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India and U.S.A. has become the cause of many misunderstandings among the intellectuals, scientists and other citizens of the country. Some time back 20 senior scientists in a signed statement expressed their doubts over several of its aspects and legal complications.

Even a British Biologist Maurice Wilkins has openly stated that the United States is financing 40 genetic engineering programmes ostensibly to develop vaccines, but ultimately aimed at promoting their capability in the field of biological warfare. There are most serious apprehensions concerning the testing of what are called high-tech or genetically engineered vaccines on human subjects in India, the possibility of epidemiological (study of the cause of epidemic diseases) data being misused for biological warfare and the protection of intellectual property, copyright and patent rights of the two countries.

It appears that under the cover of Article VI of this Treaty an attempt is being made by Multi-nationals to bulldoze India into signing the Paris Convention, in spite of the categorical statement earlier made by the Government that it would in no way tamper with the Indian Patent Act 1970 and has no intention to join the Paris Convention.

The Government of India may kindly initiate action to remove the fear and apprehensions of this large and important section of people regarding article VI of this pact.

(ix) Need for live telecast of Car Festival in Puri

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : The temple of Lord Jagannath at Puri attracts pilgrims from all over the world. Temple is of monumental magnitude. The cult of Jagannath is pervading everywhere. The temple of Lord Jagannath is prevailing everywhere. The temple of Lord Jagannath is of international fame. In this temple no caste barrier is maintained. All castes from Brahmin to Harijan are allowed entry in his temple. Lord Jagannath is worshipped

by one and all. There is a conglomeration of religions in this temple. Lord Jagannath symbolises the synthesis of all religions. Every one must have heard about SALBEG, a muslim devotee of Lord Jagannath. The car festival of Lord Jagannath is not only celebrated in India, but also in America and other countries of the world.

Many foreigners visit Puri to witness the car festival. The temple is magnificent edifice of great significance architectural splendour. Jagannath Dharma preaches universal peace, progress and brotherhood. It is high time that direct telecast should be made of the car festival which has international significance.

(x) Agitation by Purbanchaliya Rail Karmi Sanstha for revocation of Punitive action against certain railway employees

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kalia-bor) : The Purbanchaliya Rail Karmi Sanstha has again staged a Charma in the Boat Club, New Delhi on 17, 18 and Hunger Strike on 19th November, 1987 in connection with their 25 point of charter demands. Earlier, the Santha had staged Dharna and hunger strike at the Boat Club, New Delhi on 13.8.86 and 10.7.87 respectively and submitted memorandum to the Hon. Minister of State for Railways on 13.8.86 and 13.8.87 urging for revocation of punitive action on 10-11 of their employees. But the same has not been considered as yet. The Santha was a partner in the agitation on Foreign Nationals issue in Assam led by the All Assamese Students Union and Assam Gana Sangram Parishad in a democratic manner for last seven years. Ultimately the Government of India came out with an agreement with the Movement leaders considering their demands. But unfortunately the Assam Accord has remained a scrap of paper. In view of the Assam Accord, the State Government has considered the grievances of the State Government employees and all punitive actions have been withdrawn against the employees. But surprisingly the Central Government employees like the Rail employees, oil employees and others have been kept in the darkness as yet and no actions in their favour have been taken.