[10 March, 2003]

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have no doubt in my mind that they are honest and the MPs are doing their work properly. As and when a particular complaint comes, that can be inquired into. But as of now, there has been no such complaint.

As I was submitting, Sir, so far as the MPLADS is concerned, a lot of work has been done not only in Uttar Pradesh but also in other States. Even in my State a lot of work has been done. There is no question of stopping it now.

Lastly, I am grateful to the hon. Members for giving these valuable suggestions. Certainly, we will look into the matter. But as I said earlier, we are not discussing here the question of corruption in the country. It is not skindeep. It may be going into our marrows. But that is not the subject-matter of discussion today. The subject-matter of discussion today is whether on the basis of this tape-record with regard to the MPLADS it can be said that there is misappropriation of funds by the MPs. I respectfully submit that that is not evidence enough. But certainly it may be inquired into provided a proper complaint comes to the Ministry. Thank you.

GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS

REJECTION OF THE AWARD GIVEN ON 4TH FEBRUARY 1903 BY THE BOARD OF ARBITRATION IN C.A. REFERENCE NO. 2 OF 1091

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): Sir, on behalf my senior colleague, Shri L.K. Advani, I move the following Resolution:-

> "That this House approves the proposal of the Government to reject the Award given on 4th February, 1993 by the Board of Arbitration in C.A. Reference No. 2 of 1991 relating to grant of special pay to Private Secretaries (merged grades 'A' and 'B') of Central Secretariat Stenographers' Service in the Ministries and Departments of the Government of India with effect from 6th October, 1987, in terms of para 21 of the Scheme for Joint Consultative Machinery and Compulsory Arbitration, as the implementation of the Award which involves an expenditure of over Rs. 8.38 crores in payment of arrears up to March, 2000, and a recurring expenditure of Rs. 1 crore per annum, will lead to

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diversion of scarce resources from development expenditure to nonproductive expenditure and will thus adversely affect the national economy and the principle of social justice."

A statement regarding this subject has been placed on the Table of the House considering various implications including additional financial burden, repercussions on other Departments, injustice to other categories of Government servants similarly placed. The Government has not found it implementable and the Government does not have any alternative but to recommend the rejection of the Award. I request the House to approve the Resolution.

The question was proposed.

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal) : Sir, I want to raise an objection. It is not a matter of only cancellation or revocation of an Award. You cannot revoke an Award given by the Board of Arbitration just because it will impose extra burden on the exchequer. There should be some ground for it. When an arbitration is accepted, it is accepted after consultation with both the parties, the employer and the employees, the Government and the employees. Then a Board is constituted. When an arbitrator gives an Award, it is binding on all the parties. That is why it has been brought here. They want the Parliament to annul it. It is a dangerous precedent. In such cases, if every time the Government comes for cancellation of the Award, it cannot be accepted. All the more, when they bring forward such a Resolution, they should circulate the whole case; what is the position of the unions and whether they have discussed it with the Government machinery and with the concerned parties. It ought to be explained in the House. They want to annul the Award and want us to support it blindly. It is not fair on the part of the Government.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Sir, the Government is not rejecting all the Awards which were given by the Board of Arbitration. There are 169 demands which were accepted by the Board of Arbitration. Out of 169, 154 were accepted. If this Award of the Arbitration is accepted, it will have grave implications on other Ministries and Departments. So, it is very difficult for the Government to accept this award. Otherwise, we are accepting most of the recommendations or demands, which have been given by the Board of Arbitration.

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SHRI JIBON ROY : What is the position of other arbitrations?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the question is:

"That this House approves the proposal of the Government to reject the Award given on 4th February, 1993 by the Board of Arbitration in C.A. Reference No. 2 of 1991 relating to grant of special pay to Private Secretaries (merged grades 'A' and 'B') of Central Secretariat Stenographers' Service in the Ministries and Departments of the Government of India with effect from 6th October, 1987, in terms of para 21 of the Scheme for Joint Consultative Machinery and Compulsory Arbitration, as the implementation of the Award which involves an expenditure of over Rs. 8.38 crores in payment of arrears upto March, 2000, and a recurring expenditure of Rs. 1 crore per annum, will lead to diversion of scarce resources from development expenditure to non-productive expenditure and will thus adversely affect the national economy and the principle of social justice."

The motion was adopted.

REJECTION OF AWARD GIVEN ON 30/7/1998 BY THE BOARD OF ARBITRATION IN C.A.REF.NO.11 OF 1992

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution on behalf of my senior colleague, Shri LK.Advani:

> "That this House approves the proposal of the Government to reject the Award given on 30^m July, 1998 by the Board of Arbitration in C.A. Reference No. 11 of 1992 relating to upward revision of pay scales of Stenographers' Grade 'D' of Central Secretariat Stenographers' Services with effect from 6^m December, 1991, in terms of Para 21 of the Scheme for Joint Consultative Machinery and Compulsory Arbitration, as the implementation of the Award which involves an expenditure of over Rs. 32.36 crores in payment of arrears up to December, 1999 and a recurring expenditure of Rs. 6.45 crores per annum, will lead to diversion of

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