

**Indo-US Cooperation in Non-conventional Energy**

12.00 hrs.

1583. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

RESOLUTION RE: FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATOMIC BOMBING OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

(a) whether India and United States have signed joint ventures for development of renewable energy in the country;

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I place the following Resolution before the House:-

(b) if so, the details of the main features of the agreement;

"That this House recalls the tragedy of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki 50 years ago;

(c) the details of the non-conventional projects; and

Reiterates its deep sympathy for the innocent victims of that horrific attack;

(d) the names of the companies with which these joint ventures have been entered into and the type of assistance provided?

Expresses its admiration for the courage and will of the survivors who overcame their suffering to build a new future;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (d) The Solar Energy Centre of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Source has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory of Department of Energy U.S.A. for cooperation in the field of testing of Solar thermal and photo voltaic projects, exchange of non-proprietary scientific information, Solar radiation data collection, analysis and dissemination, establishment of links between renewable energy information networks in both India and the U.S.A. etc. This MoU was signed on 21.12.94. Another MoU has been signed on 13.2.95 by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources with Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) U.S.A. to assess, develop and demonstrate renewable energy technologies for mutual benefits, and for this purpose, joint efforts will be made by the institutions, agencies and industries on either side to accelerate the deployment of advanced cost-effective photo-voltaic, wind and bio-mass conversion technologies in India. In addition, joint venture MoUs have also been signed between the public and private sector companies and organization of the two countries during last one year, mainly in the field of wind energy, solar energy, small hydro, bio-mass based power including cogeneration, ocean energy, electric vehicles and financing mechanisms for the renewable energy sector, Govt. of India has provided assistance by way of information on current policies, programmes and incentives for the promotion of renewable energy in India, providing forum of interaction among industries, financial institutions and State nodal agencies and shorting out the problems with State Governments and other Ministries.

Further recalls Mahatma Gandhi's words "I regard the employment of the atomic bomb for the wholesale destruction of men, women and children as the most diabolical use of science";

Believes that the existence of nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to the survival of humanity;

Regrets that despite the end of the Cold War, the spectre of a nuclear holocaust continues to threaten humanity;

Convinced that global nuclear disarmament is the only effective guarantee for preventing a nuclear war and strengthening international peace and security;

Reaffirms the continuing validity of the Action Plan for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world order presented in 1988 by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi;

On behalf of the people of India,

Firmly resolves that the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki must never be repeated either by human design or accident;

And pledges that India will continue its efforts, along with other countries, towards achieving a lasting and complete elimination of all nuclear weapons".

Shall I take it that it is unanimously passed?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

*The Resolution was adopted unanimously.*

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12.04 hrs.

FIFTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE QUIT INDIA  
MOVEMENT

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This House observes in solemnity today the 53rd Anniversary of the Quit India Movement;

Recalls that this day in 1942 leaders of the national freedom struggle under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi gave a clarion call to launch the Quit India Movement to liberate the country from the yoke of alien rule and usher in 'Swaraj' and sovereignty;

Further recalls that the entire nation rose like one entity to resist the repression of foreign rule;

Notes that the unique struggle for freedom was characterised by non-violence and that the twin tools of ahimsa and satyagraha as espoused by Mahatma Gandhi were upheld even in the face of grave provocation;

Expresses deep sense of gratitude for broad vision of that leadership and the selfless sacrifice of those generations which led the country on the road to freedom;

Pays respectful obeisance to the memory of all those patriots who made the supreme sacrifice in the cause of the nation.

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[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now we come to the usual activities.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (AGRA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government the Supreme Court's verdict directing the Central Government to submit a scheme for shifting all the

industries falling within the Taj Trapezium area covering the five districts of Agra, Mathura, Firozabad, Aligarh and Etah within four weeks. Quite unfortunately, the advocate representing the Government of India did not present all the facts of the Varadarajan Committee report properly before the court.

MR. SPEAKER, Sir, it is stated in clear terms in the report submitted by Dr. Varadarajan Committee on the direction of the supreme court that-

[English]

"Shifting of units is not required as it will render all these units financially unviable. If closed, it will render a very large number of people unemployed. This step is not desirable".

This is the judgment of the Supreme Court.

[Translation]

But the Supreme Court verdict says that according to the versions of Shri M.C. Mehta and Shri Krishan Mahajan, the Varadarajan Committee report has recommended the shifting of industries. Therefore, these industries should be shifted. This is in total contradiction to the facts presented by Dr. Varadarajan Committee. On the other hand, Dr. Varadarajan Committee has stated that the pollution was due to inadequate power supply. The pollution is caused by Diesel Generator sets and the vehicles. In order to check water pollution, a barrage should be constructed in Agra. Not only that, the Committee has also stated that the Mathura refinery is emitting sulphur dioxide at the rate of 700 kilograms per hour which needs to be brought down. The Committee has very emphatically said that during the emergency of 1975, the industries in Agra were shifted away from the city and on the basis of which these industries, Foundry Nagar and Industrial Estate came into existence. Now, there is no need for their reallocation. But court said that as a pipeline for natural gas will be laid, hence their reallocation should be done in Agra, Ferozabad area. However, the Supreme Court verdict makes no mention of it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot criticize the Supreme Court's judgment on the floor of the House. I had explained to you what you could say. Now please be quick.