

[*Sh. Aziz Qureshi*]

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.

May I, therefore, request that the Government of India should immediately take necessary steps and consider the demands of the Railway employees so as to avoid further agitation by them.

12.22 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DIS-
APPROVAL OF CONSTITUTION
(SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER
(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1987**

AND

**CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES)
ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL— CONTD.**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKAR : The House shall now take up further consideration of the following motions moved by Dr. Chinta Mohan and Dr. (Smt.) Rajendra Kumar Bajpai on the 12th November, 1987, namely :—

“That this House disapproves of the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) order (Amendment) Ordinance, 1987 (Ordinance No. 5 of 1987) promulgated by the President on the 19th September, 1987.”

“That the Bill to provide for the inclusion of certain tribes in the list of Scheduled Tribes specified in relation to the State of Meghalaya, be taken into consideration.”

Shri P. Namgyal to speak.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I rise to support the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill 1987 which seeks to include the tribal communities of Boro-Kacharis, Koch and Raba or Rava of Meghalaya State in the list of Scheduled Tribes which were not included in the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order of 1950.

This is a welcome step, though belated; as the proverb goes, ‘better late than never’. All these years, these communities could

not derive the benefits of the various safeguards provided for the Scheduled Tribes community in the Constitution. Which includes reservation of seats in the Meghalaya legislative Assembly. With the inclusion of these communities in the list of scheduled tribes, I am sure, they will derive the maximum benefit.

There are many such tribal communities as well as scheduled caste communities in our country in different States which have been left out of the list of the scheduled tribes and scheduled castes Order of 1950. More and more demands are coming in from various communities residing in various States and one such community is the people of Ladakh.

The Ladakhi people have been agitating for long to declare the people of that area as scheduled tribes. In this connection as far back as in 1983 the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi in a letter addressed to me *vide* No. 266-PMO/83 dated 18th April, 1983 assured me that the Government of India has decided to grant scheduled tribes status to the people of Ladakh subject to certain Constitutional requirements.

I quote para 4 of the letter of the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi :

“The delegation from Ladakh also spoke to me about recognising the people there as tribal. I have no doubt that these people have a distinctive life-style, customs, etc. Therefore, the Government of India has decided to grant tribal status to the people of Ladakh. However, before this can be implemented the Government of Jammu and Kashmir will have to take necessary steps in terms of Constitutional requirement under Article 370. We have written to the State Government in this regard.”

Now a word about the Constitutional requirement. All these formalities have been completed, namely, application of Article 342 to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Without applying this Article we cannot declare a scheduled tribe. That has been done. Census and surveys required