

Title: Issue regarding reported decision of the Government to abolish Centre Administrative Tribunal. (CAT).

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, the Central Administrative Tribunal was set up 20 years back. While a Bill for setting up Central Administrative Tribunals was introduced in this House, we supported it because our experience had been that the employees were not getting speedy redressal of their grievances. So, CAT was introduced for the purpose of giving speedy redressal of grievances to the employees.

Sir, now it has been reported in the newspapers that the Cabinet has approved a proposal to abolish CAT. The Government is now seeking to incorporate an enabling clause in the Tribunal Act in order that the Government can abolish CAT as some of the States are asking for the abolition of the State Administrative Tribunals. Today, hundreds of employees are getting speedy redressal of their grievances because of CAT. If they have to now approach the High Court for redressal of their grievances, then the same thing would happen what used to be the case 20 years back -- aggrieved employees would have to wait for 15 to 20 years to get justice. There is, therefore, no justification for the abolition of CAT.

Sir, I would like to urge upon the Government, if they have decided to incorporate an enabling clause in the Act in order to abolish CAT and to bring in a legislation to that effect, to desist from taking such a step as abolishing CAT, in the interest of thousands and thousands of employees of our country.