Weak laws on anti-national speeches

*50. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present laws to prosecute the persons who make anti-national speeches are very weak;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to amend the laws in consultation with each State to correct the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) The Central Government has not received any report from the State Governments which indicate that present laws to prosecute persons for making anti-national speeches, are weak.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present it is not contemplated to amend the laws.

Development of Ross Island as a heritage site in Port Blair

*51. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Ross Island in Port Blair needs wide-ranging infrastructural development as a heritage site;

(b) whether Government is also aware that Farzan Ali Store (named after a great freedom fighter) is in a dilapidated condition and needs immediate attention; and

(c) by when, Government proposes to take action in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH): (a) to (c) Ross Island has ruins of old buildings including Farzan Ali Store which have not been declared as a heritage site. Ross Island is being maintained by the Indian Navy.

These ruins have also not been declared as monuments of national importance under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. As such, the Archaeological Survey of India does not have any plans for infrastructural development or maintenance of these places.