

*Disapproval of Prev.
of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic
Drugs & Psychotropic
substances (Amend.) Ord.
and Bill; and*

14.40 Hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE.
DISAPPROVAL OF THE PRE-
VENTION OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC
IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSY-
CHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES
(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE,
1990;

PREVENTION OF ILLICIT TRAF-
FIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND
PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES
(AMENDMENT) BILL;

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE.
DISAPPROVAL OF THE CONSER-
VATION OF FOREIGN EX-
CHANGE AND PREVENTION OF
SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES
(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE,
1990;

AND

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

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now the House will take up Items 8 to 11 together for discussion. May I suggest that Shri Jaswant Singh may move both statutory resolutions standing in his name at Serial Numbers 8 and 10 and then speak? Either Prof. Madhu Dandavate or Shri Anil Shastri may move for consideration of the two Bills in his name at Serial Numbers 9 and 11.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Jodhpur): I beg to move:

"That this House disapproves of the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Ordinance, 1990 (Ordinance No. 4 of 1990) promulgated by the President on the 30th July, 1990."

I beg to move:

"That this House disapproves of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1990 (Ordinance No. 5 of 1990) promulgated by the President on the 30th July, 1990."

My objection is very simple. It is because a good and eminent colleague like the Union Finance Minister is there whose sense of parliamentary propriety, none of us can better. My objection rests principally on the ground that both these Ordinances, otherwise eminently necessary were, in fact, promulgated after the Parliament had been summoned and, I am sure my good friend and senior colleague, the Union Finance Minister, would appreciate that the point that I am trying to make is not trivial. He runs his Ministry with great efficiency and great dedication. These simple Ordinances are the extension of those very provisions for another period of time to which we object.

Surely, the Secretariat of the Ministry could have well envisaged that these need to be extended and this very step, even through an Ordinance, could have been taken before the Parliament has been summoned.

I leave this at that because that is not a matter for discussion just now and I am conscious that when I make this submission perhaps it is not the time when it would be fashionable to talk of it considering the constraint that we have on balance of payments and foreign exchange requirements and I would like the Union Finance Minister to examine whether it is Foreign Exchange Regulation Act as such or whether COFEPOSA which is how it is spoken of now, had now not subverted their purpose as the physical restraints on the conservation or control of foreign exchange. We are not now required to apply our

minds afresh on these aspects because, for example, in the last para, one of the provisions is that we must encourage the flow of foreign funds in the country. That is one of the provisions. That is not under discussion. I am just suggesting. I am confident that the hon. Minister has said that if that was applied perhaps it is time that these two regulations merited some reconsideration.

My objection was simple and technical. I have stated it in precisely four minutes that I had sought from you.

Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): Do you want me to speak just now? Others can speak. Are there speakers?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes. There are.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: In that case, I will speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: But you have to move the Bill.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: There have been precedents on both of them. I saw all the parliament proceedings. After statutory resolution is moved, the general discussion goes on. That is what I say.

I will only move. As far as speaking is concerned, I will do it. This is what I say.

Since both the items are to be taken up together, I would move both the Bills for consideration.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do so.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in

Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988, be taken into consideration."

"That the Bill further to amend the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motions moved:

"That this House disapproves of the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Ordinance, 1990 (Ordinance No. 4 of 1990) Promulgated by the President on the 30th July, 1990."

"That the Bill further to amend the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988, be taken into consideration."

"That this House disapproves of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1990 (Ordinance No. 5 of 1990) promulgated by the President on the 30th July, 1990."

"That the Bill further to amend the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, be taken into consideration."

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, as I said earlier, I only formally moved the Bills for consideration. After the speeches are over, I will speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes. Now, Dr., Chinta Mohan to speak.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as far as this Ordinance No. 5 of 1990 is concerned, it doesn't appear right to me that it should have been brought in the form of an Ordinance. Prof.

[Dr. Chinta Mohan]

Dandavate, being a senior Parliamentarian knew that the term is going to be completed by 31st July. Therefore, instead of bringing it in the form of an Ordinance, he should have brought it in the form of a Bill in the last Budget Session. But fortunately or unfortunately he had brought it on 30th July. But before talking on this Ordinance, I would like to recall my experience in the last Eighth Lok Sabha. When Prof. Dandavate was sitting in the Opposition Benches whenever there was a question of Ordinance, he used to say that resort to Ordinance is undemocratic. He used to express his dissatisfaction always. But I do not know why a senior Parliamentarian like Prof. Madhu Dandavate brought this Act in the form of an Ordinance. Instead of bringing it forward in the form of an Ordinance, he should have brought it as a Bill in the last Budget Session. Had he done so, we would have been happy for that. Anyway, he is sitting in the Treasury Benches now. He can do anything. He can use Ordinances. But the Ordinance should be used very sparingly. They are using this Ordinance as a weapon and trying to bulldoze the sanctity of Parliament.

Secondly, the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act of 1974 is there. I do not know how far it is helpful. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether these acts really serve the purpose to control the smuggling activities etc. going on in this country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that in the 8-9 months time, how many FERA cases have been booked and what action he has taken in this regard. To my mind, it appears that some DRI officers go and register the case and after some time it will go to some other Board or Appellate Board or some such thing. After that it goes to High Court, and then to the Supreme Court and like that. Ultimately a number of years are being prolonged in this

case. Finally they say that there is no evidence for such types of cases. Even if at all there is evidence, the imprisonment may be for two years. He has stated in Section (9), Sub-Section (1) that there is place for detention. People raise crores of rupees through smuggling activities. For them a simple imprisonment or a fine of Rs. 500 will not matter. Please look at the other neighbouring countries. There, the imprisonment is for 7 years or 10 years. Why not the Minister make such sort of an imprisonment applicable in the case of FERA. In section 10 he has stated that the detention is for a minimum period of about two years. Instead of two years, he should have made it to 7-8 years. By doing so, really we can try to curb the FERA problems here. Before coming to Parliament, I had noticed a small thing. Some DRI Officer called a noted, big industrialist Shri Manu Chabria. He was called. But the industrialist has not turned up, has not given his remarks. This is the type of thing that is going on. Prof. Dandavate is a senior Parliamentarian. He can use this Act to curb such type of practices. But he is not doing anything. I would, therefore, request him to make this law more effective and see to it that something is done. So many Acts are there. I would like to know what exactly he is trying to do. How is he going to meet the Foreign Exchange position of this country? I want to know the details in this regard.

Sir, with these words, I disapprove these types of Ordinances brought before this Parliament. But as the acts are important to the country, I am forced to accept them.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I call upon the Member to speak, I may tell the House that there are amendments to the Bills which are moved. There is one amendment suggested by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

Another amendment for circulation is by Shri Harish Rawat and the third amendment for circulation is by Shri Kusuma Krishna Murthy. I would like to know whether they are moving their amendments or not.

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava—Not moving.

Shri Harish Rawat—Not moving

Shri Kusuma Krishna Murthy—Not present.

There are some amendments suggested by the hon. Members. I would like to know whether they are moving their amendments or not.

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava—Not moving.

Shri Pyarelal Khandelwal—Not present.

Shri Harish Rawat—Not moving

Shri Kusuma Krishna Murthy—Not present.

SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO (Anantnag): I have also suggested an amendment...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: May be, the amendments that you have suggested are not for circulation. They may be to the Clauses.

Now I call Shri Ajoy Mukhopadhyay to speak.

SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY (Krishnagar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker. Sir, I rise to support the Bills which have been placed here by the hon. Finance Minister and which will simply replace the ordinance. I am also of the opinion that this Bill could have been brought in the last session of the Parliament itself. I would like to make some comments with this observation.

The drug addiction is a big threat to the entire nation and now it is a global phenomenon. If I am permitted to say, I must say that it is a big challenge to the human civilization. So far, I have come to know that in India drug peddling has been linked with arms smuggling and terrorism. Delhi Police also have some evidence of some known terrorists who have been involved in drug trafficking. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs noted the existence of evidence in number of countries, supporting the conclusion that clear links exist in many parts of the world between the drug trafficking and terrorism and other organised criminal activities. We know that India was being increasingly used as a transit country for illicit drug traffic in heroin originating in parts of Middle East and South East Asia. Presently, I know there is evidence that substantial processing of opium into different stages of heroin is taking place in this country. Americans and Italian mafia are playing a role here. And the mafia connection is also growing.

So far as the Annual Report of the Ministry for the year 1989-90 is concerned, I have seen that India is one of the few countries which was permitted to produce opium for export purposes. The production of Indian opium naturally is export-oriented. But the figures show that there is a decline in the trend. The challenge is coming from different countries like USA, Turkey, etc.

In this Act, that is Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act 1985, which was strengthened by amendments, we have seen that there is a provision for forfeiture of property. Even, there is a provision of death sentence on second conviction in certain cases. But we do not know whether there is any single case of death sentence so far. The measures to fight back this danger of drug addiction

[Sh. Ajoy Mukhopadhyay]

should be strengthened: there is no doubt in it and there should not be two opinions about it: but that is not sufficient. Social awareness must be created and the media should be utilised for this purpose more effectively and all the political parties and mass organisations should come forward to save the nation from drug addiction. Because our future generation is gradually taking to the path of drug addiction. Govt. must take up a comprehensive programme for this purpose.

I have told earlier that this has become a global phenomenon. USA tops the list. I have gathered that manufactured by expert chemists, a new wave of potent heroin analogues far more deadly than heroin itself is sweeping USA. Designer drugs are made by performing small alterations in the molecular structure of a controlled substance. The result is that the drug which is being produced is thousand times more potent, than the original. Yet technically those who are producing this—the chemists—are let scot free, because the drug which is being newly produced, which is thousand times more potent, is not in the lists of drugs which are not permitted. Lists of prohibited drugs are coming out and in those lists this drug is not there. It is a dangerous thing. In the recent past we have seen that USA administration did not hesitate to make a naked armed invasion in Panama on the plea that Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega was an international drug racketeer.

15.00 hrs.

The country which tops the list in drug trafficking is shamelessly attacking the other countries on that charge. They are invading the other countries. This is a paradox. I think, the Government of India should be very firm to era-

dicate this social evil, which is growing. This is not a task of the Government only. All the political organisations as well as mass organisations have also got their duty to motivate the people against the drug addiction. So, the Bills which have been placed here and will replace the Ordinances, must be enacted.

Lastly, I would also like to say that this tremendous task of saving the entire nation—the civilisation—rests on everybody particularly the representatives of the people who have assembled here.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome both these Bills which have been brought forward with noble objectives in mind. I would like to urge upon the hon. Finance Minister to remove the technical difficulties in the way of implementing these Bills, by carrying out these two small amendments. The consumption or usage of Narcotics and psychotropic substances which are termed as Drugs is increasing day by day and the smugglers are indulging in drug trafficking on large scale in a well-planned and organised way. Gradually it is emerging not only as a threat to our social system and economy but also to our sovereignty and territorial integrity. At present, the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu and the border areas of Gujarat and Kashmir are among the most vulnerable areas. Despite the token presence of the Customs Department officials in these areas and with the increased activities of the Army and the para-military forces, it appears that we are not able to control drug trafficking in the border areas and that we have left it for the armed forces to check these nefarious activities. Smuggling activities have increased considerably in the areas bordering Nepal also. Drugs too

have started arriving from Japan and other countries alongwith some other petty items. Even Drug Mafias have started operating in that areas. Drug trafficking was an unknown phenomena in the Nainital District of Uttar Pradesh but now there are many such gangs involved in these activities on a large scale. These gangs are having links with other gangs working at national and international levels. The House too is anxious to know the number of such incidents during this period. So I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister kindly to inform the House about the same because new gangs are emerging day by day. If action is initiated against the old timers in the trade, then their jackstraws continue with these activities by forming new gangs with new names. Unfortunately, some individuals in the State machinery too are hand in gloves with them. This is posing a threat to our very social fabric. The number of young drug addicts in Delhi is rapidly increasing due to the easy availability of drugs in the capital. These are easily available even to Junior High School and High School students. Someone positively might be knowing about it; the police might be knowing about such things taking place under its nose, but we never hear about the arrest of any notorious gang or person involved in such activities. Even most of those apprehended across the borders are jackstraws through whom internations Mafia carry out their nefarious activities. This is the condition in Bombay too. Even our air routes are not spared and many people coming from Singapore and Thailand are actively involved in drug trafficking and the number of such cases too are on the increase. Therefore, it is necessary to revitalise the organisations entrusted with the work of checking such activities. The best possible training should be imparted to the officers and other staff of these

organisations and they should be provided with the sophisticated equipment and the latest operational techniques, methods, know-how etc. so that the persons involved in drug peddling and trafficking may be apprehended. At present the organisations entrusted with the responsibility of controlling and checking drug trafficking are in possession of obsolete equipments which are unable to detect the offenders. Further, the smugglers have modern machinery and the latest techniques to escape the trap laid by the authorities. But it is also a problem that whenever we detect the techniques adopted by these smugglers and try to offset them, they come with new techniques. Therefore I would like to urge upon that we should devise a long term plan on which we may work and can claim without any hesitation that we would definitely be in a position to check and control the drug trafficking.

I would like to impress upon the hon. Minister two main points. Firstly it is necessary to improve the conditions of those drug de-addiction centres, psychiatric treatment centres and voluntary organisations engaged in the work of de-addiction psychiatric treatment and Voluntary organisations engaged in the work of de-addiction and rehabilitation of drug addicts. I won't say that there is a need to open more such centres in Delhi but it is necessary to improve the condition of those already engaged in the field. The Government on its part should not be found wanting, even if there is need to provide them with additional financial assistance. Specially there is a need to promote such organisations which are devoting their energetic activities exclusively for this purpose because they are indeed doing a commendable work. There is a need to encourage such organisations working in other states as well. Arrangements similar to those in Delhi should be made in

[Sh. Harish Rawat]

other states also. Drug addiction is gaining ground in the border and coastal areas of the country, where such phenomena was unheard of, once, the names of some drugs, which were totally unknown for us, are quite common for the youth of those areas. These drugs are openly sold even in the hostels of small colleges. Recently I came across 4-5 such cases in my constituency also. These drugs have become popular in areas where such things were never heard of. Therefore, I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to provide more assistance to voluntary organisations working all out to check this ever growing menace. Alongwith this, steps should also be taken to improve the condition of De-addiction centres being run by the Government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the opium producers. Poppy is grown by farmers on a large scale in some areas of Uttar Pradesh. The Government controls their production and maintains a strict vigilance over those areas. However, despite all this, the smugglers make such fool-proof arrangements in some villages that ultimately even the average farmers who hand over all their produce to the Government falls victims of slander and infamy. I would like to urge upon the Government to find out ways and means to provide these farmers with alternative vocations and if finances are necessary for this purpose, the Government should make the necessary arrangements in consultation with the State Government. Along with this, the Government should also ensure that poppy is grown only on state-owned farms and not on farms owned by individual farmers. In this regard arrangements should also be made to provide the necessary incentives to farmers opting

for other vocations for their livelihood. In certain areas of Dehradun poppy cultivation has been a traditional occupation of the people. I talked to some persons there and came to know that they have been practising this vocation, since the time they were unaware of its ill effects and its harmfulness and that on this part, they don't do anything wrong but some middlemen and traders force them to do wrong things and as a result, they have been accused and held responsible in some cases and thus have become infamous too. Therefore, if the Government after having talks with them gets them engaged in the cultivation of other crops, they may earn more. They themselves say that instead of taking preventive action against them or chasing them under the law, if the Government makes alternative arrangements for them, they are prepared to abandon poppy cultivation. There is an urgent need to attack the very foundations of this growing menace. With these words I support these two Bills.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit my views very briefly in support of both these Bills. I would like to draw your attention towards certain points as this Bill seeks to increase the ban for a period of three more years. Since smuggling has become a vocation for thousands of people who are illegally engaged in it, it has assumed not only an inter-state but also an international dimension. All the measures which are being taken to stop this illegal international trade, have proved futile. As a result, its ill effects are increasing in society day by day and a number of evils have come up. Today, narcotics like Hashish, Heroin, Brown sugar are being sold openly in the market. One can have smack even from a pan stall. But you seem to have neither the capacity nor the will to stop all

this. The international gangs have come up despite your all efforts to stop them. We have read in a newspaper that these drugs were found in capsule form in the stomach of a Nigerian tourist. With such incidents coming into light, you can easily imagine the tactics and methods being employed by these people to cheat the authorities. As a result such things are increasing all over the world. Sometimes even officials are found engaged in such activities. I can very well recall an incident in which an official recovered heroin, and later on he himself tried to hush up the case. Similarly, in an other incident, opium was dubbed as something else. I mean to say that such officials of doubtful credibility should also be punished, otherwise even the strictest measures are bound to fail.

Sir, my constituency is the foremost poppy growing centre in Asia, therefore I am aware of its problems. I know the problems of the farmers also. I feel that today the farmer is in a more problematic situation with regard to opium. Right since the time of the sowing of poppy, the farmer faces a lot of problems because your officials are in collusion with international smugglers and that is why the farmer has to face the music. I would like to request the hon. Minister that the informer who helps to get arrested the smugglers should be given special award. You should issue similar instructions to State Governments also. So that the stern action can be taken against these antisocial elements. The penal code should also be amended if necessary ... *(Interruptions)*... The price issue is not significant here. However, it is also important to look to the disparity between the price given in black market and that given by the Government. What are the compelling circumstances before the farmers leading to opium cultivation? This is a

separate issue but I wish that opium cultivators should be given remunerative prices. The Bill under discussion has a wider subject. This seeks to ban the proliferation of narcotics like Heroin, Hashish, Smack and Brown Sugar. This Bill is concerned not only with opium but also with foreign exchange and other materials and drugs which are smuggled on international level. To come forward with any provision to arrest their proliferation, will definitely be beneficial. But side-by-side, I would like to request the Hon'ble Minister that the opium cultivators should also be protected and you must make some provision for it. You can devise the most stringent laws, if necessary, to check the proliferation of social crimes. This crisis has taken an international dimension and its effect is seen not only in India but also in the countries like Lanka, Burma and Thailand etc. According to a news report, 75% of Americans are also in its grip. These data show that this disease has taken a very serious turn and needs effective treatment. I would like to submit that these two Bills were necessary to make to existing provisions strict so that such types of social evils may be eliminated forever. Again, I would like to say that since the amendments were moved late, I would like to request the mover of the amendments to withdraw the same.

[English].

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Bill, 1990, which is now before the House for discussion. The Bill seeks to extend Section 10 of the Act for further period of three years. I feel this is a very necessary legislation. The control of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs is one of the major tasks which the

[Sh. A. Charles]

Governments all over the world are now facing. India is also producing a large quantity of Opium both licitly as well as illicitly. According to the Report, in 1987-88 about 50 MT of Opium was produced in 22,500 hectare of land. There was a reserve of about 2000 MT in that year. We have sold about 600 MT. Every year, we are consuming about 100 MT. This has really affected even the family life in the remote villages and in the cities. Now, different types of narcotics are available everywhere. In the cities, parents are not even able to send their children to schools and colleges. Because, around the educational institutions also, there were a lot of facilities available for getting different kinds of narcotics, in different forms and children, without knowing about the ill effects slowly get them and consume them. So, we have to take very strong action. But, unfortunately, most of our efforts are against those persons who come from the lower strata of society and who are being used by big kingpins.

There was a news item which appeared just a week back that in America a special agent of the US Drug Enforcement Agency was arrested by his colleagues when he was found transporting 26 Kgs. of cocaine for the drug cartel which he was supposed to be fighting. So, the top man who was supposed to prevent drug trafficking was himself one of the agents who was carrying on the business. In most cases, such kingpins often get escaped. In Trivandram, I know a specific case, where two boys were used for the sale of a small quantity of opium. Without knowing the menace, these two boys were sent in an Autorickshaw. There was also another person. One of the boys was carrying two small packets. Actually, the boy does not know what it contains and the police came and stopped the vehicle. The person who used the

boys ran away. The children who did not know what it was, were caught. This is a case which I personally know. And surprisingly when it came to the Court only one packet was there and the other packet was missing. That was taken away by the police. Quite unfortunately, even though these two children were arrested and now the prosecution is going on, the person who was in the same Autorickshaw was not arrested. There was no attempt made to trace him out. Now effort has been made to find out the real culprit. So, whatever be the law, we have to be very fair in seeing that the real culprits are booked and stringent punishments are given.

Another factor which is there in the smuggling is this. There are lots of opportunities in smuggling for making huge profits. By smuggling these drugs, you can make more profits as compared to smuggling gold. So that is one temptation. We have to find out some way as to how such a huge profit earning method can be stopped somehow so that the temptation of smuggling may be limited. There are various methods of smuggling. The Reports show that even shipments which are supposed to be carrying fruits, a major portion of them are used for carrying or smuggling drugs. Even the hollowed legs of the furniture are stuffed with smuggled drugs. These substances are concealed even on the side pockets. Even during imports or exports, such things do occur. So, there are various methods of smuggling and we have to find out such methods and stop them. Anyway, we have to take stern action against this sort drug trafficking so that the future generation may be saved from this menace.

I come from Trivandrum and I am pained to say that the University College of Trivandrum, i.e. in my constituency where I have had the rare privilege of studying for four

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years—it was one of the ancient colleges located in Kerala—in 1988, there was a shocking report. That Report was published in the *Kerala Gomathi*, one of the leading dailies. In the front page, there was a photograph of a student of the University College, who was given an injection of a particular drug in the broad day light when the college was going on. This is the state of affairs where we have reached. Unless, we take very stringent measures to find out the real culprits and give them proper punishment, I am afraid, the future generations will be totally lost. So, I fully share the concern of all my colleagues who have spoken earlier and I support this Bill with all strength at my command.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support both these Bills introduced by the hon. Minister. The farmers cultivate opium because of more money. But its side effects are extremely disturbing. Even the children consume it and it is eating into the very base of the society. Therefore, I would like to point out that this menace cannot be wiped out by just enacting legislation. For this, you will have to encourage the farmers to cultivate some other crops which may fetch more remunerative prices.

With the increasing amount of legislation, the cultivation of opium is also increasing instead of decreasing. It means that its cultivation can be stopped only if proper encouragement may be given by the Government to the farmers.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: But what should be done?

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: The alternative and remunerative crop cultivation should be encouraged.

I would like to demand that you should take stern action in the matter and give remunerative prices for alternative crops to ensure better future for the Farmer's Children. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (Mandi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Bills introduced by the hon. Minister of Finance and also the views expressed by hon. Shri Jaswant Singh on

[*English*]

Prevention of Illicit traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, as far as the narcotic drugs are concerned, this is no longer a problem of cities alone. It has reached even the far-flung areas. You might be aware of the fact that the people of hilly regions are generally honest, labourious and simple. But after the advent of Hippies in these areas particularly in my constituency.....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Maheshwarji, you can speak on this item tomorrow because now, it is time for the Private Members' Business.