

ASSENT TO BILL

SECRETARY: Sir, I also lay on the Table the West Bengal Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1970 passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 14th August, 1970.

PETITION RE. UNEMPLOYMENT AND CONDITION OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND TRIBES

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH (Buxar): I beg to present a petition signed by Shri K. L. More regarding un-employment in the country and the condition of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

11.4 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: STATEHOOD FOR MANIPUR AND TRIPURA

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government are aware of the interest taken by the Members of this House in the question of the constitutional status of Manipur and also Tripura. We appreciate the aspirations of the people of Manipur and Tripura. . . .

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK (South Delhi): What about Delhi?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: . . . to have the status of their territories raised to Statehood, and fully realise the strength of feeling behind these aspirations. Government have also taken note of the special circumstances of these territories, Manipur and Tripura, in which the demands for statehood have been made.

We accept the demands in principle, but details have to be worked out keeping in view the importance of a co-ordinated approach to the problems of development and security of the North-eastern region, and we hope to be able to announce our decision within a short period. Government earnestly hope that in the

meantime an atmosphere of peace and harmony will be maintained by all sections of the people in the two territories. (Interruptions)

श्री कंचर लाल गुप्त (दिल्ली सदर) : दिल्ली के बारे में क्या हुआ ? यह पोलिटिकल डिस्कमिनेशन है । मेरा कहना यह है कि जब तक एजिटेशन नहीं होता, गोलियां नहीं चलतीं तब तक इस सरकार के कानों पर जूँ नहीं रेंगती तो क्या आप दिल्ली में भी यही चाहते हैं ? दिल्ली में चूक जनसंघ पार्टी पावर में है इसलिए यहां आप नहीं चाहते ? यह अन्याय हो रहा है दिल्ली वालों के साथ । दिल्ली के लोग कब तक सन्न करते रहेंगे ? ... (व्यवधान)

11.43 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: BILL IN REGARD TO HIMACHAL PRADESH

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K. C. PANT): Sir, on 31st July, 1970, the Prime Minister had informed the House that Government had decided to grant Statehood to Himachal Pradesh. She had also indicated that a Bill to give effect to that decision would be introduced in Parliament as early as possible. While welcoming this decision, several Members have expressed the desire that the Bill should be introduced in the current session of Parliament.

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore): This is regarding what?

SHRI K. C. PANT: Himachal Pradesh.

We appreciate their anxiety in this matter. But drafting of a Bill of this nature necessitates consultation with