

14.22 hrs.

TERRORIST AND DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES (PREVENTION) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): On behalf of S. Bhuta Singh, I beg to move for leave to introduce Bill to make special provisions for the prevention of and for coping with terrorist and disruptive activities and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make special provisions for the prevention of and for coping with terrorist and disruptive activities and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I introduce the Bill.

14.22 1/2 hrs

STATEMENT RE: TERRORIST AND DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES (PREVENTION) ORDINANCE, 1987.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): On behalf of S. Buta Singh: I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Ordinance, 1987 [Placed in library. See No. LT-4634/87]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up matters under Rule 377.

14.23 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

(1) Demand for developing Deghar in Bihar as a tourist resort.

SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH (Banka): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Deoghar district in Bihar is a very backward district but it is extremely important from the point of view of our ancient culture and spiritual traditions. This district has a long history. It is the most important place of pilgrimage as well as there is twelfth 'Jyotirlingam' i.e. 'Kamana Lingam' Deoghar, means the 'Abode of Gods.' 'Jyotirlingam' is installed in the temple here. Nearly 80 lakh pilgrims and tourists visit this place every year. There is a legend that Lord Ram Chandra brought water of the river Ganga and worshipped 'Shiv Lingam' here. Accordingly, lakhs of devotees fetch water from Sultanganj (Bhagalpur) and travel 90 kms on foot carrying that water on their shoulders to worship Lord Shiva with it. During the month of 'Shravana' every year, nearly 5 lakh tourists visit the Shiv temple daily to worship Lord Shiva. In spite of its being such an important place from the point of view of tourism, neither good hotels nor any direct bus service from Patna is available here. Small tourist lodges have been constructed by the Bihar Government but they are not sufficient keeping in view the number of tourists visiting this place. There are several attractive tourists spots in the adjacent areas. Apart from this, there are hot springs, Rama Krishna Ashram, Thakur Ankul Chand, Bal Brahmachari, Maharishi Mohananda Ashram etc. Where domestic and foreign tourists keep on pouring. Hence, I

* Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, section 2, dated 19.8.1987.

request the Government that necessary funds should be provided to the Bihar Government for developing Deogarh as a huge tourist resort and for establishing some good hotels and yatri Niwas.

[English]

(ii) **Demand for clearance to the Thermal Power Project at Bakreswar in Birbhum district of west Bengal**

14.26 Hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the chair*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) With a view to set up a 630 MW Thermal Power Project at Bakreswar in the district of Birbhum to augment the generation of electricity in the State, the Government of India which received Techno-Economic clearance from Central Electricity Authority in May 1985.

Thereafter the State Government, on the advice of the Central Government, sought foreign assistance to set up this major project. Ultimately two proposals for turn-key execution of the project comprising supplies and funding, one submitted by USSR-INDIA consortium and another by UAS-Japan Consortium were concretised and the State Government's recommendation was furnished to the Central Government in April, 1986 for early clearance of the Project. During his visit to Calcutta in September, 1986, the Prime Minister gave an assurance to issue the clearance within two months. But the same is yet to materialise. Thereafter, several rounds of discussions have been reportedly held by the Central Government with USSR-INDIA Consortium culminating in final revised proposal furnished to the Central Government in March, 1987. But the Central Government is yet to take a decision, despite several follow-up rounds of clarifications and in spite of re-

peated representations from the Government of West Bengal. The Project site has already been identified with excellent infrastructure, power evacuation facilities and satisfactory rail and coal linkages.

In order to meet the power demand in the State during the Eighth, it is essential to start the Project without any further loss of time and also cost over-runs.

In the circumstances, I earnestly request the Government to give its immediate clearance to the Project together with proper clearance of financial assistance required for the due execution thereof.

(iii) **Demand for an early decision on the system of commission in Haldia**

✓ KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): It is more than ten months since Government of India stopped all commissioning activities in Haldia Fertilizer complex. Selection of an agency to conduct the actual survey, submission of report and decision thereon is likely to take more than a year which means the plant will be kept idle for more than two years.

The 2000 strong work force are already demoralised as the commissioning activities have stopped and this prolonged stoppage is bound to cause damage to the machinery and equipment worth Rs. 500 crores which will be beyond repair or subsequent revival.

The Government cannot afford to close down this public sector undertaking because of the adverse socio-political economic effect it will have and has to take the decision to revamp this complex immediately. The time is most vital in this case and any further delay will be suicidal for this complex.

Under the circumstances, I request the Government to settle the issue without further delay.