

commercial centres of Bijnor district, therefore, it is necessary to introduce a new train service for Delhi which should cover all these stations.

12.41 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: ADJOURNMENT MOTION ON ALARMING SITUATION IN ASSAM

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Well, after the lunch interval, I think, the names of the persons who have given their notices will be balloted. The name of the person who can move the notice will be pronounced. And he may move the notice. Then, we will take up the discussion at 4.30 p.m. But the procedure which is required to allow this motion to come before us will be completed after the interval.

12.42 hrs.

PRE-NATAL DIAGNOSTIC TECHNIQUES (REGULATION AND PREVENTION OF MISUSE) BILL

As Reported by Joint Committee -
Contd.

[English]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): Sir, on behalf of Shri B. Shankaranand, I beg to move:*

"That the Bill to provide for the regulation of the use of pre-natal

diagnostic techniques for the purpose of detecting genetic or metabolic disorders or chromosomal abnormalities or certain congenital malformations or sex-linked disorders and for the prevention of the misuse of such techniques for the purpose of pre-natal sex determination leading to female foeticide; and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as reported by Joint Committee, be taken into consideration."

A Bill to prevent misuse of diagnostic techniques for determination of the sex of the foetus, leading to female foeticide, the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill was introduced in this House on 12th September, 1991.

Recently developed scientific techniques enable pre-natal determination of the sex of the foetus. These techniques, useful in determining genetic disorders and abnormalities of the foetus, are also misused.

From time to time, women's organisations, sociologists and prominent members of the public has been urging the Government to take steps to curb this abuse.

A conference of medical experts, administrators, voluntary organisations and legal experts in 1986, unanimously recommended that pre-natal technique tests should be regulated and misuse of test for prediction of sex of foetus should be banned.

Government of India constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of the then Health Secretary, Government

* Moved with the recommendation of the President.