

## APPENDIX II

### STATEMENT BY UNION HOME MINISTER FURTHER TO HIS STATEMENT IN THE RAJYA SABHA ON SEPTEMBER 6, 1965 ON THE DEMAND FOR PUNJABI SUBA (STATEMENT DATED 23RD SEPTEMBER, 1965).

Sir,

In the statement I made in this House on September 6, 1965, I had referred to Prime Minister's talks with Sant Fateh Singh in which he had made it clear that no effort would be spared by Government to remove the sense of grievance in regard to the language question, the functioning of regional committees and other matters and that if there were any deficiencies, they would be looked into and put right. I had also mentioned the fact that the demand for a Punjabi Suba had been revived by Sant Fateh Singh.

2. I am sure I am voicing the opinion of everyone in this House and outside that we were greatly relieved to learn that particularly in the face of Pakistan's aggression, Sant Fateh Singh did not pursue the idea of his fast, and as expected of a distinguished patriotic leader, gave his whole-hearted support to the defence effort.

3. In my statement on the 6th September, 1965, I had said that the whole question could be examined afresh with an open mind and that Government would be prepared to have further talks on the subject. I had also expressed the hope that a co-operative solution would be discovered based on goodwill and a reasoned approach.

4. Government have now decided to set up a committee of the Cabinet to pursue this matter further. The Committee will consist of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Shri Y. B. Chavan and Shri Mahavir Tyagi.

5. Sir, I would request you and the Speaker, Lok Sabha to set up a Parliamentary Committee of Members of both Houses of Parliament presided over by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

6. I am confident that the deliberations of this Cabinet Committee and of the Parliamentary Committee of Parliament will lead to a satisfactory settlement of the question.