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Title: Introduction of Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make special provisions for repression of piracy on high seas and to provide for punishment for the offence of piracy and for matters connected therewith on incidental thereto.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत हुआ :

“कि खुले समुद्र में जलदस्युता के दमन के लिए विशेष उपबंध करने के लिए और जलदस्युता के अपराध के लिए दंड और उससे संबंधित तथा उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए ।”

डॉ. शशि थरूर जी, क्या आप बोलना चाहते हैं?

...(व्यवधान)

DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Yes, Sir. I oppose the introduction of the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*). The basic issue is that the Supreme Court has ruled that death penalty can only be in the rarest of rare cases, whereas this Bill has an automatic provision for death penalty to be applied as one of only two opinions under the law.

Secondly, you are putting the country in a situation where it will be impossible for us to get the cooperation of foreign countries because of the death penalty here. Therefore, we need a Bill which does not

involve the violation of the international principle of not having the death penalty. There is the issue. I, therefore, oppose the Bill.

DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR: Sir, through you, I would like the hon. Member to recognize that the Bill actually does not have an automatic death penalty. Article 3 of the Bill says that whoever commits any act of piracy, shall be punished with imprisonment for life or with death, if such a person is in the committing act of piracy, causes death or attempt thereof. So, it is factually incorrect to say that there is automatic death penalty. So, I would urge the hon. Member not to see a rigidity that is not there in the Bill.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है :

“कि खुले समुद्र में जलदस्युता के दमन के लिए विशेष उपबंध करने के लिए और जलदस्युता के अपराध के लिए दंड और उससे संबंधित तथा उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाए ।”

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR: Sir, I introduce the Bill.