

CHILD LABOUR (PROHIBITION AND REGULATION) BILL, 1986

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Bill, 1986, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : So many trains have been cancelled.

MR. SPEAKER : There might be some reason.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : But no reason has been given, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : There might be something. I don't know myself.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : The Minister may be asked.

MR. SPEAKER : You can ask. Why are you wasting my time?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What does it mean? Let them do it. If you will ask them, they will give it.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Tens of thousands of passengers are suffering.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : There is no Defence reason; that has come in the papers.

MR. SPEAKER : If you give me in writing, I will ask them; but not like this. There is no problem. Please give me the information, I will send it to them. There is no problem.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : By

way of personal clarification I may say that just now I have heard that when I was not here Prof. Madhu Dandavate and some other Hon. Members said that AIADMK as well as DMK members were under house arrest.

MR. SPEAKER : No, no.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : It is a wrong news.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am satisfied. But he is arrested in this House!

MR. SPEAKER : That does not matter. You are under protective custody, Professor. Mr. N. D. Tiwari will now make a statement.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : We welcome our new Minister of External Affairs.

MR. SPEAKER : Welcome.

12.10 hrs.

STATEMENT re : VISIT OF THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TO MOSCOW

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : In connection with the upcoming visit to India of General Secretary Gorbachev, I visited Moscow on the 1st-3rd November. My delegation included the Foreign Secretary, Shri A. P. Venkateswaran the Additional Secretary in the Prime Minister's office, Shri G. K. Arora and the Deputy Chief of Mission in our Embassy in Moscow, Shri C. V. Ranganathan. Our Ambassador in Moscow, Shri T.N. Kaul, accompanied me on my calls on the General Secretary and on Foreign Minister Shevardnadze.

I arrived in Moscow on the 1st evening and was immediately received by Foreign Minister Shevardnadze who gave a working dinner in my honour. It was good of him to have arranged this at very short notice and particularly in view of the fact that he was leaving for Vienna next morning. My delegation and I had three hours friendly and warm discussions with Mr. Shevardnadze and his colleagues. Our discussions covered a wide range of subjects both of bilateral interest and international importance.

Mr. Shevardnadze expressed the Soviet Union's high appreciation of India's policy of peace, peaceful coexistence, nonalignment, and its important role through the Six Nation Five Continent Peace Initiative, NAM and in its own capacity for bringing about peace, disarmament in general and nuclear disarmament in particular. He expressed complete satisfaction with the arrangements being made for the visit of General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev to India.

The talks were held in a very warm and friendly atmosphere and both of us expressed our conviction that the historic visit of Mr. Gorbachev and his meetings with our Prime Minister would be another landmark in the further development and strengthening of our bilateral relations and through them produce a positive and healthy influence both in the region and help in reducing international tensions.

I had the honour and privilege of meeting General Secretary Mr. M. S. Gorbachev for two hours on the morning of 3rd November. The meeting was held in a very warm, friendly and fruitful atmosphere. Mr. Gorbachev praised the role of India and that of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi both at Harare and through the six Nation Five Continent Peace Initiative in support of bringing about peace and nuclear disarmament throughout the world. He expressed his high appreciation of the great and important role being played by nonaligned India under the leadership of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in international affairs. He was keenly looking forward to his visit to India which

would enable both countries to raise their bilateral relations to a higher level and also enable them to exercise a positive and healthy influence on the various pockets of tension in Asia and throughout the world.

I conveyed to the General Secretary the greetings of the Prime Minister, the Government and the people of India and told him that we were looking forward to his visit which would have a historical character and be an important landmark in the development of our relations. I also apprised him of my talks in Western Europe regarding the application of comprehensive sanctions against the Pretoria regime. I also referred to the situation in various regions of Asia and the world and India's efforts to promote peace, friendship and cooperation with its neighbours. Mr. Gorbachev told me categorically that the Soviet Union's friendship towards India is not a subject of expediency or a result of outside pressure. It has its own high intrinsic value. Our relations are deeply rooted in our hearts and minds. I expressed to Mr. Gorbachev our high appreciation of Indo-Soviet collaboration in the economic, commercial, scientific, technological, cultural and other fields. We agreed that India and the Soviet Union would go ahead with accelerated cooperation in science and technology.

Sir, I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my high appreciation of the cordiality, hospitality and the free, friendly and warm exchange of views which I had with Soviet leaders. I also had talks with Mr. Katyushev, Chairman of the State Committee for Economic Relations and Mr. Kamentsev, Deputy Prime Minister, with special reference to our economic, technical, and scientific relations. There was full understanding on all issues and I am glad to state that we look forward very keenly to the visit of General Secretary Gorbachev and his delegation and I am confident that the visit will prove an important landmark in the further development and strengthening of our bilateral relations as well as producing a healthy and positive influence in international affairs.
