

[Shri K.C. Pant]

offence of illegal mining be made cognizable, and the punishment be made more deterrent by making suitable amendments to Section 21 of the Act.

The Bill provides for some other amendments like the rationalization in the period of mining lease, reservation of an area for conservation of any minerals, and the provision for payment of compensation for the acquisition of surface rights to the occupier of the land. These are some of the salient features of the amending Bill. With these words, I move that the Bill further to amend the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 be taken into consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill further to amend the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, as passed by Rajya Sabha be taken into consideration."

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very much disappointed that the Bill is not a comprehensive one. There are a number of important controversies which must have come to the notice of the Central Government in implementation of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Member may please continue tomorrow.

15.58. hrs.

STATEMENT RE : EXPLOSION AT
HANSALAYA BUILDING, BARA-
KHAMBA ROAD, NEW DELHI
ON 6-8-1986

[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) : Sir, I wish to
inform the Hon'ble House that on 6.8.1986
at 8 07 P.M. an explosion was heard in
Hansalaya Building on Barakhamba Road
side. The Police Control Room van and
the Connaught Place Police Station officials
reached the spot within 2-3 minutes. A
case FIR No. 621 dated 6.8.86 u/s 3/4
Explosives Act read with 427 IPC. Police
Station Connaught Place has been
registered.

2. On examination of the site, it was
found that the explosion had occurred under
the staircase leading from the ground floor
to the first floor. The blast was strong and
a number of glasspanes around this area
were shattered. It also bore a hole in the
ceiling of the basement at the place where
the explosive device was kept.

3. On one side of the staircase, where
the blast took place, is Kuwait Airways
Office and on the other side Saudi Arabian
Airways. On the first floor, both sides are
occupied by the Bank of America. No loss
of life or injury to any person has been
caused.

4. The Explosive experts and the
Central Forensic Science Laboratory experts
were summoned and they reached the spot
around 9.00 P.M.

5. The preliminary investigation so far
shows that some sophisticated high powered
explosives have been used in the blast. The
motive of the miscreant(s) is not yet clear.
The investigation of the case has been
handed over to the Crime Branch of the
Delhi Police and they are taking assistance
from other agencies of the Central Govern-
ment also.

6. Senior officers including the
Commissioner of Police who also reached
the spot within minutes of the incident, are
personally supervising the investigation of
this case.