

because of the jurisdiction of the Railway Protection Force. They can only detect the crime but they cannot take any action. They have, like a private citizen, to go to the State Police and the two do not co-operate. In the case of the Central Reserve Police we have seen that it led to a crisis in Centre-State relationship in September when the Central Government sent its Central Reserve Police to Kerala against the wishes of the democratically-elected government of Kerala. If we go on multiplying these forces, such conflicts will occur whenever any one of the forces wants to be effective. So this process of setting up of numerous rival forces for one specific job should be given up and the police force as such should be strengthened. It should be given a new morale and it should be imbued with the idea of serving the people.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Completely reorganise.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : This can be done if we decide to democratise it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) : You will humanise.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : We must humanise, we must democratise. Unless we do that the police will continue to think itself to be the ruler of the citizens whom it is supposed to be serving; they will remain being suppressed.

In many countries the police force is subordinate to the democratic agencies; they have been placed under the local bodies. In this country we 1 P.M. can at least make a beginning by immediately handing over Traffic Police to local bodies. And the Government, if it is serious about its professions, if it is serious about law and order, if it is serious about making the police force an instrument of service to the people, should immediately set itself to prepare a scheme for educating the police force, humanising it and democratising it.

With these words, Mr. Vice-Chairman, I oppose this Resolution of Mr. Bhargava because I feel that setting up of one more commission will serve no useful purpose. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) : The House stands adjourned till 2 P.M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at one minute past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at two of the clock, The VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) in the Chair.

# ANNOUNCEMENT RE ALLOCATION OF TIME FOR GOVERNMENT AND OTHER BUSINESS

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) : Before we start, I have to inform Members that the Business Advisory Committee at its meeting held to-day has recommended allocation of time for Government and other business to be taken up during the current session as follows :

Business	Time allotted
1. Consideration and passing of the Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill, 1968, as passed by the Lok Sabha.	4 hrs.
2. Discussion on the Resolution seeking approval of the continuance of President's Rule in Bihar.	1 hr. 30 mts.
3. Consideration and passing of the following Bills :—	
(i) The State Agricultural Credit Corporations Bill, 1968, as passed by the Lok Sabha.	2 hrs.
(ii) The Advocates (Second Amendment) Bill, 1968.	1 hr. 30 mts.
4. Discussion on the Resolution regarding Constitution of Railway Convention Committee, 1968.	1 hr.
5. Consideration and passing of the Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 1968, as passed by the Lok Sabha.	3 hrs.

Business	Time allotted
6. Discussion on the working of the Preventive Detention Act, 1950, during the period 30th September, 1966, to 30th September, 1967, on a motion to be moved by Shri Chitta Basu at 3.30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 11th December.	2 hrs. 30 mts.
7. Discussion on the motion regarding the International Situation.	1 day

The Committee has also recommended that the House may sit till 6 p.m. as and when necessary.

#### RESOLUTION RE APPOINTMENT OF A HIGH-POWER COMMISSION TO EXAMINE THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL POSITION OF THE POLICE IN INDIA—*contd.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) : Now we go back to the original business. The Members who have given their names, Shri Banka Behary Das, Shri Kesavan (Thazhava), Shrimati Shakuntala Paranjpye, Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee and Mrs. Mangladevi Talwar, are not here. So I call the Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank the hon. Member, Shri M. P. Bhargava, for raising this important matter before this House. As a matter of fact, there is a good deal of misunderstanding in the mind of the public about the role of the Indian Police, and if that misunderstanding exists in the mind of the public, I would not blame solely the public for it. Our police force was created and brought up in certain traditions during the time of the British rule. The Indian Police Act was passed in 1861. After that, during the independence struggle a certain kind of attitude developed in the police force towards the public, and in the public mind also a certain image of the police was formed. Subsequently, after we gained our independence, we tried to reorient the attitude of the force

as well as the basic working principles of the force. And I must say that although the attempts have been successful to an extent, it still leaves a good deal to be desired. Considering individually, you can find thousands upon thousands of very devoted policemen and police officers who risk their lives and perform very good public service. We cannot forget the excellent role played by Indian policemen in North-East India while defending our borders. Also in various other dacoit-infested areas they have been, by and large, doing good work in very adverse and hostile circumstances. Yet, having said this, I cannot really deny that there is great scope for improvement. The people whom the police force seeks to serve should take the policemen as their friends. In spite of all the efforts, Sir, I do not think this attitude has developed.

Another difficulty which comes in the way of efficient functioning and proper discharge of duties on both sides is the mutual lack of trust. The people have somehow developed an attitude of not trusting, by and large, what the police does. I am not saying that it is the rule. There are exceptions, very many exceptions. But as a general observation this can be said. It is true *vice versa* also. The police force generally has an attitude of distrust towards the people and this also hampers the working of the police force. It is also true, Sir, that the working conditions and the pay and emoluments of the police force have, in some States at least, not been satisfactorily looked after. Apart from the States, we also know that in places like Delhi, a lot of improvement was necessary and the improvement was delayed. This much I can concede.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) : Particularly about their accommodation.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Yes, Sir, accommodation and their working conditions. Adequate attention in certain states was not paid. But State after State has appointed a Police Commission and those commissions have gone into these and suggested improvements in their working conditions, and their working conditions have been improved. Their pay and allowances have been looked into; their accommodation has been improved. And we, year