SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: I know that you know all the rules but first you must find out whether the statement which is proposed to be made contains general statement. If it contains a defamatory statement, you must first consider it. Then you must see that rules of natural justice are followed. You must give us an opportunity.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): I will give you.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: First look into the statement.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: If any person is involved, he has no privilege.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): Now, let us proceed with the business...(Interruptions)... When the statement is circulated then you can ask.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: I am seeking an assurance from you that you will personally look into that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): If any allegations are there of personal nature against any Member, then, the Chair will take a view of that and take a decision accordingly.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Okay.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Mr. Vice-Chiarman, Sir, you have read out a letter received from the Home Minister that he will make a statement on the situation in connection wih the anti-national, anti-unity, anti integrity activities.

Obviously if there is a situation which might have arisen or which may have arisen, the Parliament is in session obviously and it is the responsibility of the Government to draw the attention of the Parliament to such a situation, if there be any. But the question is, as Mr. Gurupadaswamy said, why it is now coming from the blue? There has not been any such situation...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): It is premature.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Is it the extension of the statement which the Prime Minister had made from the ramparts of the Red Fort? If that is the case, then, the Prime Minister must come and make the statement.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): At the time when he makes the statement...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): If the statement refers to Jammu and Kashmir and other places where such elements are operating, I have no objection. But if the statement refers to the speech made by the Prime Minister, we have objection

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPEN-DRA: Kindly ask for a copy and scrutinise it in the meanwhile because you are in the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): I will do it. I konw my duties...(Interruptions)...

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO (Jammu and Kashmir): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, we express our concern about the illness of Mr. Buta Singh's father. We all sympathise and wish him speedy recovery.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

L Violent incidents in Gohpur area of Assam—Contd.

SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG (Meghalaya): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, it is a very painful matter to discuss about the atrocities committed in Gohpur district of Assam. As we all know about the composition of Assam, it is surrounded by different tribal States and in our experience we found that the present Government has been very, very unkind to us. In the case of Meghalaya on boundary

[Shri Jerlie E. Tariang]

dispute we have agreed that the matter should be discussed between Ministers. In the Chier the two meanwhile, people were escorted by the police to acquire more land in our boundary. In the case of Arunachal Pradesh I had been in that area and I hope, our friends who have spoken from the other side, would come to the place and see for themselves what is the boundary between Arunachal Pradesh and Assam and the way the people live in those border districts. The people both sides are very friendly. what is painful is that there is some machiner_v which has incited the people and instead of curbing the communal violence, it has been instigated by somebody and everything we throw on the Centre. Just because we happen to be in the Opposition here can we always throw mud on the ruling party? Have we seen the truth? The Bodo people are very innocent, very simple type of community. I know them. There was a time when we wanted that they should also demand a separate autonomous district council like us but they did not do so. They have assimilated themselves with Assam, with Assamese population. They have taken their language; they have taken their religion, they have taken their culhappened to ture. And now what them? They have agitated against foreigners. But what happened to the people who are the first inhabitants of Assam? The Bodos were the original settlers of Assam. What is their fate in their own State, in their own homeland? After they have given all coope_ ration to Assam, what has happened to them? Do you think anybody can go and incite them unless something has been done to hurt their sentiments, to humiliate them to that extent? I ask my friends who are on the other side, what happened to their Bengali community in Assam. What did you say at that time? How did you condemn the people at that time? Now that it has happened with the poor Bodo people, this is your attitude here in

the (House. The Minister has come out with the statement. I am grateful to him. He has brought a statement as far as he could to inform the House of the actual situation. But the difficulty is, as I could read here, he has not got the full cooperation of the State Government to get immediate information. I do not blame the State Government also. They cannot also get the actual information so quickly. To be accurate is difficult. Therefore, he has to base his information on certain facts to satisfy the House when such atrocities are being committed on the people. Fifty villages have been burnt down. It is a matter of shock. How many Bengalis had been burnt during the 1960 movement? How the people of Bengal had reacted to that? Now, when this has happened with the Bodo community, you are all shouting against the Government of India, I am requesting you to kindly. ... (Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): Please ask clarifications now.

SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: I am sorry, Sir. it hurts my sentiments. Being a tribal myself, being a fellow tribal, my sentiments get hurt when tribal people are being annihilated like this. Sir, I think the report has been as best as possible which has been given to the House. He did not base his report on them but he was just quoting. Somebody blamed Government of Arunachal Pradesh. What would you do if atrocities are committed on the people of Punjab and the people of Punjab fled away to Haryana? Will you blame Devi Therefore, if the Government of Haryana give protection, help and relief to them and inform its counterpart, is that a sin? I request you to be kindly human with the poor Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh. He has taken all measures to help hymanitarian cause of the people being afraid, have run away from their homes. About 30,000 of

them have run away. What can he do? Should deploy the police and the military to throw them out or give them protection and relief? He has done the right thing. He has done his duty. He has informed his counterpart and the Central Governmet also. I would like to ask the Minister to kindly inform us what relief actually the Central Government can give and whether the Central Government should not send a Central team to study in more details about the real cause of the violence. know about the Bodo agitation. has not been there only today. started months ago. What has the Government of Assam done to win over these people's simple hearts who have mingled themselves with Assamese community? Now I request Mr. Saikia and my sister that they should also touch their heart when they talk. Assam cannot be as it is today unless they change their outlook. Assam was a big State. I was part of it, my State was part of it. Why one by one people are going away from Assam? Why everybody wants to run away from Assam?

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVAR-TY: It is because of the Congress Government.

SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: No. It is not because of the Congress Government. What happened to the Bodos who have mingled with them? (Interruptions) Mr. Vice Chairman Sir we should not criticise the Government. We should thank the Government for bringing all this information. The Minister has done well. He should also kindly assure the House that there will be a proper in-· quiry and relief to the Bodos. Thank you.

DR. C. SILVERA (Mizoram): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, it is very unfortunate that we have had such happenings in Gohpur and I am grateful that the Home Minister has come out with a statement clarifying what was really happening there. So many lives have been lost and so many people are rendered homeless.

It is not the number of lives that have been lost that is important. It may be one or two or may be 100. But the fact that life is lost and so many people have been rendered homeless is serious enough for us to consider. From what I have learnt from my colleagues the trouble has been brewing before it has come out. It was the duty of the State Government to take preventive measures. If the matter has not been reported to the State Government, it is the State intelligence which is to be blamed. If after reporting the matter to the State Government. It is the State Government that is to be blamed. For whatever has happened, I think, the State Government is responsible. As I said. loss of life loss of property, is a serious matter.

[The Deputy Chairman in the Chair].

I come from Mizoram. I have gone through this type of experience for more than 20 years. I am very sad to learn about what is happening in Gohpur area If we go back to see how the AGP Government came to power, we all remember, started as a students' union, they made all sorts of violence, agitation, and they came to power. It was the Assam Students' Union. They came did they come to power? to power with the support of the tribals and the minorities. And after coming into power they seem to have forgotten who put them in power. It was these very poeple who had out them in power and now it is these very people who are going to put them out of power. This is exactly what If these people is going to happen. had put them on the gaddi, these people can also remove them from that gaddi. I am very grateful that the Central Government has come with a As my friends have said, statement. those of us who are coming from the neighbouring States, we are suffering All our essential a great deal now. commodities, all our essential needs, have to come through Assam. cently because of this trouble rice [Dr. C. Silvera]

secould not come to us, petrol could not come to us. Do you know how much a kilogram of rice cost 'Aizawl? It was Rs. 8 a kg, at some places it was between Rs. 12 and Rs. 18 also. Because of this trouble kerosene is not available. I think the Central Government should come up with a solution; otherwise, neighbouring States are undergoing a Unless some urgent let of suffering. steps are taken to stop this trouble, a time will come when the neighbouring States also will have to do the came thing. I, therefort, request the Central Government to step into the picture and find a solution quickly as possible so that the Bodos, the people of other communities and also the neighbouring States do not suffer any more. Thank you.

श्री सुरेंग्द्रजीत सिंह ग्रहलुवालिया (बिहार) उपसभापित महोदया, 14 तारीख को हम जोगों ने सवाल किया था कि गोहपुर की घटना में जो 100 ग्र दमी मारे गये हैं ग्रीर अबबार में जो खबर ग्राई, यह सच है कि या इठ इसके बारे में हमें गृह मतालय सच्च ई क्या है यह बताने की कृपा करे। पर दुर्भाय इस बात का है कि गृह मंत्रालय का एक सोसं है स्टेट गवनंमेंट, उन्होंने चीफ सेकेट्री ग्रीर चीफ मिनिस्टर दोनों से सम्पर्क स्थापित किया पर उन्होंने एक दूसरे पर दोषारोप करने के सिवाय कहीं भी कोई सच्चाई की खबर देने में ग्रसमर्थता जाहिर की।

जपसभापित महोदया, अभी कुछ समय पहले हमारे विष्ठ विपक्षा नेता अटल बिह रो वाजपेयी जी कह रहे थे कि अखबारों में जो बात छपी है, किसने यह रियूमर फैल यो है पूरे हिंदुस्तान में । जपसभापित महोदया, में अ पको बताना चहता हूं कि मेरा ध्यान और किसी अखबार पर ज ये या न ज ये पर इंडियन एक्सप्रेस और जनसत्ता पर जरूर जाता है और सुबह पढकर ही निकलता हूं और 14 तारीख की भी जनसत्ता और इंडियन एक्सप्रेस ने ध्यान यह अक्षित किया जहां बड़ी खबर लिखी थी कि हत्यांकांड के पहले ही चेता विया या खुफिया एजें सियों ने, लिखने व ले अये, विपिन बब्बी, वे जनसत्ता के ही स्पेशस

करेसपांडेट हैं, एक्सप्रेस न्यूज सर्विस के, तेजपुर में डिप्यूटेड है। उन्होंने यह खबर लगाई है ग्रीर इसी की इंगलिश के पैपर इंडियन एक्सप्रेस में लगाई गई।

"Gohpur Clashes—Authorities ignore warning"—by Vipin Pubby, Express News Service, Tezcepur. यह इंडियन एक्सप्रेस की खबर ग्रक्सर विपन्न के नेता यहां लहराया करते हैं और तरहले-तरह की खबरें ल ते हैं। ग्रंज सुबह भी

भगर इंडियन एक्सप्रेस इस तरह का गैर-जिम्मेदाराना काम कर रहा है, तो इस पर एक्शन लेने की जरुरत है। (व्यवधान)

लहरा रहे थे।

DR. NAGEN SAKIIA: Madam, I am on a point of order... (Interruptions) N.I am on a point of order, Madam.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Are you an agent of "The Indian Express"?... (Interrupions)... I am not yielding ... (Interruptions)...

DR. NAGEN SAIKA: Madam, I am on a point of order. On the 14th August, this news came out and when it was discussed in this House, the Home Minister stated that he would come out with the falts that he could obtain officially and by sending a Central Team to Assam and the information he could collect he would furnish. We are now discussing the statement that was made by the Home Minister here and we are not discussing the news which was published on the 13th or 14th... (Interruptions)...

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH You could have said the same thing to him that day...(Interruptions)...

ठाकुर जगतपाल सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश): मभी मटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी ने कहा कि न्यूजपेपर ने इस तरह की गलत चीज निकाली है। इसके विरुद्ध खिलाफ एक्शन होना चाहिए ...(व्यवधान)

भी सुरेहजीत सिंह बहलुवालिया: उपसभापति जी, मैंने उस दिन भी यही बात कही भी कि ग्रीर सरकार से ग्रापके माध्यम से शुक्त की को किस की थी कि ग्राल-ग्रसम बोडो खुडेंट्स यूनियन जो है, यह कितने हिस्सों में बठी हुई है? मैं जहाँ तक समाचार-पत ग्रीर क्लिकार्यों के माध्यम से जनता हूं श्रील-इसम बोडो स्टुडेंट्स यूनियन दो हिस्सों में बटी हुई है।

एक हिस्सा अंडरप्राउंड चला गया है, जिसके नेता अंडरप्राउंड चले गये हैं, बहु अंटर बोडो लैंड की डिमांड कर रहे हैं और बुकरा हिस्सा जो कि ए० जी० पी० के नेतृत्व में चल रहा है और इस इंडियन एक्सप्रे स के समाचार-पन्न की जो खबर है, उसके माध्यम से भी बहु कहते हैं कि छह प्रगस्त की बुढिया हाई स्कूल में एक नान-बोडोज की बैठक हुई बहां पर ए० जी० पी० नेताओं ने बड़े-लम्बे नाषण दिये और पब्लिक को बहुत इंटीगेट किया, जिसके कारण 7 तारीख को ए० जी० पी० के लीडर का बच्चा और उसका चाचा मारा गया।

मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या यह बात सच है? अगर यह सच है, जो बात लिखी हुई है, तब आपकी जन सत्ता की खबर भी सच है और अगर जन सत्ता की बात सच है, तो यह भी सच है कि खुफिया एजें सियों ने पहले ही सरकार को आगाह किया था कि इस तरह की घटना हो सकती है। तो स्टेट गवन मेंट ने कोई एक्शन क्यों नहीं लिया?

उपसभापति जी, आरोप और प्रत्यारोप लगाने के लिए पालियामेंट को हर रोज यूज किया जा रहा है। हम जानना चाहते हैं कि आखिर यह कौनसी शक्तियां हैं जो हमारे मुख्क को कमजोर करने की कोशिश कर रहीं हैं?

हम जानना चाहते हैं इस बोडो लैंड का क्या कोई रिक्ता ग्रेटर प्राचीन प्लान के साथ भी है, जो छिदविन वैली से लेकर चिट्गांग हिवल ट्रैक्ट तक एक ग्रलग मंगोलाईड रीजन बनाने की बात सोच रहा है?

सुभ श्रापके माध्यम से यह जानना चाहते हैं कि उस ए० जी० पी० लीडर का नाम क्या है, जिसने बुढिया हाई स्कूल में नान-बोडोज की मीटिंग बुलाई की और जहां उनको इंस्टीगेट किया वा ?

मैं उस ए॰ जी॰ पी॰ लीडर का नाम भी आनना चाहता हूं जिसका लड़का और चाचा भारा गया और उसने उसके बाद क्या-न्या कार्यवाही की है?

मैं आपके माध्यमं से यह भी जानना बाहता हूं — उस दिन भी मैंने सवाल उठाया वा कि बोडोज विलेजज में जाकर स्टेट आम्डं पुलिस ने घरों में घुस कर वहां की महिलाओं को निकाल कर, उनका घर्षण किया है, उनको रेप किया है — उसमें कितने पुलिस अधिसर्ज के खिलां फ एक्शन लिये गये हैं?

यह सब कुछ में श्रापके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं?

6.00 P.M.

PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTA-CHARJEE (West Bengal): Madam DeputyChairman my is that point this is not statement motuSUO as has been captioned because on the 14th August the Home Minister informed us that after full facts were collected the same would be placed before the House. It is in compliance Secondly, in this report it is found that the Central team made an aerial reconnaissance, but because the area was widespread they were unable to collect the information. But it was specially for this purpose that the team was sent because the Assam Government was unable send the information in time and it was only the report from Arunachal that was here. My third point, Madam, is that I find that the Governor and the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh sent messages. Up to the Chief Minister I understand. how did the Governor come into the picture at all is very difficult to under-Governor have constitutional obligations to send reports regarding the States of which they are Governors, to the Central Government. How has this message come about? [Prof. Sourendra Bhattacharjee] In the background of the non-too-cordial relations between the Assam Government and the Arunachal Pradesh Government regarding the border areas, messages from that side pught to have always been taken with a pinch of salt.

So far as Press reports are concerned, Madam, it is not a question of the name of the paper. If inflammable news and false news are published, whichever newspaper it may be, action must be taken against it, particularly when it relates to as sensitive an areas as Assam is. Further dangers seem to be looming large. In this background, such inflammable news should not go unchallenged.

Thank you, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister.

SHRI SANTOSH MCHAN DEV: Madam, at the very outset I am happy to see that all Members to the House are very happy that the news-item which was published was not correct. And there is unanimity that the news-item was very much in the House that this is a good thing that the news-item was very much wrong and it was not a correct news.

But I am also very much surprised to see that Mr. Vajpayee, whom I respect very much, today came forward and advised the Home Ministry not to rely on Press reports. I fully agree with him. We do not want to rely on Press reports. But during the last two years in this House and in the other House, I think, 80 per cent of the time has been taken only by Press reports. (Interruptions).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: If Press reports are confirmed by the C&AG report, what would you do?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: I have no hesitation in saying that the advice given by Mr. Vajpayee. I will take not only as a Minister but I

will also see that it is taken by the whole Government. We should not reply on press reports like that. I agree with you. (Interruptions). I expect that the same attitude will be taken by the opposition. Appthing coming in the newspapers should not be brought in the House the next day by this side or that side. (Interruptions). Most of the time it comes from the opposition.

Madam, the incident which has hap-

pened is tragic. As has been very rightly stated by many hon. Members, we are happy that the number death is minimum. But what happened in Gopur should not have hap-We are very glad that the Government of Assam has not only ordered a judicial inquiry, but they have also transferred the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent of They have also expressed their concern and they have accepted that there was some lapse. . We also thank the Government of Arunachal Pradesh who brought this to notice immediately after the incident. At no stage, in any official report the Government of Arunachal Pradesh has said that the number of deaths is 200 or 40. They have provided immediate relief to those people who have gone there. Α question was asked in the House as to what action the Government is going to take about this news item. We will say that it is up to the concerned Government do not want to go into the details is also a judicial inquiry by a sitting High Court Judge and I think he will take cognizance of this. If we are to take an action against any agency, I think everyday the Home Ministry will have to initiate one action. many false reports are coming in I fully agree and newspapers. share the concern of the House that responsible journalists, whatever might be their agency, should not spread such news without verifying the facts about it. The whole House is one in it and I don't think there is any difference of opinion. I would not

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like to go into details because some allegations.....

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Is the report published in the Indian Express correct or not?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: ido not want to go into the details of some allegation and counter-allegations which have been made. In my statement, I have stated that, after the Home Minister talked to the Assam Chief Minister, we have been able to make the Assam Government agree to sit and have a discussion at Delhi during the last week of August where another colleague of ours who is a Central Minister will be there to help them in the discussions.

Some Members have suggested certain autonomy and all these things. We have nothing to do with it. want that they should go with an open mind and that there should be discussions between both the parties concerned. We do not want to give any suggestion about the discussion. But we are clear on one issue. should not be any further division of Assam. We have said it and we stick to it. Barring that, any solution brought to us by the two parties within the constitutional framework will make us very happy.

Another question that has been raised by certain Members is whether we are going to invite others. don't forget that it goes to the credit of Assam Government that they have already had discussion with а PTCA, UTNLF and other organisations who are concerned with this Bodo agitation. It is not that they don't know their views. Even then the Home Minister has suggested that it is up to the State Government decide whom they will call or not. He has already given a letter to them and that letter has been received by We also came to know that they have invited the ABSU organisation and that they have accepted it and called of their bandh. Of course. Mr. Vajpayee asked why we

go by the press reports. I agree My official report same later and I had to rely on press reports. But I kept a rider because of this news which proved false. But I agree with you that we should also get our official information more quickly and more speedily. Now some Members asked what relief measures have been taken.

SHRI CHITTA BASU; And rehabilitation also.

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: I am coming to that. We have been informed by the Assam Government that for Sunitpur District 10 lakhs of rupees have been given and for Lakhimpur District six lakhs have been given. This is from the Government of Assam. The Chief Minister has given Rs. 5 lakhs for Sunitpur and Rs. 2 lakhs for Lakhimpur for immediate material help from his Apart from personal Relief Fund. that, gratuitous relief will be given at the rate of Rs. 1,000 per family for construction of their burnt houses. That also the Government of Assam decided. As regards ex-gratia grant, Rs. 5,000 per person killed and upto Rs. 1,000 per injured person will sanctioned. As I have already said in the statement. the Home Miniser has sent a wireless message questing both the Governments to give all the relief. And whatever help is needed from the Central Government, we will be too pleased extend our helping hand. Some Members have asked whether it is a fact that deployment of Para-military Forces was asked from us. As it has been told by the Home Minister the other day, other than Punjab, 44 Companies are now in Assam. only that. They wanted help from us to alert the Army. We did alert Not only in Sunitpur the Army. but even at Mangaldoi where an incident happened after that the Army flag march was there. And we do

[Shri Santosh Mohan Dev]
not want to criticise any Government.
We want to see that peace and transquillity prevails in that area. I flatly deny the charge made by certain Members and which has been made on the floor of the House. My good friend, Upendraji said 'zoom zoom', 'poom poom'. There are all false. RAW has nothing to do and any Intelligence department has nothing to do...

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: What is the exact name?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: I do not know the exact name.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: No, no. You know it.

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Vajpayeeji, the Government of India is always willing to see that any Government, whether it is a Congress Government or a non-Congress Goverament should survive by their own efficiency. And we are always willing to help. Please do not take it as though we are trying to destabilise any Government. It is not a fact. Rather, as a Member from Assam, I can say that probably Mr. Saikia's Government wants that we should take some action. We are not going to take any action, we want them to run the State for five years. people see how they can run the Then there will be a comparison as to what the Congress Government has done and what the AGP Government has done. The voters after 42 years are capable to decide whom they should elect. We are not at all interested. Some Members have pin-pointed some questions about certain news in certain papers. that I can tell them is that please take that paper news with the same faith and confidence with which we have seen other papers news played their part in the past. do not want to go into this.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Paper news or newspaper news?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Newspaper news.

Lastly, Madam, I would like to say that a criticism has been made as to why the Central team could not make a recce all over the area. And as Aurora has already said, the North Eastern terrain is so difficult. People would have asked this Central team to finish their recce altogether, I would not have been able to reply to your queries today, and then there would be an allegation as to why the reply was not given, why the Central team has not come back. We had discussed with them. And in meantime, at the request of the Home Minister, we are very glad to that the Governor of Assam, the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, both Ministers and both the Chief Chief Secretaries met in a meeting at Arunachal, and they gave a statement whereby they want to create a situation whereby this tension is Let us share that particular move by both the Chief Ministers, by both the Governors, and both the Chief Secretaries. And let us hope that in the last week of this month when my senior colleague, Dr. Rajendra Kumari Bajpai will represent the Central Government in the talks, a decision will come. And think this is the sense of whole House. And I take this opportunity to appeal to the Assam Government, to ABSU and all other organisations who are involved that they should come to a solution within the Constitutional framework so that we do not hear of ABSU and other agitations in Assam in future. Thank you.

II. Danger posed to India's unity and integrity by subversive, separatist and extremist activities

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now the Home Minister, Mr. Buta Singh will make the statement.