

cluded as expeditiously as possible and endeavour shall be made to conclude suit or proceeds within a period of one year from the date of its commencement." (6)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put amendment No. 6 to Clause 10 moved by Shri G.M. Banatwalla to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 6 was put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is—

"That Clause 10 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 10 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 11 to 23 were added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is—

"That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Jaipur) : Now, which court will have jurisdiction or which Family Court will have jurisdiction if Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik files a suit ?

18.52 hrs

STATEMENT RE-HIJACKING OF
INDIAN AIRLINES FLIGHT
IC—421 ON 24TH AUGUST,
1984

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Khursheed Alam Khan has to make a statement. You please lay it on the Table of the House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : I beg to lay on the Table a statement on the Hijacking of an Indian Airlines Aircraft on 24th August, 1984.

Statement

I made a statement in the House on 24th August 1984 on the hijacking of the Indian Airlines Boeing-737 aircraft, based on the information then available. Now we have more information which I would like to share with Honourable Members.

Within a short while of the aircraft taking off from Chandigarh, seven persons arose from their seats. Two entered the cockpit after breaking the door open. They overpowered the commander and the co-pilot. They assaulted the co-pilot, inflicting an injury on his head and fastened him to a seat with a turban. The five young men who were seated at the rear of the aircraft took up vantage positions in the cabin, shouting pro-Khalistan and anti-Indian slogans. They announced that the aircraft had been hijacked and was being taken to Lahore. They displayed a round object in a paper wrapping which they described as a grenade, a camera case described as a 'time-bomb' and a bottle containing some liquid described as an 'explosive'. They also brandished

two long metal pins, threatening that their tips were lethally poisoned. The hijackers had also seized the fire axe and the crowbar from the cockpit and brandished them as weapons. At that stage and in fact until well after the plane had been at the Lahore airport, there was no sign of the hijackers being in possession of any fire-arms.

The aircraft landed at Lahore at about 9.45 a.m. and was their till 7.15 p.m. The hijackers released five passengers including two Norwegians and an Indian couple with a child.

At Lahore the hijackers demanded refuelling on the aircraft and safe passage to USA via Bahrain. Throughout the day they kept repeating their demand for refuelling and threatened to blow up the aircraft if this demand was not met. Later in the evening at about 5.00 p.m. they made other demands including payment of Rs. 5 lakhs to each hijacker Pakistani citizenship for them and the issue of passports with permission to travel to USA. At one point of time they threatened to start killing one passenger every fifteen minutes.

I should like to mention here that India repeatedly requested the Pakistan authorities not to permit the aircraft to leave Lahore. These requests were made not only at official levels but by the Home Minister directly to Gen. Arif. However, the aircraft was refuelled at Lahore and allowed to proceed to Karachi. The Prime Minister spoke to Gen. Gja-ul-Haq and repeated the request that the Pakistan authorities should ensure the safety of the passengers, the crew and the aircraft to leave Pakistan territory and apprehend the hijackers. The aircraft landed at Karachi at 8.55 p.m. At Karachi two more women passengers were released. Once again the aircraft was refuelled and allowed to take off at 2.30 a.m. disregarding our repeated requests.

The aircraft proceeded towards Dubai from Karachi. Initially the Bahrain Central Control refused permission to land and closed the airport. But on

repeated requests on behalf of the Government of India and on the pilot's urging that his fuel supply was running dangerously low, permission was given and the aircraft landed safely at about 6.25 a.m. at Dubai.

We sent a team of technical officers in a second aircraft first to Karachi and from there to Dubai. At Dubai, the hijackers repeated their demand of safe passage to USA and the refuelling of the aircraft.

The halt at Dubai lasted for about 18 hours, during which protracted negotiations were conducted by the Dubai authorities, resulting in the termination of the hijack. The passengers and crew of the hijacked aircraft returned to Delhi in the second aircraft at 4.25 a.m. on 26th August, 1984. The hijacked aircraft returned at 3.55 a.m.

Hon'ble Members have been rightly concerned about the security arrangements at our airports. While investigations are still under way, it would be premature to come to any judgement on the effectiveness of the security checks conducted before the take-off of the aircraft. On the basis of information so far available there is no firm evidence of any weapon having been taken into the aircraft in contravention of our regulations. As I have stated earlier, a fire-arm was displayed by the hijackers only after the aircraft had been at the Lahore airport. However, at this stage no definite conclusion can be drawn and we must await the completion of investigations.

At Dubai the situation was handled by the authorities with great firmness. Sheikh Mohd. Defence Minister of the Government of Dubai was personally in charge of the negotiations with the hijackers. He made it clear to them that violence to passengers would not be tolerated. When they demanded refuelling of the plane for onward flight they were told that the aircraft would not be permitted to leave Dubai. The Prime Minister has already conveyed her thanks to the President of U.A.E. Sheikh Zayed and to Sheikh Mohd. for the assistance so well rendered.

The passengers, crew and the aircraft are safely back in India. The hijackers are still in Dubai in the custody of the authorities there. I do not wish to say more at this stage. I am confident that the House will appreciate this, as further action is the subject matter of very delicate negotiations.

19.00 hrs.

**COPYRIGHT (AMENDMENT)
BILL**

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Jaipur) : Sir, we can pass the Copyright (Amendment) Bill without any debate. We cooperate with them though they accuse us of not cooperating with them.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND
CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE
(SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) :** I beg to move :

“That the Bill further to amend the Copyright Act, 1957, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill further to amend the Copyright Act, 1957, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we take up clause by clause consideration.

The question is :

“That Clauses 2 to 10 stand part of the Bill”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 10 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL : I beg to move :

“That the Bill be passed”.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (नई दिल्ली) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदया यह बता दें कि यह बिल लाने में इतनी देर क्यों हुई। यह बिल दो साल पहले पास हो जाना चाहिए था। इस विलम्ब के कारण फिल्म उद्योग का इतना नुकसान हुआ है, जिसका वर्णन नहीं किया जा सकता।

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एच० के० एल० भगत) : यह बहुत अच्छा बिल है। आप इसको सपोर्ट करें। हम इस बिल को ले तो आए हैं, आप तो लाए ही नहीं।

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill be passed”

The Motion was adopted.

19.03 hrs

Statutory Resolution Re : Approval of

**CONTINUANANCE OF PROCLAMATION
IN RESPECT OF SIKKIM**

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we take up Proclamation on Sikkim.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : I rise on a point of order. I submit that this Statutory Resolution with respect to Sikkim cannot be moved. I draw your attention to rule 174 read with Article 356. You will find that this Proclamation about Sikkim is to remain in force upto 24th of November of 25th of November. Today, we are passing a Statutory Resolution to continue the Proclamation w.e.f. 25th November i.e. three more months have still to pass. How can this House be