

[English]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, we have to take the information provided by the Ecuadorian Government and the response we have received from the Ecuadorian Government at the face value. I can assure the hon. Member that we are taking everything in view and certainly all attempts of such people will be frustrated if they continue to do it. But at the moment, we have to take the assurance given by the Ecuadorian Government at the face value.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Tewary Ji,

SHRIMATI PRABHAVATI GUPTA (Motihari) : Mr. Speaker, the statement read out by the hon. Minister...

MR. SPEAKER : I have not called you, you have started speaking.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Mr. Tewary is not present, so she has started speaking.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. Continue.

SHRIMATI PRABHAVATI GUPTA : Mr. Speaker, many facts have come out in the statement read by the hon. Minister including the assurance given by the Ecuadorian Government that they have not recognised the so called Government-in-exile.

The hon. Minister has himself expressed astonishment at the statement made by three prominent citizens in London, one of them is an Ambassador, that they have recognised Khalistan Government. The Ecuadorian Government have clarified that the Ambassador was on leave and that he made the statement in his private capacity. The Ambassador is of course, on leave but the fact remains that he was holding the diplomatic position. I want Government of India to take it seriously and seek clarification from Ecuadorian Government why the Ambassador did not observe protocol, and made such statement.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, we are already pursuing the matter in suggested by the hon. Member, but we shall pursue it more vigorously.

UNIT TRUST OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Unit Trust of India Act, 1963.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Unit Trust of India Act 1963."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.27 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Need to take up renovation of Inter-State Orissa Coast Canal in the Seventh Plan period on priority basis

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balsore) : Sir, The inter-State Orissa Coast Canal is one of the oldest canals in the country, constructed by the East India Company for navigation and inland water transport, which was carrying merchandise and also passengers from Orissa to West Bengal, the then Bengal Province and vice versa, but ultimately in the absence of any maintenance etc., this canal has been silted up and some portions of it

[Shri Chintamani Jena]

have been declared abandoned by the Government, resulting in untold miseries, sorrows and difficulties to the millions of people due to frequent floods, saline inundation and severe water logging in the area. The people of the area are facing great inconveniences and paying large amount of transportation charges of their goods and agriculture produce in the absence of water transport system. The State Government of Orissa has requested the Centre for renovation and improvement of this oldest canal of the country, to utilise the canal as inland water transport route in the Sixth Plan period but to no avail.

In such circumstances, I would request the Centre to take up this inter-State Orissa Coast canal in the Seventh Plan period on priority basis for its early renovation and improvement to revive navigation and inland water route transport, which will be a great boon to the people of coastal belts of Orissa and West Bengal too. I would, therefore, request the Hon. Minister of Shipping and Transport to accept this proposal for execution in the Seventh Plan period.

[Translation]

- (ii) Need to take steps for opening of J.K. Rayon Factory at Kanpur

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gurakhpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the J.K. Rayon Factory, Kanpur was closed down by the management more than two years ago without even taking prior approval of the State Government under Section 25 FF (a) of the Industrial Disputes Act as a result of which thousands of workers have been rendered jobless besides causing loss of production worth crores of rupees. The INTUC has urged Government to take over this mill and has offered full cooperation of workers if Government are prepared to run the mill jointly with the Co-operative Society of the workers. It is learnt that the management has given a written offer to Government that they are prepared to hand over the mill to Government with entire moveable and immovable assets against a taken compensation

of Re. 1 and agree to hear entire liabilities, but there is no decision on Government's part and on a result there is resentment and frustration among workers which is creating an adverse impact on industrial peace in Kanpur industrial town.

I, therefore, invite the attention of Government to this matter of urgent public importance I urge them to end this atmosphere of uncertainty by taking an early decision in this regard.

- (iii) Need to rename Port Blair as Savarkar Dham as a tribute to Shri Savarkar

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) Sir, I want to raise the following matter under Rule 377.

Hundreds of thousands of our countrymen suffered, went to Jails and were hanged to death during the Course of freedom struggle and this struggle of theirs, this sacrifice of theirs brought independence to the country. Certainly, after independence names of streets, roads, stations, buildings, towns and cities which were after Englishmen have been changed and named after Indian leaders in various parts of the country. We are proud of it, but many places still carry English names and Port Blair is a specific example.

Several freedom fighters were put into celular jail in Port Blair and tortured for years and the name of Vir Savarkar deserves a Special mention among them who was awarded life imprisonment twice by British rulers and tortured for many years.

We may differ with Vir Savarkar's views but we cannot ignore his great contribution to freedom struggle. Therefore, I would appeal to the hon. Home Minister to rename Port Blair as 'Savarkar Dham' after the name of India's brave son Vir Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. Certainly, this will be a great national tribute to this great personality