

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 1996-97, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

12.36 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (NO. 2) BILL, 1996*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amount spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March 1994 in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1994 in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I introduce** the Bill

MR. SPEAKER: Now motion for consideration.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1994 in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1994, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extra Ordinary Part-II, Section-2 dated 26.7.96.

** Introduced and moved with the recommendations of the President.

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clause 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 to 4 were added to the Bill"

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That the schedule stands part V of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

CONSERVATION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND PREVENTION OF SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 (COFEPOSA) was enacted to provide for preventive detention in certain cases for the purposes of:

(a) Conservation and augmentation of foreign exchange (with reference to foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 or FERA); and

(b) Prevention of smuggling activities and for matters connected therewith.

In recent years, India has been facing a serious problem on smuggling activities at International Airports and Sea Ports. The menace of smuggling has not abetted in any way despite the import of five kilograms of gold and hundred kilograms of silver per passenger allowed by Government on payment of nominal custom duty in convertible foreign exchange. Even though a number of measures under the Customs Act, 1962 have been taken in the past namely adjudication and prosecution proceedings and the provisions for preventive detention under the COFEPOSA Act, 1974, smuggling continues to be a serious problem to our economy.