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Title: Need for early clearance of the Gujarat Control of Organised Crime Bill, 2003.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD): Gujarat State Legislature has passed a Bill entitled "The Gujarat Control of Organised Crime Bill, 2003" and the same has been forwarded to H.E. the President of India by H.E. the Governor of Gujarat on 1.4.2003. The Ministry of Home Affairs *vide* their letter dated 24.12.2003 had recommended deletion of certain clauses, namely, 14 and 16. The amended Bill has been passed by the State Legislative Assembly on 2.6.2004 and the same has been forwarded for the assent of H.E. the President of India on 19.6.2004. The State Government is awaiting the assent of H.E. the President of India. The Gujarat Control of Organised Crime Bill, 2003 is based on a similar Act passed by Government of Maharashtra, a neighbouring State. After Maharashtra Police was able to take action against some of the organised group of criminals, some of them have shifted to Gujarat. Unless and until we have statutory authority to deal with such criminals in the same manner as is possible for the Government of Maharashtra, the security situation in the State would remain under constant threat. Gujarat being the border State has all the more reasons to worry about the organised crime. Since the amended Bill is in accordance with the principles laid down by the hon. High Court at Bombay, Sir, I humbly request the Government of India to pursue the Bill which is pending with H.E. the President of India for his assent.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Mansukhbhai D. Vasava – not present.