

[English]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, we have to take the information provided by the Ecuadorian Government and the response we have received from the Ecuadorian Government at the face value. I can assure the hon. Member that we are taking everything in view and certainly all attempts of such people will be frustrated if they continue to do it. But at the moment, we have to take the assurance given by the Ecuadorian Government at the face value.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Tewary Ji,

SHRIMATI PRABHAVATI GUPTA (Motihari) : Mr. Speaker, the statement read out by the hon. Minister...

MR. SPEAKER : I have not called you, you have started speaking.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Mr. Tewary is not present, so she has started speaking.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. Continue.

SHRIMATI PRABHAVATI GUPTA : Mr. Speaker, many facts have come out in the statement read by the hon. Minister including the assurance given by the Ecuadorian Government that they have not recognised the so called Government-in-exile.

The hon. Minister has himself expressed astonishment at the statement made by three prominent citizens in London, one of them is an Ambassador, that they have recognised Khalistan Government. The Ecuadorian Government have clarified that the Ambassador was on leave and that he made the statement in his private capacity. The Ambassador is of course, on leave but the fact remains that he was holding the diplomatic position. I want Government of India to take it seriously and seek clarification from Ecuadorian Government why the Ambassador did not observe protocol, and made such statement.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, we are already pursuing the matter in suggested by the hon. Member, but we shall pursue it more vigorously.

UNIT TRUST OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Unit Trust of India Act, 1963.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Unit Trust of India Act 1963."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.27 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Need to take up renovation of Inter-State Orissa Coast Canal in the Seventh Plan period on priority basis

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balsore) : Sir, The inter-State Orissa Coast Canal is one of the oldest canals in the country, constructed by the East India Company for navigation and inland water transport, which was carrying merchandise and also passengers from Orissa to West Bengal, the then Bengal Province and vice versa, but ultimately in the absence of any maintenance etc., this canal has been silted up and some portions of it