

[Shri Bipinpal Das]

people of Zimbabwe and has rallied world opinion in favour of Mozambique and the freedom movement in Zimbabwe.

The House will recall that, at the last Commonwealth Conference in Kingston, it was decided to assist Mozambique if it closed the border with Rhodesia thereby denying to itself the considerable revenues it earned from its road and rail links with Rhodesia. On 17th March, 1976, the U.N. Security Council passed a resolution unanimously condemning the aggressive acts committed by the illegal minority regime in Southern Rhodesia and appealing to all States to provide immediate financial, technical and material assistance to Mozambique. We have also received a similar appeal from the Secretary General of the Commonwealth in a telegram addressed to the Prime Minister.

As the House knows, it has been the established policy of the Government of India to extend unstinted support and all possible assistance to the liberation movements in Africa, and to oppose the obnoxious policies of racism and apartheid pursued by the white minority regimes in Southern Africa. To the liberation movement in Mozambique, we have and the privilege of giving moral and material support during the struggle for independence.

Today, when Mozambique has taken the bold and principled step of imposing U.N. sanctions against Rhodesia, the sympathies of the Government and people of India are wholly with Mozambique and the freedom fighters of Zimbabwe.

As a mark of our solidarity with the Government of Mozambique in this critical situation, we have decided to extend economic and technical assistance to Mozambique. The extent and form of such assistance will be

determined only after we hear further from the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Secretary General of the Commonwealth as well as from the Government of Mozambique about the priorities of their requirements.

In the meantime, we have, as an immediate gesture, decided to make a grant of Rs. 900,000 as assistance to the Government of Mozambique to be used for the purchase of some of its requirements from India. This grant will form part of the collective contribution to Mozambique by the Commonwealth.

12.09 hrs.

TEA (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Tea Act, 1953.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Tea Act, 1953."

The motion was adopted.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I introduce† the Bill.

12.10 hrs.

LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION (MODIFICATION OF SETTLEMENT) BILL

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): Sir, on behalf of Shri C. Subramaniam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the modification of the settlement arrived at between the Life Insurance Corporation of India and their workmen.

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, section 2, dated 31-3-76.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.