

in to Pakistan from Heerke barrage. The Indira Gandhi Canal of the Rajasthan State or the Bhakra System Canals have no water in them. The paddy crop in the Ghagra river area is withering. Even in such a period the officers are releasing less water. The Indira Gandhi Canal is drawing about 7,000 cusecs of water at present whereas its capacity is 18,000 cusecs. If more water is released from Punjab in the canal then the project area and the crops of the Ghagra river area can be saved from being destroyed. Similarly, if Punjab gets more water from the canals of Bhakra then the crops of this area can be saved from destruction.

I, therefore, request the Government of India and the hon. Minister for Irrigation that the water which is flowing into Pakistan should be released in the canals of Rajasthan.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : Sir, I will put all the points raised by the hon. Members before the Business Advisory Committee for their consideration.

12.40 hrs

TERRORIST AFFECTED AREAS (SPECIAL COURTS) AMENDMENT BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The house will now take up item No. 11 of the agenda.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : Sir, on behalf of Shri S.B. Chavan I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Terrorist Affected Areas (Special Courts) Act, 1984.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Terrorist Affected Areas (Special Courts) Act, 1984.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :
Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.41hrs

ESSENTIAL SERVICES MAINTENANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : Sir, I beg to move :

“That the Bill to amend the Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981, be taken into consideration.”

As the House is aware, the Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981 was brought on the Statue Book as part of a major effort to keep the wheels of production moving and with the object of ensuring uninterrupted maintenance of essential services so essential for national security and defence as well as for the economy. I would like to recall the circumstances which necessitated the enactment of this law. In 1980-81 there were certain disquieting trends on the Labour front affecting the maintenance of essential services in some vital sectors of the economy. The locomen agitation and the prolonged agitation by public sector workers in Bangalore were illustrative of such trends. The labour situation which was marked by increasing violence brought matters to a head. It was considered necessary that if disruption of the normal life of the community was to be avoided and if production essential for national security and