

sary to stress that Articles 79 to 123 which deal with provisions relating to Parliament including Parliamentary privileges, do not provide specifically a system of checks and balances which has to operate from within and not without Parliament. Regrettably, this is still to happen and hence, the urgent need to take the first step, that is, to initiate a public debate and enquiry into the issue of salaries and perquisites to prevent Members of Parliament from being holders of defacto offices of profit and to restore its esteem in the public eye.

It is my considered view that if allowed unchecked, this type of

indulgence will undermine the very foundation of democracy and erode people's faith in it. Therefore, my humble request to you all who constitute the opinion makers of the country, to give serious thought to this matter, raise the issue at appropriate fora in order to establish a proper convention and an institutional mechanism on this subject, which should not only be legitimate but appear to be so.

I feel that adoption of a development strategy bereft of people's initiative and their pro-active role has been responsible for the aforesaid external aid and external and internal loan-dependency-syndrome, and consequent profligacy, corrup-

## STATEMENT SHOWING EXPENDITURE ON VARIOUS HIGH UPS

**Table - IV**

S.No.	Name	Actuals	
		2002-03	2003-04
		(In crore of Rupees)	
1	President & Its Secretariat	9.94	14.55
2	Vice President & Its Secretariat	0.97	1.07
3	Lok Sabha - Speaker, Dy. Speaker, LO Leaders, Chief Whips, Members* - Its Secretariat	222.78	244.90
4	Rajya Sabha - Chairman, Dy. Chairman,	77.90	92.25
5	Council of Ministers & Prime Minister	74.33	122.52
6	Special Protection Group**	60.09	77.46
7	Ex-Presidents Pension	0.05	0.09
	Other Entitlements	0.19	0.20
8	Ex-MPs Pension	4.76	5.64
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>451.01</b>	<b>558.68</b>

\* Includes provision for Railway Travel Facilities for former MPs.

\*\* Includes security for former Prime Minister and members of their immediate family.

*Source: Budget Papers- Ministers- Finance, Home Affairs (vol.1), Parliament, Secretariates of the President and Vice-President- Detailed Demands for Grants for 2004-05.*