MATTER RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Prime Minister's reported agreeing to resumption of composite dialogue without linking the matter to the Mumbai terrorist attack in the talks between Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan at Sharm-al-sheikh

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, I am extremely grateful to you for permitting me to make a special mention of a matter of great importance. Yesterday, the Indo-Pak Joint Statement has been issued after a meeting at Sharm-al-Sheikh, between our Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, and the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Shri Gilani. I am quoting one sentence from the text of the joint statement: 'Action on terrorism should not be linked to the composite dialogue process and these should not be bracketed.' Sir, this, certainly, has come to the entire country as a surprise and also as a disappointment. This involves a reversal of a long-standing Indian policy where we have always believed that cross-border terrorism, State-sponsored terrorism, or terrorism emanating from the Pakistani soil really cannot continue and, at the same time, a composite dialogue between India and Pakistan continue, because such a dialogue will not really be fruitful.

In view of this, Sir, we really expect the Government to make a statement in the House followed by a detailed discussion as to what has prompted this change of policy, as far as the Government is concerned, that the de-bracketing and the de-linking of action on terror from the composite dialogue process are taking place.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Are they making a statement, Sir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, the Leader of the Opposition has raised a very important issue. The Government will, today, make a statement on this particular issue before the House rises.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION

Approval of continuance in force of President's proclamation dated 19th January, 2009, in respect of Jharkhand, for further period of six months from 19th July, 2009;

MOTION FOR REVOCATION OF PROCLAMATION ISSUED BY PRESIDENT ON 19TH JANUARY, 2009, UNDER ARTICLE 356 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA IN RELATION TO JHARKHAND

THE BUDGET (JHARKHAND) 2009-10;

AND

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Jharkhand Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2009

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I move the following Resolution:-