

of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Food Corporations (Amendment) Bill, 1988, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 4th August, 1988, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that the House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.03-1/2 hrs.

MATERNITY BENEFIT (AMENDMENT)
BILL

[English]

As Passed by Rajya Sabha

SECRETARY GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 1988, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa) : Why don't you make a statement ? (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : I don't know what they are asking. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : He has to make a statement on the killing of the National Bird. (Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : He is ready to make a statement. (Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur) : The Home Minister should make a statement. (Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : Mr. Brahma Dutt should visit Kashmir immediately.

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask him.

12.04-1/2 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR
GRANTS (GENERAL), 1988-89

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1988-89.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : Sir, the Hon. Members are agitated over disrespect to the National Flag. As I said yesterday, the Government is duty-bound to uphold the dignity and respect of the National Flag. I will have to ascertain facts before I come with a statement. I will definitely ascertain the facts. (Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa) : We want a statement about the killing of the National Bird. (Interruptions)

12.07 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[English]

Reported capsizing of launch near
Manihari Ghat in Bihar resulting
in drowning of several hundred
persons

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYAR (Bangalore South) : I call the attention of the Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :

"Reported capsizing of a launch overloaded with passengers and cargo near Manihari Ghat in Bihar resulting in the drowning of several hundred persons and the steps taken by the Government to avert such mishaps in future."