

made a Governor... (Interruptions)... Then, Mrs. Chandravati is the Lt.— Governor of Pondicherry and she is an active political leader of the Janata Dal in Haryana. And, Madam, so many politicians have been appointed by this Government. Mr. Wadhwa submitted a report to the Government. Both the Houses of Parliament are sitting today. But, so far, that report has not been placed either here or in the Lok Sabha. This Government is telling about the dignity of institutions and individuals and yet what they are doing is contrary to what they say. They have no respect for the Commissions of Inquiry and now they are going to stop the provisions which were introduced by the previous Government. I would only say that they have no intention to respect either individuals or institutions. They are telling that previous Government was only politicising every issue. But I would say that the present Government is politicising each and every issue and they are only pointing their accusing fingers at the Congress(I) and they have not changed their attitude.

Since there is no bonafide intention on the part of this Government, I am moving this amendment of mine. Thank you, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN):
The question is:

“That at page 1, after line 4, the following new clause be inserted, namely:—

‘1A. In Section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1952, in sub-sections (1) and (4) for the words “the House of the People or, as the case may be, the Legislative Assembly of the State” wherever they occur, the words “each House of Parliament or, as the case may be the Legislature of the State” shall be substituted.’”

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 1A was added to the Bill.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Madam, I move:

“That the Bill, as amended, be passed.”

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Bomb blast in Batala on 3rd April 1990

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): Madam, I rise to inform the House of the sad and disturbing incident of bomb explosion in Batala.

There was powerful bomb blast on April 3 at about 2.45 pm when Ramnavami procession of about 3500/4000 persons was passing near Subzi Mandi in Batala City of Gurdaspur District.

According to reports available 31 persons have been killed and 70 have been injured. The injured were immediately rushed to the hospital. Those seriously injured were shifted to the SGTB hospital at Amritsar.

The District Administration had taken precautions to provide security arrangements with the procession. Two BSF companies under the command of a Deputy Commandant had been deployed. One Inspector, 5 NGOs, 20 Head Constables and 100 Constables of the District Police under the command of S.P. (Operations) along with the Dy. S. P. Batala and SHOs of Police Station (City) and Police Station (Sadar) Batala were on duty along the route and with the procession.

There were some disturbances after the incident but these were soon brought under control. Curfew was imposed as a precautionary measure,

[Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed]

Immediately after the incident, SSP Batala visited the spot. Senior officers including DC Gurdaspur, Commissioner Jalandhar Division, IG Police (Border) along with the DIG Police (Border), IG BSF and DIG BSF rushed to the spot. Ten additional companies of para military forces were sent to Batala. Batala City was divided into 8 Sectors, and Magistrates and Police Officers were put on duty in each Sector. A peace Committee meeting was held in evening of 4-4-1990.

The Governor accompanied by Advisor In-charge of Home Affairs, Chief Secretary and DGP visited the injured in Amritsar and also visited Batala. I visited Batala on 6-4-1990 along with a delegation comprising representatives of different political parties. We first went to Amritsar and met the victims of the bomb blast in SGTB Hospital. Later we went to Batala where I and the other members of the delegation heard the leaders of various political parties and organisations. We also visited the injured persons undergoing treatment in civil hospital Batala. I held a review meeting on law and order arrangements with civil and police officers.

All efforts are being made to trace and apprehend the culprits. The State administration has been instructed to continue deal firmly with terrorist and anti-national elements.

The manner in which a religious procession has been attacked shows clearly that the intention of the perpetrators of this crime was to provoke a communal backlash. We are certain that like all previous attempts by the terrorists to drive a wedge between the two major communities of Punjab, this attempt too will fail.

I am sure the Members will join me in condemning this dastardly act in the strongest possible terms and in conveying our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved families. No effort will be spared to round up the culprits and bring them to book. The

Government is ensuring provision of medical and other relief to those injured and for *ex-gratia* assistance to the families of the deceased.

I appeal to the Members of this House and through them to the entire nation to strengthen the hands of the Government in dealing with the attempts of the terrorists to disrupt the centuries' old ties between the Hindus and Sikhs in Punjab.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Madam Vice-Chairman, This is a dastardly crime in which 36 people have been killed in Batala. When the Ramnavami procession was going on, a severe bomb blast took place and the people went on a rampage. According to information available, the people died due to firing by the Police. The very important aspect is that there are two versions of the bomb blast. One version is that the bomb was kept on a bicycle and the blast took place. Therefore, the people died in the area where the procession was going on. The procession started at 1-45 and the incident took place at 2.45 in a crowded area of Subzimandi. Another version is that in a Maruti Gypsy vehicle the bomb was planted and the police mark was there. The blast took place from the vehicle. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister whether the blast took place from the bicycle or from the jeep.

There is a clear statement by the BJP Working Committee member, Mr. Baldev Mittal, who showed about 12 empty cartridges of bullets. He said that the Police fired among the crowd and, therefore, most of the people died. I would like to know whether it is a fact.

Thirdly, I would like to know whether there was any intelligence report with the Government saying that there will be disturbance when the Ramnavami procession passes. What preventive steps had the Government taken to give security to

the people who were moving with the procession? I would like to know whether this Government actually took care of the people. It is a terrorist area where the procession was going on. They were fully aware of the fact that there will be disturbance. What preventive steps did the Government take? Madam, I would like to give small details about the situation. (*Time-bell rings*) I will conclude in a minute. Madam, wall posters had been pasted in that area saying that many terrorists had died due to police attack and their death rituals are being performed in many areas. There was a call given by the terrorists organisations that the people who are living in that area should support their cause. Moreover, newspaper advertisements are coming in support of the terrorists. Newspaper organisations have been threatened to carry on these advertisements. Terrorists are threatening the people in this area through the loudspeakers.

I would like to have clarifications from the hon. Home Minister on these four points. What action has this Government taken? The Minister said that it has been divided into 8 zones and Peace Committees have been formed. I would like to know whether the political parties have been given representation in the Peace Committees or not.

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, the first clarification that I want to seek is whether there was any provocation to this abhorrent, acrimonious incident. Secondly, I want to know whether there is any clear-cut, specific programme with the Government to tackle this terrorist activity. Thirdly, is it a fact that previously five bomb blasts have taken place in Bata-la? If it is so, what action has been taken in those cases? Fourthly, is there any link between the terrorist activities of Punjab and Kashmir? My fifth point is that the terrorists are using AK-47s. They are using bombs;

they are using rockets, and tomorrow they may use missiles also. So, I want to know whether the Government is ready to face the situation. Madam, my last point is that the Governor of Punjab has not been allowed to enter the Civil Hospital. Who are those persons who obstructed the entry of the Governor into the Civil Hospital? So, these are the points on which I seek clarifications.

SHRI ASHIS (West Bengal): Madam Vice-Chairman, this statement was made perhaps on the 3rd April in the Lok Sabha. Today is 10th. Some development must have taken place in between, and that too must have been incorporated in this. But, Madam, I will be on a limited point. So many people have been killed in the bomb explosions, and the bombs were thrown at a Ram Navami procession in a crowded area. It is reported that the Police opened fire after the rampage. Thereafter the agitated mob drove to set fire to a Gurudwara. In the process, five people sustained sword injuries. Two constables and other sustained sword injuries. It is also reported that the postmortem shows that at least two or three of them were victims of bullets, not as the hon. Member, Mr. Narayanasamy, said that most of them were victims of police bullets. Whether they are police bullets or other bullets, that has to be ascertained. My point is that this is the first religious procession that has been attacked in that area. Naturally, and it is obvious that the perpetrators of this had one particular objective to see that communal tension develops there and the communal strife begins. Since the National Front Government has taken over, perhaps, this is the second major incident after Abohar massacre. (*Time bell rings*) It seems that the Babbar Khalsa owned responsibility for this. I want to know whether it is a fact, and what attempts have been made to chase and find out those Babbar Khalsa elements. The Minister said

[Shri Ashis]

that he visited Batala with a delegation comprising representatives of different political parties. Actually, the House should know as to who are they that have gone. It is heartening that in spite of all these attempts being made by the perpetrators of this heinous crime, no communal tension has developed there, and the process will be hastened and improved provided, as the Minister says, the work that started by the different political parties moves forward because the report says that soon after that, the elders of that Batala area and some representatives of political parties played a constructive role. Such people should be given all the encouragement. And if they get encouragement from the Minister and the Government, I think, these people can be isolated and peace can be restored. I want clarifications on these points that I mentioned.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Now, I am not going to call any other Member. (*Interruption*) I tell you why. (*Interruption*) Please hear me.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): I was the first to give my name.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): The House has heard what happened during the previous clarifications. All of you have spoken. I allowed everybody to speak.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Not on Batala.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA (Bihar): If you do not allow, I will boycott the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Kindly do not interrupt me when I am speaking. Let me finish what I have to say.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: No, no. This is not the way.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Let me finish what I am saying. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: We are here by our right. (*Interruptions*) Yesterday morning I have given my name for seeking clarifications.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): You have already sought clarifications on the previous statement.

SHRI M. M. JACOB (Kerala): Previous subject was different.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): I knew the Members would raise the same issue. Therefore I called you as the first name on the list. I am not calling any other speaker now because we have a further statement on Nepal.

SHRI M. M. JACOB: Nepal is different.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): If I call one name, then all the other Members get upset. It is impossible to conduct the House like this.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: It seems that there is a crisis of presiding officers in the House. There is nobody to rescue you and relieve you. If I am not given a chance then I will boycott the House.

(At this stage the Hon. Member left the Chamber).

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, we wanted a Calling Attention on this subject. But the Government has agreed only to give a statement. At least the Members should have a right to speak on it and ask clarifications. (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Yes, Mr. Minister.

श्री भुपती मोहनदास सईद :
 उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, पहले भी कुछ ऐसी घटनाएं हुई हैं (व्यवधान) यह जो राम नवमी का प्रोपेक्शन था, जैसे कि मैंने अपने स्टेटमेंट में कह दिया है, पुलिस की तरफ से पूरा अरेंजमेंट बी०एस०एफ० और पंजाब पुलिस का किया गया था। यह प्रोसेस इम के आगे और पीछे थी हिंसाजनक के लिए। लेकिन जिन्होंने यह सोचा कि कैसे अमन के माहौल को खराब किया जाए उन्होंने एक चौक में जो सड़की मंडी के सामने है और इसके साथ गुरुद्वारा है, उस चौक थे एक बाइजिनिकल पर टाइम बम रखा गया था जो स्पेकटेटर्ज वहां मैं जब बम का एक्प्लोजन हुआ तो बहुत से मारे गये और उनको अस्पताल ले जाया गया। चौक के साथ गुरुद्वारा है बिल्कुल नजदीक करीब 50-100 कदम पर था। हम मौके पर गये। आतंकवादियों ने जिन्होंने यह काम किया उनका यह इरादा था कि दोनों सम्प्रदाय आपस में एक दूसरे के खिलाफ लड़ें। लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि दोनों फ्रिंकों के लोगों को जब गुरुद्वारे के सामने कुछ घटना हुई तो सिविलियन फोर्स ने कंट्रोल किया और साथ ही साथ सारे शहर में कर्फ्यू लगा दिया गया। सारे शहर को आठ सेक्टरों में तकसीम किया गया और सारी पार्टियों की एक मीटिंग बुलाई गई, पीस कमेटी बुलाई गई। मुझे वहां जाना का मौका मिला। मेरे से पहले गवर्नर भी गये थे और तमाम यहां से डेलीगेशन गया। पहले दिनेश सिंह, मैंने सुना है कि कांग्रेस पार्टी में पंजाब की जो समस्या है उसके वे इन्चार्ज हैं उनसे, वहां के एम०पी० होशियारपुर के कांग्रेस पार्टी के चौधरी साहब हैं, सी०पी०एम० के हरकिशन सिंह सुरजीत सी०पी०आई० के मिस्टर महोत्वा और जहां जनरल अरोड़ा साहब हमारे साथ थे। चार पांच घंटे वहां के लोगों से मुलाकात हुई। लोगों की ख्वाहिश थी, बटाला में पहले भी ऐसी घटनाएं बर एक्प्लोजन की एक दो बार हुई हैं पर यह कहा जा रहा है कि कैसे किया जाए। हमारी कोशिश यह है कि वहां ऐसे हादसे जैसे अबोहर और फाजिल्का में हुए, ऐसी नहीं होना चाहिए। प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने पंजाब के गवर्नर और आफिसर हैं उनके

साथ पूरी मीटिंग की और उनको कह दिया कि जहां तक टेररिस्ट का सवाल है उनके साथ सख्ती से निपटे जाने की जरूरत है। वहां के डी०जी० पुलिस और और वहां के गवर्नर को बुला कर हम ने कह दिया। और वे जो इफेक्टेड इलाके हैं, बटाला, अमृतसर, गुरुदासपुर वहां हम वावस्था कर रहे हैं कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा फोर्स वहां पर हों। लोगों की वहां विलेज डिफेंस कमेटी हैं। हर इलाके में लोग चाहते हैं कि खुद मुनज्जम हो जायें और उनको लाइसेंस पर कुछ सामान देना भी पड़ेगा। हर गांव में हर इलाके में विलेज डिफेंस कमेटी बनाने की जरूरत है। हमारा पूरा इरादा है कि पंजाब में आतंकवाद पर कंट्रोल किया जाये। जब मैं वहां सी०आर०पी०एफ० के कैप में गया तो देखा बहुत सारे लेटेस्ट आर्म्स पाकिस्तान से आ रहे हैं। उन्होंने वहां देखा भी दिये। हमारे साथ करेस्पोंडेंट की एक टीम थी। तो लेटेस्ट सामान उनको पाकिस्तान से मिल रहा है। जैसे काश्मीर में बार्डर के नजदीक सख्त प्रीकाशन लेने की जरूरत है वैसे पंजाब के बार्डर पर करना जरूरी है। लेकिन पंजाब में अच्छी फ्रिंका है। हिंदू सिख का अभी आपस में भाईचारा है इसके बावजूद कि कहीं हिंदुओं को टारगेट बनाकर बाफ्री कोशिश की गयी है। वन में कहीं मजदूर लोग थे फाजिल्का में, वे रेत ले रहे थे ट्रक में उनको नीचे लाकर मारा गया। लेकिन फिर भी पंजाब के लोगों को इस बात की बधाई देता हूँ कि उन्होंने फ्रिकेबाराना माहौल को अच्छे तरीके से रोक लिया है। वहां कोई ऐसी बात नहीं है।

दूसरा, वहां पंजाब में एक डेलीगेशन से हम मिले, उन्होंने कहा कि थोड़ा सा पहले अमन का पीस का माहौल बनाने की जरूरत है बाद में चुनाव करना बहुत जरूरी है, लोग चुनाव भी चाहते हैं। लेकिन साथ साथ यह कहते हैं कि अमन और पीस और ट्रांक्विलिटी का माहौल होना चाहिए। मैं पुरउम्मीद हूँ। जैसे कि आज कांस्टीट्यूशन अमेंडमेंट पास हुआ तो उस वकत भी हमने कहा कि हमारी कोशिश होगी कि इन 6 महीनों में पंजाब

[श्री मुफ्ती मुहम्मद सईद]

में पोलिटिकल प्रोसेस शुरू किया जाये ताकि वहां पर चुनाव हों। वहां लोगों का विश्वास हासिल करना जरूरी है। उससे पहले एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन की तरफ से भी कार्यवाही करनी होगी। हम सख्ती से अतंकवाद के साथ निपटेंगे। यही मेरी बात है।

SHRI E. BALANANDAN (Kerala): Madam, one question. What about the latest incident in Delhi? Will any details be given about it?

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: I can give the details.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): The Minister of External Affairs to make a statement on Nepal.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Madam, I would like to give the details in regard to the bomb blasts in Delhi.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: The Minister said that he would make a statement.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): He is giving the details.

Re. Bomb blasts in Delhi—Contd.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Madam, information was received that there were two bomb blasts, one at police station Tilak Nagar and the other at police station Rajouri Garden, around 1-30 p.m. today. Nine police personnel were injured in the two blasts. Two of them have been admitted in the hospital while the remaining have been discharged after first aid.

It is suspected that some terrorist group from Punjab is behind these bomb blasts and that a timing device might have been used. Cases have been registered at the police stations and given to the Crime Branch for investigation. A general alert has been sounded throughout Delhi.

Special vigilance is being maintained in public places like railway stations, airports, cinema halls, bus terminals and busy market areas. Access control is being introduced in all police stations. Every possible precautionary measure is being taken to ensure that such incidents do not recur in the future.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Now, the Minister of External Affairs to make a statement on Nepal.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: No clarifications on this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Do you want to ask any questions?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Only one question, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): It is a response to Members' request. It is merely a response. I would request you to allow the statement on Nepal to be made.

SHRI M. M. JACOB: If the Minister is ready to reply to one or two questions, what is the harm?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): I am allowing only one question.

SHRI M. M. JACOB (Kerala): Mr Kapil Verma wanted to ask some question.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: It is on Nepal.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Mr. Gujral, kindly take your seat. I would just ask one question of the Home Minister.

8.00 P.M.

Madam, it is most unfortunate that bomb blasts took place in police station itself. That shows how the police administration is working in Delhi. Actually 9 persons were injured according to the Minister. In that two were discharged from the