

Corrigendum to Notification No. G.S.R. 559(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st January, 1985.

- (iii) The Sugar (Price Determination for 1984-85 Production) Fourth Amendment Order, 1985 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 603(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd July, 1985.
- (2) A copy of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Second Amendment Rules, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) Published in Notification No. G.S.R. 458(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th May, 1985 under sub-section (4) of section 83 of the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976.
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Food Corporation of India, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts, under sub-section (2) of section 35 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Food Corporation of India, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.
- (4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets (Amendment) Act, 1985

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Punjab Agricultural Produce

Markets (Amendment) Act, 1985 (President's Act No. 1 of 1985) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th June, 1985 under sub section (3) of section 3 of the Punjab State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1984.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :—

“In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (c) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Punjab Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1985, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its meeting held on the 29th July, 1985, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill.”

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[English]

Reported Recognition being given to so-called Khalistan Government-in-exile by Government of Ecuador

SHRI VISHNU MODI (Ajmer) : I call the attention of the Minister of External Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :—

“Reported recognition being given to the so-called Khalistan Government in-exile by the Government of Ecuador and the steps taken by the Government in regard thereto.”

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government have seen press reports that a delegation of three prominent Ecuadorian personalities, namely.....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Sir, this has become out of date. A statement has come from the Government.

(Interruptions)

There are the statements of the Government which have come. Your statement is meaningless. Sir, the concerned Government has said that we recognise only India Government; we don't recognise Sikhistan; we don't recognise Khalistan. Why are you beating about the bush?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The Calling Attention has been tabled.

MR. SPEAKER : I agree with you. Because this morning, it came, they had already tabled it. We had already admitted this motion. I think, if the House agrees, I have got no objection. I can have instead...

PROF. N.G. RANGA : After hearing what the Minister says we will see whether there would be any need to proceed further with this.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (S. BUTA SINGH) : Let the statement be completed. If the hon. Members do not want to put any question, that is a different question.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Statement we should hear, Sir.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : We do not take all this caper of Ecuador to be as simplistic as it appears. They are talking with two voices.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We are going ahead.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : Let the Calling Attention proceed. It is true that the Government of Ecuador has clarified the position; but there are some important citizens of Ecuador who made certain statements, according to press reports. Members may have some questions on that.

MR. SPEAKER : It can be withdrawn only with the consent of the House. I cannot do it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : Mr. Speaker, Government have seen press reports that a delegation of three prominent Ecuadorian personalities namely Dr. Carlos Julio Arocemena Chairman of the National Revolutionary Party, Dr. Cristobal Montero, an official of the Ecuadorian Foreign Office and Mr. Patricio Buendia, a lawyer, which is presently in London, has announced that the Government of Ecuador would soon recognise the so-called Government of "Khalistan" and that the Government of Ecuador, according to the press reports, have also agreed to give some land to some sikhs who can set up a Government-in-exile of the "Republic of Khalistan". Further it was reported that Dr. Chauhan had received an invitation to visit Ecuador.

2. The matter was immediately taken up by us with the Government of Ecuador. I had sent a cable in this regard to the Ecuadorian Foreign Minister in which I had conveyed *inter alia* that "any (such) statement or support to the so-called 'Khalistan' would amount to interference in the internal affairs of India and would amount to questioning the unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of India." I said that we would accordingly deeply appreciate if the Republic of Ecuador would urgently clarify the correct position in this regard. The Indian Missions in London, Cairo, Bogota and our Permanent Mission in New York were also asked to take up

the matter with their counterparts urgently. Our Embassy in Bogota (Colombia) is concurrently accredited to Ecuador and the Ecuadorian Ambassador in Cairo is concurrently accredited to India.

3. The Foreign Minister of Ecuador in his telex reply has categorically stated as follows :

“With reference to your Cable dated July 29, please permit me to inform you that the Government of Ecuador has not sent any official delegation abroad to make any kind of contact with any persons belonging to the Sikh Movement. Dr. Carlos Julio Arosemena Monroy has travelled to the city of London in his private capacity and his actions and contacts are in a purely private capacity and do not in any manner indicate any commitment of our national position which is the only one recognised by the Government of Ecuador. Ambassador Cristobal Montero, who at this moment is on vacation, is currently in a purely private capacity in the British capital.

Government Ecuador has acknowledged the legitimacy of the Sovereign Government of India and as such reiterates to your Excellency our desire to maintain most cordial and friendly relations with your Government.

We also take this opportunity to inform you that the Government of Ecuador has not maintained contacts nor has acknowledged a single movement composed by the ethnic Sikh elements”.

4. We have also been informed by the Embassy of Ecuador in New Delhi that the Government of Ecuador have issued an official statement confirming the contents of their Foreign Minister's reply. The Embassy of Ecuador has also informed us that the Government of Ecuador has reiterated that the “Official

invitations of the Ecuadorian Government are solely extended to Heads of constituted and recognised Governments. The separatist Sikh group has neither been nor will it be, recognised by the Ecuadorian Government ; therefore, the said group is not a legal entity for receiving official invitations.”

While we welcome the clarification of the official position of the Government of Ecuador, I would like to express our surprise that three prominent citizens of Ecuador have chosen to make such uncalled for and irresponsible statements on a matter which is strictly a domestic one of India and to have offered support for extremist and secessionist movement based outside India. Their action is not in keeping with the friendly relations that exist between India and Ecuador, a fellow member of the ‘Non-aligned Movement. We welcome and reciprocate the desire expressed to us by the Government of Ecuador for maintaining and fostering cordial relations with the Government and people of India and that it is their objective to promote through mutual accord such actions as may lead to substantial improvement in the bonds between the two countries in cultural, economic and cooperative fields.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : Will land be given to the Khalistan's in Ecuador ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : They have mentioned every thing that they have nothing to do with the Khalistani movement.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VISHNU MODI (Ajmer) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the press carries reports that Ecuador has accorded recognition to Khalistan and that, as the hon. Minister has also said, a spokesman of their Ministry of External Affairs had stated in a press Conference that his Government had invited Mr. Chauhan. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this. Eversince an accord was signed between our Hon. Prime Minister and Sant Longowal on Punjab tangle, the elements who were

[Shri Vishnu Modi]

instigating these people, who were defaming India, have been attempting to create situations in which this agitation would continue. As regards the reports of giving lands to Khalistani for housing their government and for cultivation also, it is a very serious matter. The Punjab accord having been signed now, our government should be very cautious in this matter and ensure that their officials do not create some such peculiar situation as would bring instability in Punjab. The accord has solved the problems peacefully and is going to restore normalcy. These anti-national elements in collusion with some foreign powers should under no circumstances be allowed to spoil and vitiate the atmosphere. Therefore, there is need for vigilance, need for not allowing the situation to deteriorate. The Punjab accord signed by the Hon. Prime Minister has been welcomed by all. The people abroad have commended it, the Sikhs living abroad have welcomed it. So, through you, Sir, like to caution government to be vigilant and not allow the situation to deteriorate. Their endeavour should be to ensure that there is no problem whatsoever left in Punjab.

[English]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, the statement which I have read out is very clear and I do not think I need to add anything to it.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the statement read out by the hon. Minister here and the reports appeared in the press make it abundantly clear must Ecuador government have denied the allegation that they have recognised the so called Khalistan government in-exile. This shows that reports appearing in the press are satisfying and have been welcomed by our government. However, the statements made in London do give rise to suspicion. It has appeared in the press today. A press conference was held in London which is said to have been organised in a private capacity by a group of three persons. The Times of India carries the report thus —

[English]

“At the Press Conference in London the Ecuador Group had pledged full support to the so-called Khalistan. Dr. Arosemena, President of the Revolutionary National Party, a partner in the ruling coalition had also said his discussion with Dr. Chauhan focussed in the Khalistan-Government-in-exile and would make a string recommendation to his Government on his return.” He further says...”

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Its all over. What is there now.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : My submission is that the attempts that are being made abroad, the earlier reports that Chauhan's activities are not being checked in the USA and London, the training centres and various other activities are matters of concern and are tantamount to interference in our internal affairs. The forces that are determined to destroy the country are being aided. There are some foreign forces. The press recently carried a report that Pakistan and Bangladesh have mooted to form a Confederation to make the problem more complicated for India and to involve her in many other problems. The hon. Minister should see to all these aspects.

There is need to be vigilant and to keep a watch in the activities being carried on abroad with the aid of foreign powers to see that the security of the country is not threatened.

There is a reference in the report that there was a message, an invitation for Chauhan. What is government's explanation to this, I would like to know. There is no doubt that the Government of Ecuador have issued a statement that they have not recognised Khalistan, they recognise India only. This is all right. But the things that have happened raise some questions in our minds. I would like a clarification from the hon. Minister in this regard.

[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