

[English]

PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORIY (Howrah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue that I want to raise is about the Bills passed by the State Legislatures, awaiting with the Centre for its approval and assent.

We all know that any successful functioning of this polity of ours depends on mutual understanding and cooperation and on the assurance of the Centre that the Bills that are sent to them will be passed or assent will be given to them within a specified period of time. Any delay in such matters causes disbelief.

We would all surely agree that we should avoid that position.

Many States have sent certain Bills which are pending with the Central Government. I do not know the details of Bills of other States. But, Sir, so far as West Bengal is concerned, some seven important Bills are pending. The Trade Union (West Bengal) Amendment Bill, 1983, it has been received by the Centre on 22.11.1983. The Calcutta University (Amendment) Bill, 1984, Rabin-dra Cultural Institute (Taking over of Management) (Amendment) Bill, Howrah Municipal Corporation Bill, (Second Amendment) Bill, The Asansol Municipal Corporation Bill, Chandernagore Municipal Corporation Bill and Siliguri Municipal Corporation Bill are awaiting approval from the Government.

Therefore, I shall request you to direct the Minister to take necessary steps in this regard so that these Bills get the assent without any delay.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Citorgauh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier in the day, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shri George Fernandes and Shri Chandra Shekhar raised an issue, involving several thousand crores of rupees as a scam from the banking system of the country, including the National Housing Bank. The Government with some alacrity-Shri Chidambaram and indeed the Finance Min-

ister had responded and had been attempting to satisfy both Shri Chandra Shekhar and Shri Atalji. The public utterances in Parliament was satisfied or not, I do not know. Perhaps, they have managed to satisfy Shri Atalji and Shri Chandra Shekhar.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): You are assuming that.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I am assuming that. In a similar fashion, we have raised the issue of Bofors, for the whole day yesterday. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you allow other Members to make their points please, at least in the last two, three days? I will allow you also to raise that matter at the end. Please take your seat now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI (Kasaragod): Sir, the General Secretary of All India Passport Employees Association is on an indefinite hunger strike since 22.4.1992. The demands of the association appear to be just.

Even though the Passport applications rose from 13 lakhs to 35 lakhs from 1980 to 1992, the number of employees remain static at 1449. The chances of promotion is also almost nil. The service condition is also not satisfactory.

I call upon the Minister of External Affairs to interfere and settle the issue amicably and avert catastrophe. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I am constrained to with your permission raise a matter with regard to an officer of a Central Public Sector Undertaking who has been victimised only because I have raised an issue concerning that undertaking. It has been suspected by the Ministry that that officer was responsible for passing on the information.

Sir, for six years, Mr. A. K. Moitra was