

[Shri Saifuddin Chowdhary]

The Director was appointed by the Government of India on March 19, 1984. The new senior faculty had initially a great deal of regard and goodwill for the Director but he created a crisis in the Institute.

The Institute needs to be properly nurtured and an indifferent attitude on the part of the Government will only prove harmful. A meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute on July 15, 1988 failed to come out with any concrete steps. Specific solution needs to be spelt out and the scientists of the Institute accordingly apprised. Government should clarify matters and save the Institute.

(viii) Need to develop Vaishali as a tourist centre

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali) : Sir, my constituency of Vaishali is a famous pilgrim centre and pilgrim tourists from all over the world come to visit the sacred places of religious and tourist importance here. However, tourism remains highly underdeveloped in this area. An airstrip is most urgently needed so as to connect the tourist places by air directly from Delhi and Varanasi on the one side and from Calcutta on the other. The roads leading to these places continue to be narrow despite the increase in traffic following the construction of the Gandhi Bridge. There is urgent need to widen these roads, particularly the road leading from Hajipur to Lalgunj and Vaishali-Sahebgunj to Betia. Government should take action to develop Vaishali as a place for pilgrim tourism.

13.15 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE :
DISAPPROVAL OF NATIONAL
SECURITY (AMENDMENT)
ORDINANCE
AND
NATIONAL SECURITY (AMENDMENT)
BILL—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we go to the next item of the List of Business,

that is, further discussion on the Resolution moved by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee on the 16th August, 1988 and also we will take up along with this, Item No. 12 regarding further consideration of the motion moved by Shri Buta Singh on the 16th August, 1988. Now, Shri Ramoowalia to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by hon. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee and I opposed the National Security (Amendment) Bill brought forward by the hon. Minister. The hon. Minister informed the House of the proposed Amendment in the National Security Act has been brought so that period of stating the grounds of areas could be raised from the present 3 months to 6 months. In this way, 6 months time will be provided to state the grounds of detention instead of existing 3 months. I oppose the proposed amendment on two or three points.

Firstly, it has become a fashion to take every reactionary measure, for instance, against our basic freedom, our trade unions etc. on the pretext of Punjab. Whatever powers they want to acquire they do so in the name of Punjab. I want to ask whether Punjab was ever used as an instrument for acquiring emergency powers so far? Now it is being used for sealing the borders, for installing dual Government and as a latest measure, Government wants to extend the period of detention for stating the grounds of arrest. Doesn't the Government have sufficient powers already that it wants to acquire some more? Today, we are already weighed down by a large number of laws. The Administration and Police in Punjab today, are using their enormous powers arbitrarily. I will give you an illustration. I have suggested earlier also as to how to check the misuse of National Security Act. The powers acquired by this Bill will also be misused. Persons like Shri Gurcharan Singh Tohra, Shri Prakash Singh Badal, Shri Sukhdev Dhindsa, Shri Kuldeep Singh Vadala and Shri Sukhjindar Singh have been detained under the N.S.A. Are they terrorists? They have been detained under this Act. In Punjab, a bill is being also