

an>

Title: Need to revisit the Purulia Arms Drops Case.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (DHENKANAL): Madam, while we are all concerned about the December 16 issue and join every other Member, male and female of this august House in condemning this incident. We agree that there should be severe punishment, no matter what age group the offender belongs to, because the crime was severe.

Madam, I would like to draw your attention to another incident which occurred exactly 20 years ago. This is the incident which happened in West Bengal and is now famous as the Purulia Arms Drop case. It is an important internal security issue that still haunts the collective conscience of India.

On December 17, that is, tomorrow, it will be 20 years since the incident took place and yet we have not taken any concrete action against the ones involved in this case. What rained from the skies on that day was deadly. The arms and ammunition cargo weighed around 4,375 kgs. This could have created havoc to India's internal peace at that time had it reached the hands of the alleged organizations and people.

Besides, what happened to the extradition of Niels Christian Nielsen also known as Kim Davy? It is unknown to all of us. Almost mocking India and its judicial system, Kim Davy admits, as much himself, in his book called 'They Call me A Terrorist', claiming that he made the weapon drop from an aero plane purchased in Latvia. Despite this, the Danish Government and the Danes have stonewalled the likelihood of criminal proceedings against Kim Davy along with creating a maze of bureaucratic red tape to prevent the man's extradition to India.

Despite the passage of years, many details of the incident are wrapped in mystery and there has been considerable speculation as to the purpose and modality of the operation. The Government should revive the case; pursue every available means to bring Kim Davy to justice in India; and hunt down the men wanted in the case, but who are still on the run. The previous Government has not done any good things, but this is one of those few rare things that we can credit them with. They had taken some unusually strong steps against Denmark, but clearly I would request the Government of the day to be stronger and to put diplomatic pressure on Denmark and ensure that Kim Davy is brought to India and brought to justice. Thank you, Madam.

HON. SPEAKER :

Shri Mohammad Salim,

Shri Bhagwant Mann,

Shri Sankar Prasad Datta,

Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan,

Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher,

Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra,

Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, and

Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Tathagata Satpathy.