

the pave of development is also absolutely necessary. In my Budget proposals, in the limited way, I have tried to achieve all these four objectives. With these words, I request the House to accept my proposal.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Finance Minister to move the Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2010.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2010

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, I beg to move:

"The Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 2010-11, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 4 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, I move: That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

The Appropriation Bill, 2010

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, I beg to move:

"The Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2009-10, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, I move: That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2010.

**The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and
Remains (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2010**

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, with your permission, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, and to make provision for validation of certain actions taken by the Central Government under the said Act, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, it is well accepted that the identity and the soul of a nation is expressed in its culture and heritage. It is also well accepted that the society has a collective responsibility to safeguard its cultural heritage. I may just quote our first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, what he has depicted, reflected in his letter to his daughter, Indiraji. I quote: "The past brings us many gifts: indeed, all that we have today is culture, civilization, science or knowledge of some aspects of the truth. It is a gift of the distant or recent past to us. It is right that we acknowledge our obligation to the past." So, the Ordinance was brought about. I will explain the compelling reasons for promulgation of the Ordinance at the end of the debate. I commend this Bill for the consideration of this House.

The question was proposed.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS (Karnataka): Sir, I rise to support the Bill moved by hon. Minister, Shri M. Veerappa Moily, with great pleasure but with a heavy heart. This is the fifth in the series. There can be no two opinions that ancient monuments which are innumerable in our country constitute our richest heritage. Even during the British Government, as early as in 1904, the Ancient Monuments Protection Act was passed and that continued till 1958. In the meanwhile, the Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Declaration of National Importance) Act, 1951 was passed. Thereafter, the previous laws were continued by virtue of section 126 of the States Reorganisation Act. Then, after the States Reorganisation, the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites Act, 1958 was passed. Now more than 50 years are over. It is never too late to mend. It is a very famous statement. Similarly, it is never too late to amend also. But, unfortunately, just as Rip Van Winkle slept for 20 years, it is after two-and-a-half Rip Van Winkle's turns of sleep that this Bill has come up. As far as this present Bill is concerned, they want to categorise these historical monuments and sites into two categories - prohibited and regulated.

The ancient and historical monuments constitute our richest heritage. Probably, their value is more than that of the entire Budget allocation made by the Minister of Finance. Their protection is of