madam Deputy Chairman, at the beginning the hon. Chairman had made it very clear that the House would take up these two issues. Then why is no Minister from the Home Ministry which is having three Ministers, present here? What is the use of discussing this matter... (Interruptions)... Madam, Kindly allow me.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We want the Home Minister to come and be present here... (Interruptions)... The Chairman told this House during the Question Hour that these two issues would be taken up after the Question Hour.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Madam, the Government is well aware that we are going to discuss these two issues here. Why is no Home Minister present here? Out of the three Ministers in the Home Ministry, at least one Minister should have been present here.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN (Kerala): The Government knows that this House is going to discuss these two issues. Then, why is no Home Minister present here?

श्री एस० जयपाल रेड्डी : यह क्या हो रहा है?

What is this? You kindly adjourn the House. What is the point in talking here ... (Interruptions)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you sit down, then, I will reply. Your demand is that one of the Home Ministers should be here to respond to your questions. Now you have made your demand. Let the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs respond to it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): How can I respond? ...*(Interruptions)*... Madam, the Chairman has given permission for the issues to be raised. I will certainly convey it to the Home Minister. That is all I can do. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विष्णु कान्त शास्त्री : तीन-तीन मिनिस्टर्ज में से एक तो यहां बैठे।
....*(व्यवधान)*

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: The Government can't say that they are not aware of it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Will you sit down?

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Kindly allow me to make a submission for one minute.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have heard you. Please take your seat. Why do you argue every day with the Chair? I don't understand. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am trying to help you.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: This has really pained me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you do not want me to help you, it is up to you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: I want to make a submission I will just take one minute.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Will you please take your seat?

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: I will make only one submission.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your submission? You want the Home Minister to be present here, is it not?

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: No. Madam, we had raised this issue during the question Hour. The hon. Chairman remarked that he would allow these issues to be taken up after the Question Hour, during Zero Hour. That means the Government was well aware that this House was going to discuss these issues during Zero Hour. Then, why is no Home Minister present here? What is the fun of discussing it here ...*(Interruptions)*... What is the reaction of the Government ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : मारग्रेट आल्वा जी को तो पता ही नहीं है कि क्या इशूज रेज किये गए हैं।...*(व्यवधान)*

श्री सिकन्दर बल्लत : सदर साहिबा, एक मिनट ...*(व्यवधान)* सदर साहिबा में यह अर्ज कर रहा हूं ...*(व्यवधान)* वन मोमेंट ...*(व्यवधान)* मैं यह अर्ज कर रहा था कि —

Does the Government consider the bomb blast in Madras as serious or not? In the bomb blast eleven people have died. It has become an everyday affair. The Government, the Home Minister knew that this issue was going to be raised here. Should one Minister from the Home Ministry be present here or not? Why are they non-serious about such a serious incident? It is not a question of other Cabinet Ministers being here. The question is, a very serious thing has happened; a whole chain of things is happening; and we are not coming to any results. I was very hesitant to make a demand with regard to a CBI inquiry. I have lost my faith in that organisation. They are under a cloud. I do not know what they are going to do.

श्री एस० एस० अहलुवालिया (बिहार)
मेडम, एक इसी मुद्दे पर .. (व्यवधान)

उपसभापति : वन मिनट, प्लीज ...
(व्यवधान)

श्री एस० एस० अहलुवालिया : महोदया,
आपकी रुलिंग देने के पहले मैं बोलना
चाहता हूँ।

उपसभापति : मैं रुलिंग नहीं दे रही
हूँ। आपको मालूम नहीं कि मैं क्या
कहने वाली हूँ।

श्री एस० एस० अहलुवालिया : महोदया,
...(व्यवधान)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You were not here Mrs. Alva. That is the reason why they were raising it. I must explain it to you. I know the Finance Minister is here and three or four other Ministers as here. That is not the point. The point is that when bomb blasts took place in Bombay, we had a discussion here and the Minister came and at least answered. The contention of Members is that in two days, the Government must have had some information.

If the Members coming from the States concerned or other States have some information or if they have to make some queries on something, somebody from the Ministry of Home Affairs should be here. I know that Mrs. Alva is always here and the other Ministers are present here. But it is not concerned with your Ministry. So you cannot give first-hand information. I believe Mr. Pilot had been to that place. So, he could at least apprise Members about it. That is the only demand Members making. (Interruptions).

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: This is exactly what I said. I have sent word to them that the House is demanding their presence. I said, "All right, I will convey your desire to the Home Minister" which I have done. I have sent word already. (Interruptions).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: She has already sent for the Minister. Let us continue...(Interruptions).

श्री एस० एस० अहलुवालिया : महोदया,
ये दोनों मुद्दे जो हैं... (व्यवधान)

उपसभापति : अहलुवालिया जी बोलिए।

श्री एस० एस० अहलुवालिया : महोदया,
ये दोनों मुद्दे जो हैं, ये सुबह क्वेश्चन
आवर के टाइम उठाए गए और चेयरमैन
साहब ने एशोर किया था कि क्वेश्चन
आवर खत्म होने के बाद इस पर चर्चा
होगी। यहां जो भी मंत्री उपस्थित
थे उनको इतना पता होना चाहिए कि
ये दोनों मुद्दे होम मिनिस्ट्री से जुड़े
हुए हैं और अगर इस सदन में हम एक
स्टेट में किसी पर्टीकुलर पार्टी के हेड
क्वार्टर में बम ब्लास्टिंग हुई या कहीं
बम ब्लास्टिंग हो, कल एक बयान दिया
गया कि पूरे देश के हरेक राज्य के अधि-
कारियों को सचेत किया गया है कि वे
अपने-अपने इलाके में भी पूरी निगरानी
रखें। इसका मतलब है कि रेड अलर्ट
इश्यू किया गया है। यह रेडियो और
टी० वी० दोनों में आया है। उसके
बावजूद यहां जवाब देने के लिए गृह
मंत्री उपस्थित नहीं रहे। यह बड़े
दुर्भाग्य की बात है। दूसरी बात,
महोदया, यह जो मामला है आन्ध्र
प्रदेश के एम० एल० ए० का, यह कौंसिल
ऑफ स्टेट है और हम लोगों के वोटर
हमारे एम० एल० ए० होते हैं। अगर
हम उनकी आवाज यहां नहीं उठा सकते
तो कौन सो फोरम है जहां पर उठायेगे
और इसका जवाब देने के लिए गृह
मंत्री जी को स्टेटमेंट देना चाहिए और
वह यहां पर स्टेटमेंट देकर बताएं कि
किन हालात में ऐसी घटना घटी है?
क्योंकि अखबार के माध्यम से जो खबरें
मिल रही हैं वे विभ्रान्त कर रही हैं।

इसलिए मेरी यह मांग है कि गृह
मंत्री जी यहां पर आकर स्टेटमेंट दें।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me convey to the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs. After all, she is here all the time. Just a minute. (*Interruptions*). Have peace. It is a serious matter. Take it seriously. Mrs. Alva, I understand, has conveyed it. But, the Home Minister is also the Leader of this House and he owes certain responsibilities to this House. Mrs. Alva, I would request you to convey the sentiments of Members, how they are feeling about it. Somebody should be here from the Home Ministry. I know you cannot answer or Mr. Manmohan Singh cannot answer or the External Affairs Minister cannot answer on this issue. It is a serious issue. People have died and it is a serious matter. (*Interruptions*)

श्री एस०एस० अहलुवालिया : महोदय,
... (व्यवधान) ... स्टेट में रेड अलर्ट
इस्यु किया गया, हरेक राज्य के आफिसरों
को सचेत किया गया है तो यहां आकर
बताने में क्या दिक्कत है?

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Madam, I am seeing this in this House for the last seven years. This is the ninth time the Chairman or the Chairperson is asking the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to convey our feelings. That does not make any difference to them. Madam, I am ready to give an affidavit that, tomorrow also this will happen, we will object, you will say, 'Convey it' and she will say, "I will convey". How many times are we going to listen to this? For once, you give them a shock treatment. You please adjourn the House. Once you give them a shock treatment then they will not insult us. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Kindly adjourn the House till after lunch hour. (*Interruptions*) you adjourn the House till 2.30 P.M. (*Interruptions*) Madam, it was I who suggested in the very beginning that the House be adjourned till 2.30 P.M. (*Interruptions*)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Madam, you adjourn the House. (*Interruptions*)

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : यह हमारी डिमांड है, आप हाउस एडजर्न कीजिए।

श्री विष्णु कान्त शास्त्री : मेडम, आप हाउस एडजर्न कीजिए।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us continue till the Minister comes. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We cannot wait without transacting any business. Please adjourn the House. (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned for 15 minutes.

The House then adjourned at fortyseven minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House reassembled at two minutes past one of the clock, The Deputy Chairman in the Chair.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Alva, you have some information?

श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीर अफजल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : जब तक होम मिनिस्टर नहीं आएंगे, आगे कोई बात नहीं करेंगे। होम मिनिस्टर को आना चाहिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

† [ستری محمد افضل عرف م۔ افضل جب تک
ہوم منسٹر نہیں آئیں گے۔ آگے کوئی بات
نہیں کریں گے۔ ہوم منسٹر کو آنا چاہیے۔ راضی]

उपसभापति : ऐसा कोई तरीका नहीं है कि आप इनको न बोलने दें।
... (व्यवधान) ...

She has a right to speak.

बोलिए मिसेज आल्वा, आप बी लिए।

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Madam, the Home Minister is down with viral flu. He came to the Parliament; he has to go back because of high temperature and he is not going to be available today. Mr. Pilot is returning now and we have assured that in both the Houses a statement will be made in the afternoon after lunch. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: What happened to the remaining two Ministers?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Which two Ministers? I have told you, Mr. Pilot is returning. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: What about this murder in Hyderabad? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, you adjourn the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Madam, it is better to adjourn the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: It seems you don't have any communication with ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: These two issues were to come up in the House. The Government could easily anticipate. In addition, the Chairman pointed out right during the Question Hour that these two issues would be taken up. It is not the Home Minister who is down with viral fever; the whole Home Ministry and the Government are down with viral fever...*(Interruptions)*...

बिस्त्र मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अबरार अहमद): मैडम, अभी जो मुझे जो सूचना मिली है, अभी अभी मिस्टर पायलट इस्फाल से आए है और... (व्यवधान) :

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now Mrs. Alva has said the Minister is coming. Would you like to continue? ...*(Interruptions)*

श्री अबरार अहमद: मद्रास के बाद वह इस्फाल चले गए। इस्फाल से

अभी अभी वह अकर पहुंचे है और जैसे ही वह यहां आएंगे, आज शाम के पहले ... (व्यवधान) ...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I suppose, from what I read in the newspapers, that due to the seriousness of the bomb blast in Madras the Prime Minister has instructed him to go to Madras. How does he go to Imphal? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: There is also trouble in Imphal.

(Interruptions)

श्री अबरार अहमद: मैडम, मद्रास, मद्रास के बाद इस्फाल गए ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Assam): Forty-one people have died in Imphal...*(Interruptions)*... why are you underplaying Imphal? This is also important ...*(Interruptions)*...

Why should the Minister of State for Home not visit Imphal? ...*(Interruptions)*... It has got the same importance...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, kindly adjourn the House.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Do you want to say that Imphal is not a part of India? ...*(Interruptions)*... Do you want to say that there is no point in it? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, the House should be adjourned till 2.30 P.M. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Madam, the House should be adjourned now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, we are not finding fault with the options of a particular Home Minister Mr. Rajesh Pilot. Mr. Rajesh Pilot has compelling reasons to go to Imphal, I concede that because a serious incident took place there too. But what happened to the other two Ministers, Mr. Ram Lal Rahi and Mr. P.M. Sayeed? ...*(Interruptions)*... How is it that the Home Ministry is utterly unrepresented in the House? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now you have discussed the matter with the Chairman in his chamber and, according to the discussion there, I adjourn the House for lunch till 2.30 P.M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at six minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirtythree minutes past two of the clock.
The Vice-Chairman (Shrimati Sushma Swaraj) in the Chair.

RE. BOMB EXPLOSION AT THE R.S.S. HEADQUARTERS AT MADRAS ON THE 8TH AUGUST, 1993—Contd.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Madam, I was on my legs. I did not complete my submission.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Yes, you were on your legs. Kindly complete your submission.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Madam, the most unfortunate, tragic, gruesome bomb blast, which has devoured 11 lives, has shocked the entire country. Now, the Chief Minister has stated that she has informed the Home Minister that the investigation may be conducted by the CBI. I don't doubt the capability of the Tamil Nadu police force. At times it is more capable than the Scotland Yard people. It is known for its capability and integrity. Then for what reasons does the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu say, "It may be investigated by the CBI?" The reason is very simple. The people of Tamil Nadu have lost confidence in the Tamil Nadu police for so many reasons. Whenever murders, cold-blooded murders were committed, newspaper offices were ransacked by the hoodlums of the ruling regime, the ruling junta. The hands of the police were tied. Even on the 7th August, two days back a reporter, Mr. Shanmugasundaram of the weekly "Nakkeeran" was brutally attacked by a mob belonging to the ruling regime.

His four fingers were severed over a critical write-up in that Weekly "Nakkeeran". Therefore, people have lost faith in the police of Tamil Nadu. Therefore, the Chief Minister now wants to shirk her responsibility and says it may be investigated by the CBI. That means she has made a confession that her department, her portfolio under which the police is functioning, has become important. She has confessed that the Tamil Nadu Government is not capable of tackling the situation. She has confessed that the law and order situation in the State has failed. She has confessed that people have lost faith in the police of Tamil Nadu. Therefore, now she says that it may be investigated by the CBI. My point is whoever may be the culprit, he should be booked. The investigation should be done thoroughly. Therefore, when she says that the CBI may investigate and Mr. Rajesh Pilot says we are reluctant, there will be delay. Is it that both the Central Government and the State Government are trying to wash their hands off? Therefore, we want to know in whose court the ball is, because the situation is tense and in some places communal tension is also growing. Fanatics are whipping up the sentiments of the masses in some places. Therefore, because of the failure of the law and order machinery in Tamil Nadu—the confession of the Chief Minister herself that it may be investigated by the CBI—we could see the grave situation that is prevailing in the State of Tamil Nadu. My point, therefore, Madam is: when I express by condolences to the members of the grieved family, I would say the incident could have been averted. The police could have averted it, Caution was given by the Home Ministry. But, thousands and thousands of police personnel and top officers go wherever the Chief Minister goes. They are taken along with her wherever she goes. Top police officers, the DIGs, the IGs, all accompany her on her trips. Therefore, they are not able to look after their own duties. This is the reason for the malady of the police in Tamil Nadu today. This is my accusation against the State Government. Anyhow, the investigation, whether done by the State police or the CBI, should be done thoroughly. If they say that it should be taken over by the CBI, the confession statement