

[Shri Vishvajit Prithvijit Singh]

the notice of the State Governments Union Territory Administrations for taking necessary action in this regard."

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have here with me the latest issue of the most prestigious magazine of this country, the "INDIA TODAY" dated August 15, Obviously, the fortnight is ending on August 15, 1984. It carries an advertisement for the Diplomat whisky which is made by Mc Dowell. It says:

"Enter the new-look DIPLOMAT

He's familiar but different.

Excitingly different.

More suave and sophisticated. More stylish

More colourful. (Rich green).

But you can't mistake the spirit.

The same mellow feeling,

The same good taste.

Only the Diplomat can give you

The best of both worlds. DIPLOMAT Ambassador of good taste Mc Dowell".

The same picture is here, and the same picture on the cap of the bottle. I could have brought the older bottle which used to be white and the new bottle which is green into the House. But, Sir, in your wisdom you have suggested that such horrible object should not be brought into the House. You have observed:

"But please don't bring the bottle and the carton to the House. Do not exhibit them in the House."

Therefore, I am not exhibiting them. But, Sir, I am exhibiting the cap. You see, they are indulging in this indirect publicity.

I would like to request the Government that in view of the answer to my unstarred question that the Union Territory Administrations have been instructed, I would like that some action be taken against them immediately. This is not the only instance. There are hundreds of other instances in various other newspapers and magazines. This is just one which I am pointing out.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Regarding the Incident of the Bomb Explosion which took place in the International Arrival Hall of Madras Airport on 2nd August, 1984.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Khursheed Alam Khan.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): Sir, it is with deep sadness that I have to inform the House about the tragic incident which occurred at Madras Airport on the night of 2nd August, 1984 when, consequent on an explosion, 29 innocent lives were lost and injuries caused to 38 persons. The Prime Minister has condemned the outrage and has expressed her deepest sympathies to the bereaved Sri Lankan and Indian families.

On 4th August, I visited the scene of the explosion and the hospital where the injured are receiving treatment. I am taking the first opportunity to share with the House the information available with Government relating to this incident. Before I narrate the events which led to this incident, I am sure the House will join me in expressing our heart-felt condolences to the bereaved families and sympathy with those who have suffered injuries in this incident.

In conformity with the existing practice at Madras Airport, all baggage prior to its being loaded on the aircraft is required to be identified in the Customs enclosure by the passengers travelling on the flight. On 2nd August, 1984 the identification of the baggage of passengers travelling by Air Lanka Flight UL-122 was carried out by the Customs authorities. With the exception of two suit-cases, all the other baggage was identified by the passengers and loaded into the aircraft. The suit-cases which had not been identified in the Customs enclosure, were also taken to the aircraft for identification but no passenger claims them. These were, therefore, taken into custody by the Customs authorities and kept near the room the Customs Duty Officer in the arrival hall.

On Flight No. UL-122 of Air Lanka, 97 passengers were booked whereas only 96 passengers travelled. One passenger did not board the flight which left at 8.15 P.M., after having checked in.

At about 9.50 P.M. Shri Lila Singh, the Airport Officer (Operations) received an anonymous call informing him that the two suit-cases which were then in the custody of the Customs authorities contained explosives of the type used for blasting rocks. Immediately on receipt of this call, the Airport Officer is reported to have informed Shri K. K. Gulati, General Manager, Madras Airport, Shri K. Kasim, Deputy Commissioner of Police and Shri Kalimulla Khan, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Airport Security, Shri Shiv Prasad, Deputy Chief Controller of Explosives and Shri Tamhane, Deputy Director (Operations), Madras Airport, about the anonymous call. This information was also conveyed to the Fire Station and the office of the Indian Airlines.

A second anonymous call was received by Shri Lila Singh, the Airport Officer at approximately 10.40 P.M., presumably from the same person who had called earlier informing him that the suit-cases would explode at about 11 P.M. On receipt of this call, the Airport Officer rushed to the departure hall to contact the police personnel on duty in order to get the premises vacated and also warned the customs officials. While the arrival hall was being vacated and the Customs authorities, after placing the two suit-cases in a trolley, were in the process of removing them, an explosion occurred at about 10.50 P.M. in the arrival hall, which has resulted in 29 deaths and injuries to 38 persons. It has also caused extensive damage to the airport building.

A case under section 302 of the IPC, section 9B(1)(a)(b) of the Indian Explosives Act, 1884, and section 3 and 4 of the Indian Explosives Substances Act, 1908 has been registered by the State Police and investigation is being conducted under the supervision of Shri K. Mohandas, Director-General of Police, Tamil Nadu. The Government has ordered a high-level en-

quiry by the Director General of Civil Aviation into this incident. The terms of reference of the enquiry are:—

(a) To ascertain the circumstances leading to this incident.

(b) To determine whether on receipt of information of the bomb threat, the personnel on duty of the various concerned agencies at Madras Airport discharged their duties and responsibilities in conformity with the prescribed procedures and with the urgency warranted by the situation.

(c) To examine and review the adequacy of the existing systems and procedures to deal with such situations and to make recommendations for effecting improvements thereof, with a view to making them more effective.

Normal domestic air services at the airport have continued uninterrupted. The international services were temporarily suspended but have been restored with effect from today.

Members would kindly appreciate that pending the enquiry by the Director General of Civil Aviation and a full investigation by the State Police, it will not be correct, on my part to speculate on the motives and designs behind this tragic incident. Members will also kindly appreciate that it is for this reason that I am not in a position to make a very elaborate statement as all the facts have first to be established conclusively.

I will conclude by requesting the House to join me in placing on record our deep sense of shock and profound sorrow at this dastardly act and condemn those responsible for this crime against society which has resulted in the tragic loss of innocent lives.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dipen Ghosh. There are so many Members who want to ask for clarifications. Please be brief.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I have given the notice first.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am calling party-wise.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: Sir, the procedure in the past has been—and you have yourself ruled so many times—that the person who gives notice first is called first.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: You please go into it...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, I remember, it is party-wise.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: You are overruling your own position. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Rajasthan): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not want to take the time of the House...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Everyone will get his chance.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: You are changing the procedure we have been following in the past.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I remember whatever I have done in the past. I will go according to that.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, I do not want to enter into an argument, but my hon. colleague has a point: there is a relevance of time at which he gave notice. And coming from Tamil Nadu...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is another snag in that, you do not know. From his party there are two names. The leader's name is already there. I will call the leader in accordance with the procedure.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: That is for our party to decide. If the leader says he will speak, let him speak. But in the past Mr. Shiva Chandra Jha used to give notice with alacrity and he was also called from his party. The Chair used to call more than one person from the Janata Party.

SHRI KALYAN ROY (West Bengal): Sir, you have been here for pretty long and you know that so far as clarification are concerned, our rule has been...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no rule.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: ... we go by the timing. If anybody had given notice at 10 o'clock and I gave notice of clarification at 12.00, my chance will come at the end, not in the beginning. That is the rule we have been following all along. If you want to change it, you do it with our cooperation. (*Interruptions*) But if you surreptitiously change it...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now this thing has become party-wise. Earlier one person or two persons or three persons used to ask. Now every party from the Opposition wants to ask. So it has become party-wise.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: You are changing the rule.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not changing. This is all being done against the rules. This clarification itself is against the rules. There is no rule for it.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: You are changing the convention.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: You can't twist the rules at your convenience and the traditions of the House in a destructive manner... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Maharashtra): Let us put it in the rules.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, we can provide it in the rules.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: Sir, is it correct or not that I have given the notice first?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Unless your leader yields, your chance will not come. His name is there.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: Let him decide. I will abide by what he says. It is an intra-party matter. It is not for you to settle; it is for ourselves to settle.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You settle it first.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, kindly listen to me. We are coming from the place where actually this thing occurred.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In the past also, I have done the same thing. You see the record. Several times it has been done.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: I am coming from the place...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I should allow only Members from that State and not allow Members coming from other States? This is not the way. I will call one person from one party.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: You can allow two persons from our party.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nine names are already there. And I do not know how many more will come.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: What is the harm in allowing two Members from one party?

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: You have allowed in the past.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You decide among yourselves. First you decide and then I will call you. Mr. Ghosh, please.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: We will both speak.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That I won't allow, rest assured.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: How do you say you won't allow? I am coming from that constituency. I am coming from that place.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: You can't change your procedure just like

that. Such a ruling should not be given by you. (*Interruptions*)

3 P.M.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: One thing you have to listen to me. I am coming from that place....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is against the rules.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Everything is man-made manifestation. Have you been following all the rules and regulations throughout? Have you never deviated?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): Why don't you change the order now?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What can I do? I have to go according to a set procedure. Yes, Mr. Dipen Ghosh.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, before I put any specific questions I would like to join the honourable Minister of Civil Aviation in placing on record the profound sorrow of my party...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Why your party alone? Of the whole House.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: You wait. Have patience. The Minister has already said of the whole House"....

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Of the whole House: not only your party...

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Sir, they object to my party placing on record its profound sorrow at this dastardly act. What a pity! I am placing on record the profound sorrow of my party and all other parties in this House at this dastardly act in which the lives of so many people have been lost. But at the same time I must accuse those due to whose negligence, crass negligence, the lives of these innocent people have been lost. From the Minister's statement itself it is seen how the people who are engaged in tackling this type of situations at the airport the International Airports Authority of India, their officials, their security personnel and others, were getting anonymous calls from as early as

[Shri Dipen Ghosh]

9.50 pm but they did not take any action till the bomb exploded at 10.50 pm after one full hour. During that interval they received as many as three anonymous calls. If only they had acted instantly and swiftly on the anonymous calls, the lives of these innocent people could have been saved. Even in the Minister's statement it is noted—

"While the arrival hall was being vacated and the customs authorities, after placing the two suit cases in a trolley, were in the process of removing them, an explosion occurred at about 10.50 pm in the arrival hall."

Please note "...were in the process of removing them". After having received three anonymous calls that there were dangerous items in the said baggage and which were placed at such and such time, the concerned people "were in the process...". What was the process? Was it the normal process of carrying luggage in the trolley? What preventive measures did they take after receiving so many anonymous calls? That is the specific question I want to put. What specific preventive measures did they take even at that late stage in removing these packages? The second thing is this. A committee of inquiry has been constituted under the guidance of the Director General of Civil Aviation to inquire into the incident and its terms have been mentioned. But this inquiry committee has been asked to ascertain the circumstances that led to the explosion of the bombs at the airport...

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD MITRA (West Bengal): It is only a Departmental Enquiry.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: I stand corrected. This is a departmental enquiry committee to be headed by the Director-General, Civil Aviation, to ascertain the circumstances leading to the incident and other things. They will find out how it has taken place, who are the persons responsible, whether there was any irregularity or negligence, etc. The Committee surely has not been asked to go into whether there was a foreign hand behind this

incident, like the Israeli activities by Mossad group. This doubt arises especially when the person in whose name this luggage was booked appears to be a bogus person. Yet he got his ticket through a travelling agency in Delhi. He got his passport application certified by a Member of the Legislative Assembly belonging to the ruling party of that state. How could it be possible? Will this be requested into? I would like the Hon'ble Minister to kindly say whether, apart from this departmental enquiry to be conducted by the Director-General, Civil Aviation as stated in his statement, the Government of India is prepared to enquire whether there is any foreign hand of Israel or any other foreign hand behind this bomb explosion and whether the Government is going to conduct an enquiry about the activities of that MLA who is reported to have certified or supported the passport application of that bogus, non-existent person.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr Mohanarangam.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: What you are doing is wrong and I strongly protest against that. You are going against the procedure of this House. I record my protest. You are changing the procedure to suit your convenience. I can show that from the records of the House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You go through the records and bring it to my notice.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: I will do it and show it to the Chairman.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD MITRA: You have given a ruling and your ruling is binding on all of us. And naturally one person will speak from each side, though so many of us would like to put questions. The matter is serious and is of national concern. I think this is a matter in which the Government should agree to order a judicial enquiry rather than an enquiry by the Director-General.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can have a discussion through Calling Attention. We can have it on some day. I have no objection. Then the Minister will reply to all the points.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Sir, just two days back this unexpected tragic incident happened in Madras Airport. I really appreciate the timely action taken by the Hon'ble Minister and the action taken by the officials and the compensation to be given to the aggrieved. All these things I really appreciate. But as a man who is coming from that particular area and as a person who has witnessed something of this incident, I am of the view that this happened because of the attitude of officials.

These two suit cases were kept inside the airport, especially in the Customs, by the unknown passenger whose number was 97. He had left behind these two cases and the officers checked the number of passengers. There were 96 passengers, but the 97th passenger was missing. This passenger knew fully well that the two cases contained bomb and he wanted to intimate this to the officials after changing his mind because his person was there. This happened at 8.15. The first telephone call came exactly at 9.15 to the officials saying that there were two suit cases. Not only he mentioned the number of suit cases, but also he gave the colour of the numbers of the suit cases. He has intimated it exactly at 9.15 P.M. There was no response. The Duty Officers and the other officials concerned had not taken any action. Again, he intimated the same thing at 9.50 P.M. Even after being intimated at 9.50 P.M. for the second time no action was taken. Again, no action was taken when the third intimation came at 10.20 P.M. Only exactly at 10.20 P.M. the officers thought that something untoward was going to happen and the officers or the officials concerned called the attendants and asked them to take the baggages out of the building. My specific question is this. While I appreciate the action taken by our honourable Minister after going to Madras after this incident what were the officers at the airport doing exactly between 8.15 P.M. and 10.15 P.M.? For about two

hours, for two hours and thirty-five minutes, to be exact, what were these officers doing? The first call was at 9.15 P.M.; the second call was at 9.50 P.M.; the third call was 10.20 P.M.; and, finally, the explosion took place at 10.50 P.M.. By the time they came to know that there was something in the baggage, in the suit case, they did not go there straightway and took away the baggage. They asked the attendants to take them away. Why? I tell you that there is a practice in the Customs Office, especially when the baggages remain unclaimed, to share the contents. These Customs Officers get the unclaimed baggages removed by the attendants and then they want to share the contents. That was why they did not remove the baggage, but they asked the attendants to take them out of the building. The officers did not go straight there and remove them straightway. Why did they not do it? Why did they ask the attendants to do that? One officer, one Mr. Bharadwaj, and some other people went there and tried to take it. But, Sir, by that time, by the time they were going out along with the baggage, something happened which resulted in the death of 47 persons though, according to the Minister's statement, the death toll is 27. Of course, he has not counted the dead. But we have counted them and we have seen them.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: The official count is 30.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Yes. Now, the search is going on. But my specific question is this: What were your officers doing from 8.15 P.M. till 10.50 P.M. That is what I want to know. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Gurupadaswamy.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the whole House feels very sad about the tragedy and our sympathies will naturally go to the bereaved families.

Sir, I think this is the first of its kind and it is for the first time that this tragedy has occurred, and at no time in the

[Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy]

past was any airport blown up or bombed by an explosive. Some time back, only in Bombay airport, there was a fire and that was due to some short-circuit. It was quite a big fire as a result of which the Bombay airport suffered considerable damage. But, at no time, Sir, a bomb or an explosive exploded in any airport. But this has occurred in Madras now.

Now, my second point is the same thing which was mentioned by the previous speakers. When an alert was given, when a phone call was received, was it not the duty of the officials, the Customs officials, or the airport authorities who received the phone call, to remove the baggage immediately? How do you explain this time-gap? It is said that it is about two hours. At least, according to the statement, there is a gap of one hour. The first call was at 9.50 P.M. and the second call, according to the statement, was at 10.40 P.M. and the explosion took place at 10.50. Therefore, full one hour was there. What were the staff members doing at that time?

It is unexplicable really. There was not just one alert but two calls. Was any action taken by the Government in respect of those people who have failed in their duty? This is my second point.

The third point is, it speaks of so much about the efficiency of the airport authorities. I do not want to bring in all these aspects now. It is not a general debate. But there is laxity in the airport administration. At every airport you find there is a laxity and inefficiency. The officials are not doing their duty and they are not prompt in their work. What action... (Time Bell rings) can you utilise this occasion at least to tighten up your administration at the airport level?

Lastly, Sir, we do not know the names of those who have died, and he has disputed the number that has been given on this side. Has any list been drawn up of the casualties? If so, I think the House is entitled to know the number of people, the exact number of people, who died and who suffered and the names of those people who have died.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jaswant Singh.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, while expressing my sympathy, and joining the Minister in that, I would also like to say that I cannot help simultaneously expressing my outrage at the callous and irresponsible manner in which the officials, of which the Government cannot be absolved of its responsibility conducted themselves even when repeated warnings were given to them. Starting from Mhatre's assassination to the hijacking recently to Lahore and this recent explosion at Meenambakkam airport, the Government cannot be absolved of its responsibility. It cannot just palm off and say, "Others are responsible; we have nothing to do with it". The Sri Lankan situation deteriorated in May/June last year. Recently, just a couple of months ago, two United States citizens in Sri Lanka were kidnapped. Therefore, it makes for very strange reading, in this background, what the Minister's statement has to say in paragraph (c): "To examine and review the adequacy of the existing systems and procedures..." The situation has deteriorated in that part of the country since last year, and for the Government now to say, "We are going to examine and review the adequacy of the existing systems..." is likely shutting stable door after the horse has bolted. I cannot just defend this sort of thing. I have certain objections which I will explain very briefly.

Sir, the inadequacy of this statement is best exemplified by the ordering of the inquiry. It leaves things unclear. Personally I am at a loss to understand why it is the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism which is making this statement. I hold the hon. Minister of State in high personal esteem. But I am at a loss to understand why it is the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism who is coming forward with this statement. There are various aspects. For instance, the Government of Tamil Nadu is deeply involved. So far as the law and order situation is concerned, they have to go into that aspect. Then, the newspapers are reporting that we have already responded to the Sri Lankan suggestion that there should be a joint inquiry. Now, the response is correct. But that response has gone from certain other Ministry than

the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism. Therefore, the present statement is inadequate in that respect. The Ministry of External Affairs come in. I am sorry but the present statement is faulty on all these grounds. It is also faulty on grounds of the inquiry ordered, which my esteemed colleague and an eminent judicial authority has pointed out. Sir, I would like to say that I am dissatisfied with the present statement because it touches the important question of internal and international terrorism. Therefore, merely for the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism to come forward with a statement like this is, to my mind, insufficient.

I would, in passing, refer and underline the statement made by Mr. Gurupada-swamy about the state of Indian airports. Those who have the misfortune of using them before boarding facilities like the Indian Airlines, etc—the state of Indian airports is such that it is like being subjected to torture. I am surprised that more such incidents are taking place.

श्री हुक्मदेव नारायण यादव (बिहार) :

अभी मृतकों और घायलों के प्रति जो माननीय सदस्यों ने अपनी राय जाहिर की है उस से सदन को ही नहीं देश में जितने लोगों ने उन के बारे में सुना है उन सब को आघात पहुंचा है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने इस में यह भी दिया है कि जो दोषी हैं उन की हम भर्त्सना करते हैं। तो मैं यहीं से प्रारम्भ करना चाहूंगा अपनी बात कि अभी माननीय सदस्यों ने और मब बिन्दुओं की ओर तो सरकार का ध्यान आकृष्ट किया लेकिन उनके वक्तव्य से जैसा लगता है कि प्रथम दृश्य के आधार पर जो टेलीफोन से सूचना दी गयी और वह स्वीकार करते हैं कि वह आये तो अब तक जो अधिकारी कुछ न कुछ दोषी पाये गये हैं इस में यह नहीं कहा गया है कि उन के खिलाफ सरकार ने कोई कार्यवाही की है या नहीं। विभागीय अधिकारी जो दोषी पाये गये उन के खिलाफ अगर कार्यवाही नहीं हुई है तो जो टेली-

फोन आया और फिर लाल सिंह ने उन को कहा यह बात आ जाने पर यह सिद्ध हो जाता है कि यह बातें कही गयी थी और उस के बाद उन्होंने अपना जिम्मेदारी का निर्वाह नहीं किया। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस उन की कर्तव्यहीनता के लिये उन अधिकारियों के खिलाफ क्या सरकार तत्काल कोई कार्यवाही करेगी ?

दूसरे, यह एक ऐसा व्यापक विषय है कि जिस की जांच महानिदेशक करेंगे तो ठीक नहीं होगा। इसके लिए न्यायिक जांच आयोग होना चाहिए था कोई अन्य जांच आयोग बनाया जाना चाहिए जिसमें पूरे तौर से इस बारे में जांच हो ताकि इस तरह की घटनायें भविष्य में कैसे रोकी जा सकती हैं जिन में निर्दोष लोगों की जानें न जायें।

तीसरे, जो मारे गये हैं उन को क्षति-पूर्ति के रूप में सरकार कुछ मुआवजा तो देगी ही लेकिन जो सरकारी कर्मचारी मारे गये हैं जो इयूटी पर थे उन को केवल मुआवजा ही दिया जायगा या उनके परिवार के लिये, उन के बच्चों के लिये भी सरकार को ओर से कोई व्यवस्था की जायगी, कोई इंजाम किया जायगा। इस बारे में सरकार को ओर से कोई बात नहीं आयी है। इस पर सरकार को गहराई से विचार करना चाहिए और इस को स्पष्ट करना चाहिए।

SHRI KALYAN ROY : Sir, as far as I remember, two explosions of similar intensity took place, once five years ago at Milan Railway Station by the extreme rightist party in which 200 people were killed and then at Only Airport in France. there was a big explosion leading to the death of 15 persons and the French Government accused the Libyans for doing so. These are not simple explosions and unless the Government takes drastic measures,

[Shri Kalyan Roy]

both at railway stations and at airports, we may be having similar types of explosions in future.

The Enquiry which has been set up is neither adequate nor fair. Some very senior officers are involved. I will put on record my profound shock at the criminal negligence of the following persons: Mr. K. K. Gulati, General Manager, Madras Airport, Mr. K. Kasim, Deputy Commissioner of Police and Mr. Kalimulla Khan, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Airport Security. I am surprised to know that even though news was given to them at 9.40 giving them the exact time when the bags were going to explode, nothing was done till 10.50, i.e. exactly the time when they were told that the bag containing explosives was bound to explode. Why have these persons not been suspended till today? If these persons remain where they are, the enquiry is bound to be vitiated or bound to be prejudiced. In the first place, if the Government is sincere and honest, they should suspend these persons, not all, but these persons who were informed in detail about the baggages. Mr. Alam says that he went there and expressed sympathy. He should suspend them unless he wants to cover them up.

Secondly, what I am afraid is that it involves international terrorist group. There are charges and counter-charges. We find that the Tamil terrorists are saying that it is not their job. It is the job of the Israeli Special Squads who have now been allowed to develop these training centres throughout Ceylone. Sir, we should remember that these Israeli terrorist squads did the same thing in Uganda during Idi Amin's regime.

They did the same thing in certain places of Saudi Arabia and other places.

AN HON. MEMBER : Lebanon.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : So, these people are trained in collusion with the Americans and the Commandos. So, instead of charges and counter-charges—I am against joint enquiry; by Party is against any joint enquiry—the Government should take extra precaution through their agency

to find out as to how far these Israelis are involved, how far those extremist and chauvinist sections in Ceylon are involved. All those things are to be covered. There should be an open enquiry. Otherwise, doubts which have crept into our minds will not disappear.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA :

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, there are many inaccuracies in the statement given by the hon. Minister. From the information we received from some independent sources, there are some glaring contradictions which I want to share with the hon. Members as well as the hon. Minister.

Sir, the first call from the anonymous person came at 9.15 p.m. that two suit cases are lying there with explosives. And a second phone call came at 9.30 p.m. This time the gentlemen gave the baggage numbers, the colour of the bags and also the location of the consignments. And then the Airport Manager told the Customs Officers. But apparently no action was taken. A third call came at 9.40 p.m., this time to the Air Lanka authorities telling, "I made two calls but no action appears to have been taken. Therefore, something must be done urgently. At least, you intervene." The Air Lanka authorities informed the Customs. Again the Customs said, "we are taking action". The fourth call came at 10.20 p.m. This time the Airport officer, having already told the Customs, informed the fire officers also that something is there, you get alerted. Then the fifth call came from this man when he found that all those four calls were infructuous and he informed the Police directly at 10.30 p.m. And I would like to tell the hon. Members that up to that time, none of them thought it necessary to inform the Police that such calls came. And if you also see the newspaper report, Sir, "A loader was asked to take out the baggage. Two Customs officers—Mr. Augustin Thomas and Mr. Damodaran followed him. As the loader lifted one of the suit cases, there was an explosion and all the three were blown to bits." This itself indicates that no police officer was around. And I would like to know whether the casualties included also some police officials or policemen. That would itself indicate whether the Police

were informed, whether the Police were on the spot.

Therefore, Sir, it is a very big case of criminal negligence on the part of the authorities whoever handled the situation. And I would like to ask the Minister why the Police was not informed in time. If at all they were informed and at what times, they were informed and at what time they came on the scene. It is very apparent that some agency is trying to further spoil the relations between India and Sri Lanka by creating some incident in the Sri Lanka territory, further damaging the case of the Tamils there. A deep-rooted conspiracy appears to be there. And, I think, as suggested earlier, a judicial enquiry is needed in this case.

SHRI S. W. DHABE (Maharashtra): Sir, it is a great tragedy and really we have become immune to human tragedy in this country. Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri was the only Minister who had resigned at a railway accident. Here, human tragedy has taken place of such a magnitude. In fact, the Minister ought to have resigned and then made a statement here. (*Interruptions*) He has made a statement not in this House but outside. There is also a breach of privilege by the Minister by addressing a press conference at Madras on Saturday, the 4th of August. And he gives here a statement which is lacking in details. When the House was to meet on Monday, there was no necessity for the Minister to address the press conference. It was a bad precedent. And here he has not given any of the details.

Sir, in this he made a statement at page 2, after placing the two suit cases in a trolley which were in the process of being removed, an explosion occurred at 10.50 p.m. He does not say whether there was an explosion in the bags. On the other hand, he has made a statement on being asked. I am reporting from the 'Indian Express, of Sunday, the 5th August, Delhi Edition. The Minister added that the two bags were not loaded in the aircraft. They were taken to the aircraft for identification but no passenger had identified them. They were brought back and there were certain procedures before they could be opened. He said, after the bomb in one

bag exploded, there was no trace of the second bag. Now, in the whole statement there is no trace of the second bag and there was no explosion in the second bag. It does not find any place in the statement given before this House.

Then, Sir, the other thing which I want to mention is about the compensation to staff and victims. That also is not there. I am surprised that he gave to the officer, who died there, only Rs. 20,000 compensation, which he announced there. This is very meagre. In fact, in the case of the railway accidents the minimum is now raised to Rs. 30,000 and in the case of air accidents it is raised to Rs. 1 lakh. The amount which he has announced is very poor. I would like to know what the amount of compensation is which he has mentioned in the statement to the press and what he has to say on that matter.

Thirdly, Sir, the action taken by the Minister in this respect is really not correct. He has only ordered a high level inquiry. My esteemed colleague has already intervened and said and I support him and say that a judicial inquiry presided over by a Judge of the High Court is very essential to go into all aspect of the case.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: A natural Judge of a High Court.

SHRI S. W. DHABE: He will be more natural than the Director-General of Civil Aviation, there is no doubt about it.

Lastly, Sir, I would like to appeal through you to him and also to others that we should take care to see that our relations with Sri Lanka are not strained because of such incidents; the international terrorism and extremists have to be isolated and stern steps taken against them.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, while sharing the grief and tears of the worst affected families in no uncertain terms I would like to condemn this dastardly act of massacre. Sir, I accuse the officials of both the Central Government and the State Government for their

[Shri V. Gopalsamy]

Criminal negligence and callous attitude. Sir, by 9.15, not 9.50, the first warning call came and after 30 minutes again. So they got four times or five times the warning calls. But, Sir, in this statement at page 2 it is stated that while the arrival halt was being vacated Sir, I would like to register that this is not true. This is utter falsehood. No steps were taken to vacate the hall. I have also gathered information from the persons who were there and only one thing was done. By round about 10.40 or 10.45, one particular officer was going and pleading with the passengers that a warning has come, you may go out, this was done. But there is a public address system in the airport itself. That was not at all used. They could have made the announcement through the Public Address System that the people should vacate the premises, there is a danger. In that case the whole catastrophe could have been avoided, and precious lives could have been protected from being lost. So, it is utter criminal negligence and callous attitude of the officials. So, I understand that when the call came the fourth time, the person from the other side it seems was shouting and saying that it is very much there, the suit cases are there and that the suit cases should be immediately taken away. So, this is the Government which works. It is coming to light how much are the people suffering only because of the redtapism and the callous attitude. This is the Government that works.

Sir, I would like to warn this Government. Don't fall prey to the propaganda of Mr. Jayewardene or Mr. Premadasa. They called for a joint inspection. Was there any call for joint inspection when thousands were killed in Sri Lanka? Was there any joint enquiry? They have no moral right to speak about terrorism. I am against terrorism but whether Mr. Premadasa or Mr. Jayewardene have the moral right to preach and say anything about terrorism and other things. They are sponsoring the state of terrorism there and now they call for a joint inspection. Just a couple of weeks ago, this very same person, Mr. Premadasa accused the Government of India, our country, and even now he says, that a campaign has been

launched here. This is the statement of Mr. Premadasa. So, don't fall a prey to the conspiracy of Sri Lanka. You should not forget the fact that already Mossad agents are there since last year. The U. S. imperialist government has allowed Israeli Government to open its special interests section in Sri Lanka itself. So, the conspiracy between the CIA and Mossad is very much there. It is very easy for them to sidetrack the issue. So, don't fall a prey to the conspiracy of the Sri Lankan and Israeli agents.

I would strongly condemn the attitude of the officials and I share the view expressed by my friend, Mr. Kalyan Roy that the concerned officials should be immediately suspended for their callous attitude; otherwise, the story will be nothing but a cover-up. A judicial enquiry should be conducted immediately and the concerned officials found guilty should be suspended.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Minister will reply.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Kindly allow a few minutes to Mr. Ramakrishnan. He was the first to give his name. You kindly allow some time to him also.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But it will be only an exception; don't cite it as an example.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNA: I am thankful to you for your misplaced generosity, Mr. Deputy Chairman...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am sorry that you use these words. You should not use such words. You always assert and...

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: I only pointed out; it is not a reflection on the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Whatever it is, Mr. Ramakrishnan. I am sorry to say this. In the morning also you were saying that there is no heavy water plant...

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: I said it about atomic energy plant.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't condemn; I cannot show any sympathy for it. Don't say it. Don't condemn anything and if you want to say something, you can say but don't use such words.

श्री रामानन्द यादव (बिहार): श्रीमन्, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि... (व्यवधान)।

श्री उपसभापति: चेयर को गाली देकर आप बोलते भी रहें, यह क्या है... (व्यवधान)।

श्री रामानन्द यादव: इस तरह से बहुत समय अननैसैपरी आर्गुमेंट्स देकर बर्बाद हुआ है, यह कहना पड़ेगा। वे बोल सकते हैं? इस तरह से आधे घंटे का समय हाउस का बर्बाद हुआ है... (व्यवधान)।

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, At the outset, there could be no two opinions expressed about the deep sense of shock and grief we are all experiencing at this very dastardly tragedy which happened. But this is not the time for any mutual recrimination between our Government and the Sri Lankan Government on this sensitive issue. It is rather unfortunate that Mr. Premadasa even yesterday in Sri Lanka condemned the attitude of the Government of India for harbouring terrorism and said: "It is because of this attitude that they are being paid back in the same coin". On this occasion, Mr. Chatwal, our High Commissioner in Sri Lanka has already conveyed to the Sri Lanka Government that Indian Government may not consider having a joint enquiry.

I think, that matter has been settled there. I do not think, it is correct to say that the Indian Government had at any time agreed for the enquiry. They have done the right thing. (Interruptions) Furthermore, our Prime Minister and our Chief Minister, Mr. M. G. Ramachandran, have all acted with great statesmanship and aplomb on the Sri Lankan issue so much so that even at the U.S. Senate hearing, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State has applauded and appreciated the statesmanship of the Indian Government and the Tamil Nadu Gov-

ernment on this, in handling the Sri Lankan issue. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please confine to this incident.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: It is in the light of Mr. Premadasa's statement. Coming to the point, there are so many loopholes in the statement which has been made by the hon. Minister. The fact of the time lag between the first call and the last call and the lax attitude on the part of the airport authorities is very clearly evident. But specifically, I would like to ask the hon. Minister. In this case, the passengers who were killed were passengers who had come by the flight from Sri Lanka and who were waiting to take the flight to Sharjah at 2.30 AM. They should have been accommodated in the transit lounge upstairs and these passengers would not have died had this procedure had been followed. Because of the lax attitude on the part of the authorities, namely, the Customs, the Sri Lankan authorities and the airport authorities at Madras airport, these passengers were allowed to sit in the arrival hall and idle about, which resulted in their death. Had this procedure been followed, this would not have happened.

Secondly, according to the well-defined rules of all airlines, when a passenger does not board after check in, all the passengers have to be offloaded, their tickets checked and their luggage unloaded. Apparently, what has happened in this case, as per reports, is that these two luggages were taken by some porter. Nobody claimed it. The Air Lankan authorities against all set rules, in their hurry to despatch the flight, did not follow the procedure of unloading all the baggages which would have given them more time and perhaps, they would have been able to avert this accident. Therefore, the Air Lankan authorities have failed in this regard, which the hon. Minister should explain.

Thirdly, the total number of deaths, according to the Statesman, is 30. The body of one more child has been found. This brings the death toll to 30. However, in regard to the total number of

[Shri Ramakrishnan]

deaths, I would not like to make any guess. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, what exactly is the total number of deaths? I think, it will be more than 29, which is the figure stated by the hon. Minister.

Of course, the Civil Aviation Minister and our Chief Minister visited the hospital. Immediate succour has been rendered to those who have been injured and compensation given. But on this occasion, the enquiry which has been initiated, it is seen from the statement of the hon. Minister, confines itself only to the accident and it does not, as some of my friends suggested, go into the larger implications of the foreign hand or Israeli agents. Why I am saying this is because, it is well known now that Sri Lanka has employed commandos and mercenaries from S. A. S. and also from Israel to sort of combat the terrorist activity and, therefore, this enquiry should also cover the role of the foreign hand which is a possibility.

Finally, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether, in the light of this accident, independent of the outcome of the enquiry, he would like to see that immediate action is taken by the airport authorities in all the international airports, to tighten up and streamline the procedures for emergency exercises and also go in for modern explosive detecting devices which are now available in the west and other parts of the world which can detect by sonar and other methods the presence of any explosives and other prohibited items in the baggages.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD MITRA: Sir, since you have made an exception in the case of Mr. Ramakrishnan, kindly allow me only one minute. If I exceed one minute...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What do you want to say?

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD MITRA: I will raise some points which nobody else has raised. The hon. Minister has said that 97 passengers were booked in that flight. Out of 97, 96 passengers turned up. One passenger did not turn up. I would

like to know whether steps have been taken to trace the whereabouts of this passenger and whether he has been apprehended. Secondly, I have said that there should be a judicial enquiry.

Mr. Kalyan Roy is opposed to an open enquiry. A judicial enquiry may be held *in camera*, may also be an open enquiry and it is for the Government to decide whether....

SHRI KALYAN ROY: I expect that he would not mix up the judicial enquiry with.... (Interruptions).

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD MITRA: Now one minute will exceed and you will ask me to sit down.

Now, Sir, judicial enquiry may be held in camera, may also be an open enquiry. It is for the Government to decide whether it should be an enquiry in camera or an open enquiry. The reason why I am asking for judicial enquiry is that the terms of reference seem to be defective. Just see clause (b) which says: "To determine whether on receipt of information of the bomb threat, the personnel on duty of the various concerned agencies at Madras Airport discharged their duties and responsibilities in conformity with the prescribed procedures and with the urgency warranted by the situation." If this 'and' is read as 'and' the urgency warranted by the situation would be governed by the prescribed procedure. Unless the 'and' is read as 'or', the scope of the enquiry would be very much limited.

Secondly, one significant thing has been omitted from these terms of reference, namely, whether there were foreign hands involved in this incident.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members who have really made very good suggestions and also expressed sympathies with the people who died in this incident and those who received injuries. Here, in the first instance, I would like to explain that the DGCA's enquiry is inter-departmental enquiry. In fact, the main enquiry which has been set up by the State Government has been completely

ignored by all the hon. Members about which I have mentioned in the statement. The enquiry has been set up under the orders of the State Government and the incharge is the Director-General of Police, CID, who has been given the charge of conducting this enquiry. He is enquiring into this matter and he is covering all the aspects of the incident which most of the hon. Members have mentioned about.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:
That is also a departmental enquiry.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :
As this enquiry had already been ordered by the State Government, our idea was that it should be supplemented by the departmental enquiry from the DGCA side so that we may have better coordination in the future and inter-departmental working should be improved. (*Interruptions*). Now please, let me answer first.

Another thing which I would like to mention is that at no stage we have ever agreed anywhere that there should be a joint enquiry with somebody else from outside. We feel that this unfortunate incident has happened on the soil of this land and the law of this land should take its own course. Besides, our own enquiry agencies are competent, are second to none. Therefore, we do not want anybody else's assistance in this case. It is very unfortunate if anybody has made such a statement that might vitiate the whole enquiry. It is rather unfortunate, but as I said in the beginning also, because the entire thing is under investigation and the enquiry is being conducted. I hope the hon. Members will realise and appreciate that it would not be possible for me to make any such statement which might create some problems for conducting of these enquiries.

My very intimate friend, hon. Mr. Dhabe, has said about compensation. I must mention that compensation of Rs. 20,000 which I mentioned is only an *ex-gratia* payment and the person will get his compensation in due course according to the Compensation Act.

That is not the question that we have given only this much compensation. In fact, there was no intention of just limiting this to Rs. 20,000.

Another thing my hon. friend has said is that the Minister should resign. I am not going to oblige my friend for this thing, I can assure him.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: That we know.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : Everybody knows that.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH : You will oblige Madam, not your friends.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :
As far as the number of calls is concerned, the information that we have got from the State Government, from the Chief Secretary, from the Home Secretary and the Director of Police, Mr. Mohan Das, who is conducting this inquiry, is that they have mentioned only two calls. I do not know; the inquiry will reveal this. If there were more than two calls, then certainly it will come before the inquiry being conducted.

Then regarding the number of deaths, I would like to mention that even this morning we got in touch with the State Government, the Home Secretary and the Chief Secretary who have again given us the figure that 29 were the deaths and 38 were the injured persons. So I think that is after the detailed investigation which the State Government has made and we have to take these figures at the moment unless of course they are proved wrong at a later stage.

Here I would like to mention that whenever there is a crisis or there is some action to be taken, and particularly in the case of a bomb scare at an airport, there is a detailed procedure laid down and in my statement I had read out the people who are immediately contacted. The people who are contacted immediately are—the General Manager, the Deputy Director General (Operation), the Assistant Director (Operation), the Assistant Director (Technical), the power house, the security, the DSP Security, the Ins-

[Shri Khursheed Alam Khan]

pector Security, the Fire Officer and the Airport authority officer, then the Indian Airlines, Air India and all the airlines of course.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : And the Minister for Civil Aviation.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : I was informed at 1 o'clock.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : We do not want you to be suspended, but what about the officers who ignored the telephone calls?

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : This enquiry which is being conducted by the Director of Police is going to look into this aspect that when...

SHRI KALYAN ROY : They will be there in the inquiry.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : I can answer one by one, please. You know that these police officers are State Government officers and only the State Government officers will have to take action against them.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : Will you convey our feelings?

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : I would certainly convey your feelings. And in fact you are in a better position to convey your feelings.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : No. we want it through you.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : I also went and saw the Chief Minister and had a detailed discussion about the incident. He told me that he has immediately given instructions to the Director of Police to take this matter very seriously and conduct this inquiry.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : What about Mr. Gulati?

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : He is the Airport Manager. He also came. But unfortunately the fellow is a heart patient and that day he was not

very well. All the other officers came there. The only officer who should have come earlier is the Deputy Director General of Explosives. He did not arrive well in time. That is one thing which is being specially looked into by the Director General of Police who is investigating this matter.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : Mr. Minister...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Please let him complete his reply. So many members are interrupting.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : In Bombay they were immediately suspended.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : I have just explained to you that these officers are the officers of the State Government and naturally...

SHRI S. W. DHABE : What about the airport officers?

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : Security people are involved, our Customs people are involved and I tell you one thing. The Customs people have not really done anything wrong because, as you know, as there has been an alert at all the airports, the procedure at the airport is that every individual passenger has to identify his baggage and only then the baggage is allowed to be loaded in the aircraft. So, when these two bags arrived there and nobody came to identify them, the Customs Officers thought that perhaps some passenger had boarded the aircraft without identifying his baggage and they took the baggage to the aircraft so that somebody might be able to identify them; but nobody identified or claimed those bags and they were brought back. This was before the aircraft left at 8.15 p.m. And the first call came, as honourable Members will see, at 9.40, that these bags contained explosive. The Customs Officers had acted in good faith actually, just because they wanted to help somebody who they felt most probably had left this baggage behind and had boarded.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA :

It was specifically mentioned that there were bombs in that. ... (Interruptions).

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :

Why don't you allow me to reply, please?

श्री सत्यपाल मलिक (उत्तर प्रदेश) :

श्रीमन् मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। जिस तरीके से बहस हो रही है उसमें मुझे डर है कि माननीय मंत्री जा गुड फेथ में ऐसा चीजें कह सकते हैं कि जिससे होने वाली जांच पर असर पड़ेगा।

लिहाजा मैं चाहूंगा कि बहुत सावधानी के साथ जवाब दिया जाए और माननीय सदस्य भी ऐसा कोई चीज कहलवाने का कोशिश न करें जिससे कि जो होने वाली इन्कवायरी है, उसकी निष्पक्षता पर असर पड़े।

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA :

Sir, I asked a specific question. At what time was the police informed and what time did they arrive on the scene? I would request the hon. Minister to explain that.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH (Punjab) :

I would like to say that everything should be left to the inquiry officers. If there is any statement, it will confuse things further.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : It is exactly the opposite, like Punjab. It is an attempt to cover it up. ... (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, it is for you to say what you want to say. And what you can't say, nobody can force.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :

I have stated in my statement, and other wise also, that everything is under investigation by the two inquiries. ... (Interruptions) ... I don't think Punjab and this have to be compared in this fashion.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : The attempt is to cover it up. ... (Interruptions) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Please don't say these things.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :

In the end I would like to mention one thing specifically. In a speech on the 4th August 1984, Shri Premadasa, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, has once again repeated the baseless allegation he had made earlier. We deplore this. As far as the investigations are concerned, we have instituted the same already. There is no question of any joint investigation.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA :

Sir, this is unfair. ... (Interruptions) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : There

is a Message from the Lok Sabha.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA :

Sir, if the hon. Minister has no information he can say so, but he can't ignore the question. I asked a specific question. If he has no information, let him say that he has no information.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No, no.

As much as he could give, he gave.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

The Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1984.

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 Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1984, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 2nd August, 1984.

2. The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India."

Sir, I lay the Bill on the Table.