

STATEMENTS OF THE PUBLIC AC-
COUNTS COMMITTEE

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL RAR (No-
minated). Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, the
following statements (in English and Hindi)
of the Public Accounts Committee: —

(i) Statement showing action taken by
Government on the recommendations
contained in Chapter I and final replies in
respect of Chapter V of Eighty-First Report
of the Committee (Seventh Lok Sabha) on
National Council of Educational Research
and Training.

(ii) Statement showing action taken by
Government on the recommendations
contained in Chapter I of 190th Report of
the Committee (Seventh Lok Sabha) on
Establishment of Production facilities for
an Ammunition.

(iii) Statement showing action taken by
Government on the recommendations
contained in Chapter I and final replies in
respect of Chapter V of Eleventh Report of
the Committee (Eighth Lok Sabha) on
Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
Engineering Science Group.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

The Atomic Energy (Amendment) Bill
1986

SECRETARY-GENERAL; Sir, I have to
report to the House the following Message
received from the Lok Sabha signed by the
Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha.

"In accordance with the provisions of
rule 96. of the Rules of Procedure and
Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am
directed to enclose the Atomic Energy
(Amendment) Bill, 1986, as passed by Lok
Sabha at its sitting held on the 27th
November, 1986. "

Sir, I lay the Bill on the Table,

MR. CHAIRMAN: Minister of Com-
munications will make a statement at 12. 45
p. m. We now take up special mentions. Shri
Aurora.

REFERENCE TO THE NEED TO
INCREASE PROCUREMENT OF COTTON
FROM FARMERS IN PUNJAB

SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA
(Punjab). Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is about the
purchase of cotton in the State of Punjab.

[The Deputy Chairman in the Chair].

The production in the State has touched the
record level of 456 Kgs per hectare against
the National average of 258 Kgs. On the
other hand, the Cotton Corporation of India
has been particularly weak in buying cotton
from Punjab. As a result, in the last three
years, the farmers have to sell their cotton
below the support price laid down by the
Government of India. This year also, the
cotton price in the market is Rs. 350 while the
support price is Rs. 415.

The estimated production this year is going
to be between 14 to 15 lakh bales of cotton and
consumption within the State is 4. 5 lakh
bales. Therefore, there is urgent need that the
Cotton Corporation of India buys something like
3 to 10 lakh bales of cotton. As the Cotton
Corporation of India has been particularly weak
and their establishment possibly is not large
enough to carry this out, it is suggested that the
MARKFED—an organisation in Punjab—which
is well organised, could carry out this task on
behalf of the Cotton Corporation of India. Thank
you.

श्री सत्यपाल मलिक (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
मैं उनका समर्थन करता हूँ। महाराष्ट्र और
गुजरात में भी यही प्रावलय है।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra); I
want to associate myself with the feelings
expressed by my colleague, Mr. Aurora.
Cotton prices this year— as you also know—
have been Axed at a

lower level and the prices are still going down. In Maharashtra perhaps as you know, a lakh of women workers have stopped cotton crop unless proper prices are paid. Madam, I agree with Shri Aurora. This is a very serious problem, the question of prices for farm products, particularly, cotton and jute also. Cotton growers have been very much affected. The cotton season has already started. In Maharashtra, there is persistent demand for increase in the cotton price. An agitation is going on in Maharashtra on this and violence is taking place. Therefore, through you, Madam, I would draw the attention of the hon. Minister concerned to the problem in Maharashtra which needs immediate attention.

SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, I support what hon. Member Shri Aurora has said. The problem is there in Andhra Pradesh also. Short staple cotton is first and long staple cotton is second in the country. The Cotton Corporation of India should enter the market and save the farmers from the private purchasers. The price is going down day by day. The farmers are in a helpless position. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister concerned to instruct the CO to enter the market immediately and save the farmers. Thank you.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Madam, in Coimbatore and Thanjavur districts of Tamil Nadu as well as in Pondicherry, the agriculturists are suffering, due to the low price of cotton. Therefore, I would request the Government to fix a remunerative price and save the cotton growers in the country.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Prashant. He is not there. Shri Malaviya.

REFERENCE TO THE NEED FOR A
NEW OVER-BRIDGE ON YAMUNA AT
ALLAHABAD

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदया, इलाहाबाद में यमुना नदी पर जो सड़क

मार्ग है तथा इसी पर मार्ग है, इस पुल को बने हुए नौब 80-90 वर्ष हो गए हैं देश की जनसंख्या बहुत बढ़ गई है। इसके अतिरिक्त सवारी गाड़ियों, मोटर कारों, ट्रकों, स्कूटरों आदि की संख्या भी बढ़ गई है और वहां पर घंटों तक भीड़ लगी रहती है जैसे कि कलकत्ता में होता है और ट्रैफिक जाम हो जाता है और लोगों का बहुत सा समय वहां पर नष्ट हो जाता है। शहर के दूसरी ओर औद्योगिक क्षेत्र हैं, वहां पर एक ही पुल है जो मिर्जापुर और बांदा को जोड़ता है और मध्य प्रदेश के रीवा और सतना को जाने वाले सड़क मार्ग से मिलाता है। बहुत दिनों से वहां पर यह मांग चली आ रही है कि लोगों की आवश्यकता को देखते हुए और बढ़ते हुए उद्योगों को देखते हुए वहां पर एक दूसरा सड़क मार्ग बनाया जाए ताकि लोगों को आने जाने में सुविधा हो और उनका समय नष्ट न हो।

महोदया, इस संबंध में इसी सदन में 12 नवम्बर को लिखित प्रश्न संख्या 869 की ओर में ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं जिसमें जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री ने यह जवाब दिया था कि चूंकि उक्त पुल राज्य सड़क पर पड़ते हैं, इसलिए केन्द्र सरकार इस मामले से संबंधित नहीं है। तथापि, मौजूदा पुल से लगभग एक किलोमीटर बहाव की ओर (डाउन-स्ट्रीम) एक नए सड़कपुल का निर्माण करने के लिये राज्य सरकार ने केन्द्र सरकार से सम्पर्क किया है। राज्य सरकार से यह कहा गया है कि वह राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग संख्या 27 के उपयुक्त शहरी जोड़ के एक भाग के रूप में इस परियोजना को शामिल करने की व्यवहार्यता की जांच करे।

महोदया, 12 नवम्बर को यह उत्तर दिया गया और 14 तारीख को इसी महीने इलाहाबाद में प्रधान मंत्री ने सार्वजनिक सभा में आश्वासन दिया।