

[Shri B. Satyanarayan Reddy]

to the tune of Rs. 9.53 crores remain unpaid as the "Food for Work" programme was replaced by the National Rural Employment Programme. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Central Government to pay those arrears and several times letters have been written. The State Government has asked for additional assistance to clear off the pending bills, but the Government of India has not agreed to provide additional assistance in this regard. In the meeting held with the Union Minister of State for Rural Development at Hyderabad in March, 1982, it was agreed that the Government of India would depute a Joint Secretary to the Government of India for studying this problem in depth. The State Government accordingly made a formal request to the Ministry of Rural Development to depute a Joint Secretary to the Government of India to study the whole problem. So far there has been no response. The meeting took place in 1982 and the bills are pending from 1982 to the extent of Rs. 9.53 crores. So much of amount is still unpaid by the Central Government to our State. In this connection, I would like to mention that a DO letter No. 58/NREP/81-25, Panchayati Raj Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, dated 1-10-82 was written to the Central Government and in that letter the Centre has been requested to look into the matter "and send a senior officer to Hyderabad immediately so that he can assess the magnitude of the problem and make suitable recommendations to the Government of India for providing us the assistance of Rs. 9.53 crores in this regard." So far no action has been taken. So, I would like to request the Government of India to take early steps to pay this balance of these bills so that the work does not suffer. It is an important work for rural reconstruction, taken up by both the Central Government and the State Government. The State Government has requested them several times. Recently also they have sent another communication. So I request the Government of India to take early steps to pay this huge amount of Rs. 9.53 crores.

I. THE JUTE MANUFACTURES CESS BILL, 1983

II. THE JUTE MANUFACTURES DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL BILL, 1983

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): Sir, I move—

"That the Bill to provide for the levy and collection, by way of cess, of duty of excise on jute manufactures for the purpose of carrying out measures for the development of production of jute manufactures and for matters connected therewith, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, I move also—

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of a Council for the development of production of jute manufactures by increasing the efficiency and productivity in the jute industry, the financing of activities for such development and for matters connected therewith, as passed by the Lok Sabha be taken into consideration."

Sir, the jute industry occupies a significant position in India's economy today. There are about 69 mills in the country with around 45000 tonnes accounting for about 30 per cent world export of jute goods. The total capital employed in the industry is of the order of Rs. 300 crores generating employment to about 2.5 lakh persons. Besides, the cultivation of jute provides a living to nearly 40 lakh families and the marketing of jute and jute goods and other ancillary activities give yet another sizeable employment to others. For quite some time the jute industry has been facing a financial crisis caused by the shrinkage in the export market and acute competition from the foreign countries and more so from the synthetic substitutes. The export performance has been declining. With decreased demand the productivity and efficiency of the industry has also remained at a low ebb. Any scheme for revitalization and rejuvenation of the industry would call for vigorous efforts towards market promotion, cost reduction, dynamic approach to research for improvement in techniques, process of production and stabilisation of prices.

The existing Jute Manufactures Development Council set up under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 is ill-equipped to perform most of these functions as it does not have adequate funds nor is it constitutionally broad-based with well-defined powers and functions to enable it to make a dynamic view of the promotional and developmental needs of the jute industry. It is, therefore, proposed to provide for the establishment of a new Council to be known by the same name as the existing Council set up under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1961 in view of the fact that the existing Council has received international recognition over the years. The new Council is proposed to be constituted, among others, with representatives of the producers and exporters of jute manufactures, growers of jute, workmen employed in factories producing jute manufactures, experts in jute technology, research, marketing or economics, representatives of the Ministries of the Central Government dealing with Agriculture, Commerce, Textiles, Finance, Industry, Civil Supplies and Cooperation and representatives of the State Governments where jute is cultivated on a large scale. It is proposed to vest the Council with adequate powers to deal with the various aspects of the jute industry. The existing Council set up under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 will be dissolved as soon as the Council is established under the proposed legislation. A provision has been made in the Bill for the transfer of the officers and staff employed in the existing Council. The finances of the Council will consist of sums provided by the Central Government from out of the proceeds of the cess on jute manufactures collected under the provisions of the Jute Manufactures Cess Bill, 1983, grants or loans made by the Central Government or by any person and sums realised by the Council in the discharge of its functions. The Council shall also have power to borrow on the security of the Jute Fund, set up under the proposed legislation, or any of its assets. Under the Jute Manufactures Cess Bill, Sir, a rate of 1 per cent instead of the present 0.125 per cent of the value of the jute goods

cleared for sale, both for internal and external markets, has been proposed with an enabling provision to raise it up to 3 per cent depending on the market conditions and other developmental needs. The one per cent cess is estimated to enable the Government to collect about Rs. 6.5 crores per annum on an estimated production of jute goods of the orders of Rs. 650 crores annually. It would be possible with this collection to mount the necessary promotional campaign and give the much-needed boost to the research and development efforts.

Sir, with these short preliminary remarks solving some of the present and persistent problems of the jute industry.

Sir, I am sure that the honourable Members will support these two Bills which, if passed, would go a long way in silencing some of the present and persistent problems of the jute industry.

Sir, with these short preliminary remarks, I invite a discussion on these two Bills.

The questions were proposed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jha, you can move your amendments to both the Bills.

SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA (Bihar): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of a Council for the development of production of jute manufactures by increasing the efficiency and productivity in the jute industry, the financing of activities for such development and for matters connected therewith, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following members, namely:—

1. Shri R. R. Morarka
2. Shri Biswa Goswami
3. Shri Shridhar Wasudev Dhabe
4. Shri Suraj Prasad
5. Shri G. C. Bhattacharya
6. Prof. Sourendra Bhattacharjee
7. Shri Rameshwar Singh
8. Shri Nepaldev Bhattacharjee
9. Shri Dipen Ghosh

[Shri Shiva Chandra Jha]

10. Shri Hari Shankar Bhabhra
11. Shri Kalraj Mishra
12. Shrimati Mohinder Kaur
13. Shri Shiva Chandra Jha

with instructions to report by the first week of the next Session."

Sir, I also beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the levy and collection by way of cess, of a duty of excise on jute manufactures for the purpose of carrying out measures for the development of production of jute manufactures and for matters connected therewith, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha consisting of the following members, namely:—

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10. Shri Nepaldev Bhattacharjee
11. Shri Dipen Ghosh
12. Shrimati Mohinder Kaur
13. Shri Shiva Chandra Jha

with instructions to report within a week."

The questions were proposed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Bills and the amendments of Shri Shiva Chandra Jha are open for discussion. They would be discussed together. Yes, Mr. Surendra Mohan.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am afraid that what has been proposed by the honourable Minister in these two Bills is not likely to achieve the purpose for which these have been proposed.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Syed Rahman Ali) in the Chair.]

Sir, I am afraid, the proposed Council also will suffer the same fate which the Council, constituted in 1951, had to face. I feel, Sir, that a great opportunity is being lost by the Government when a casual approach and when a traditional approach is being adopted on a question which is an extremely important question. We have seen, Sir, that the problems of the jute industry are really endemic problems and these cannot be explained away or whisked away or solved by the kind of tinkering approach that has been adopted by the Government. The hon. Minister has given data to emphasize the importance of jute industry. I would only add some more data to it just to point out how difficult, how grave, the situation has become. The 'Economic Times' of the 9th August has reported that there are 19 mills which are under lock-outs or closures up to August 2, 1983, and that has affected 63,400 workers. Eleven of these mills have been closed since the end of the last year and 8 have been closed since January. The situation in 1981 was analogous. In 1981, 17 mills were under lock-out and 7 under closure and then again, at that time also the number of workers affected was 63,400.

Now, Sir, the question is this. We have adopted several approaches. We adopted the approach that we depended upon the middleman and we found that the middlemen were fleecing the cultivators. We created the Jute Corporation of India and we found that the Jute Corporation of India is colliding with the middlemen and the cultivators are still being fleeced. We adopted another kind of approach in the industry. We depended on the big jute manufacturers who are notorious for having rapaciously looted the industry. We know that the jute barons not only diverted funds, the profits, which they earned to various other industries. They also diverted even the depreciation funds not only but they are not in a position to repay the loans of Rs. 92 crores given to them. The state of the industry is such that the proprietors have exhausted not only the share money that has been invested but also the reserve funds. This being the position, we are still thinking of another traditional manner.

We adopted the second approach and we said: Okay, if there is a sick industry or even a sick mill, its management will be taken over. The management of various sick mills were taken over. In certain cases they were nationalised also. Only the year before last 5 jute mills were nationalised. Unfortunately, Sir, even this approach has not proved to be very helpful. I may give the instance of a mill which was nationalised only 2 years ago. Its management was taken over in 1979—the mill in Katihar. This mill was in a bad shape. One of the problems was whatever was being given to the workers in West Bengal was not applicable to the workers in Katihar, in the nationalised mill also. Even in the private sector there is the same story. In the public sector also, unfortunately, it is the same story. And, therefore, time has come when you should decide whether you will abandon this old, traditional approach and be bold enough to try out a new approach, based not on bureaucrats, not on capitalists, not on the middlemen, but it has to depend on the cooperation that you get from the producing masses, whether they are cultivators or they are workers in the mills. Kindly try that out. You have given loans and incentives to the barons of the industry. Kindly give the same incentives to the cultivators. Give the same incentives to producers and the workers and see that they become important elements in the decision-making, in the production process itself. Unless you do that, I am afraid the jute industry will see its liquidation, and the process has already started. While proposing this approach, I would plead that we should try to have a workers' sector in the jute industry. We could give over sick mills and we could help the workers through the workers' cooperatives. We could give them financial assistance from the public financial corporations, and as we have been doing in the case of private industry and the corporate sector, we could also give them certain managerial talent or we could develop certain managerial talent amongst them. Unless you try this approach, you will not know how much beneficial this approach can be? But this has not been tried. I was very happy to find that the hon. Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, made a statement in Kanpur recently that he

has proposed that we should try to see that the mills are managed by workers themselves. I will be happy if the Government takes some practical and concrete steps in this direction. It is not that the workers should be involved only in industry. I would also submit that the same should be tried with the cultivators also. I am here reminded of a working group which was set up by the Government in 1980. This working group on jute gave its report to Government in February, 1981. I am sorry to say that although this working group made 14 recommendations, probably none of them has been accepted. I shall be grateful to the hon. Minister if he places before the Parliament the recommendations of the working group and tells us as to how much they have done about it. One of the major recommendations was to create a Board like the Coffee Board. There have suggested that there has to be crop insurance and that there has to be a study crop by crop, field by field and year by year. There should be coordination. But nothing of these things has been done. Cultivators are being left at the mercy of the middlemen. There is no machinery at all which can contact the producers and the cultivators and say that the interests of the producers will be safeguarded and that this thing is cooperative and that it will be in direct contact with the J.C.I. The J.C.I. will have workers' representatives on its Board, that there will be no fleecing, no collusion between the J.C.I. and the middlemen etc. If such an approach can be adopted in this respect, I am sure that putting traps on the workers on the one hand and the cultivators on the other hand will certainly come to an end and the grave crisis which is thwarting the jute industry will end. I may also point out and it is important at this particular stage of world economy. Much greater emphasis is given to radical solution of the problems of jute industry. But everybody knows that because of the oil crisis the prices of synthetic fibre have gone up and, therefore, there is great scope for jute industry in this field and also for cotton industry to get into the world market. Jute-manufactured goods will be much more competitive now than they were before because of the particular state of the synthetic fibre industry. But the problem

[Shri Surendra Mohan] is this. (*Time Bell rings*) When we try to push up the exports of jute industry, we look mainly to the U.S.A. or the European markets although we should know that the synthetic fibre industry does not depend only on America or Northern Europe. We could try Africa, Central America, and Southern America. I am afraid that our export promotion does take into consideration all these areas. In respect of our export promotion, we should also try that there should be some joint coordination with Bangladesh so that there can be a joint working on this particular score. This might also eliminate the problem of smuggling of jute goods from India to Bangladesh. These are the problems which have to be taken care of. As I said, if we want to make use of the opportunities which are open to us for pushing up export of jute goods and for making jute industry profitable, for seeing to it that the cultivators really get a remunerative price, then a new approach has to be adopted. May I also say, Sir, that if you look at the plight of the cultivators you find another important issue, and that issue is related to the environment. What is happening in North Bihar or in Assam, the areas which are under jute cultivation? The cultivators are experiencing acute malnutrition, particularly non-provision of healthy drinking water. Most of them are suffering from goitre. And this is because heavy rains, denudation, and deforestation are destroying our physical environment. If I may point out, Sir, a Citizens Report on Environment in India has been produced in 1982, and this Report has pointed out....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SYED RAHMAT ALI): The time is limited at our disposal.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHAN: I will take one minute only. And thousands of millions of tonnes of crop soil is being washed away into the seas only because of deforestation. And it is a problem particular to the jute-cultivated areas in North Bihar, Assam and West Bengal also. Unless these problems are tackled, unless a new approach is adopted, I am afraid, one cannot save the jute industry which, as the hon. Minister has rightly

said, is a very important export industry. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SYED RAHMAT ALI): Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique.

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE (Assam): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I rise to support these two Bills moved by the hon. Deputy Minister of Commerce.

Sir, one of the Bills seeks to improve upon the existing Jute Manufacturers Development Council set up under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. The purpose is to make it more purposeful by providing a broad-based, well-defined powers and functions and adequate funds. Sir, it is expected that the proposed new Council will fulfil more effectively the promotional and developmental needs of the jute industry. Sir, particularly, I do appreciate the provision of workers' and growers' participation in the Council. This will give not only the true representative character but will also make their views heard at the higher level. For these are the two classes in the whole industry who have suffered the most. And ironically everywhere you will find that the cause of the growers and the workers tends to go by default. Sir, it is also quite considerable of the Government to think of giving the Council adequate funds. For many a Council or Board or Committee bog down when they get down to the brass tacks of finance. The proposed Council, armed with adequate funds out of the cess on jute manufactures and grants or loans made by the Central Government and further with the power to borrow on security of Jute Fund as has been pointed out by the hon. Minister, will be in a position to discharge the responsibilities with confidence and effectiveness. Sir, without funds, such bodies offer only words, words, words.

Sir, the jute industry has been passing through one of the worst crises in its history. Unless the Government comes to the rescue in a big way, controlling the market and finding financial assistance in the form of soft loans and other concessions, for development, including modernisation and increased productivity I am afraid, this industry which has a total

investment of Rs. 400 crores, which employs over a million of people, which makes a contribution of 75 per cent to the national exchequer and a contribution of 20 per cent to the total export earnings of the country, is in great jeopardy. Sir, owing to the continued uneconomic working of the industry, its financial viability has been shattered. Many mills have already reached a stage of stagnation with all their reserves and surpluses completely used by and their liquidity position becoming precarious. The seriousness of the situation can be sized up by the fact that despite so many concessions and reliefs granted by the Government, most of the mills in the past few years have been hovering precariously between survival and closures. So long as jute is in private sector, well, I am not opposed to the concept of public sector, however, taking things as they are at present, we have to admit that profitability is the motivating force of the prospective investors which makes it possible to plough back substantial finances and make it easy to raise equity capital in the investment market and loans on more favourable terms. Sir, profitability in any industry mainly depends upon factors like cost of production, capacity utilisation, prices of the end-products and managerial efficiency. Sir, in the jute industry, however, the prices of raw material rose sharply to an unprecedented height in recent years and the prices of products crashed down in domestic as well as international markets. This is the situation, Sir. And, along with that, Sir, consequent upon the rise in the cost of living, wages of the workers had to be raised. It has to be done. So, where is the profitability in this industry? It is at an all-time low in its decline. And Sir, at the top of this, this industry which has been under constraints to raise finances from internal as well as external sources, along with a decline of internal sources, even negative contribution was reported during the period 1976 to 1979 due to the withdrawal of reserves for payment of dividends and other expenses due to cash loss thus, the problem was further accentuated. As regards external sources of funds as investors are not preferring equities of jute mills due to low returns on their invest-

ment, the industry was forced to depend more and more on borrowings and trade deficits. And, as you know, borrowings were also subjected to credit squeeze. So, Sir, that the plight of the internal as well as external sources of finance. The industry could not introduce modernisation and as they failed to modernise their old plants and machinery, which is in turn affecting the profitability. This vicious circle has been operating leading to this persistent crisis.

Sir, we have to bear in mind that the Government through the IDBI soft loans has been helping the industry for modernisation. But, Sir, considering the present tottering condition of the industry, the Government I do hope will think of providing more incentives like grant of loans from the term lending institutions on liberal terms, adequate provision of working capital and, which is more important, creation of a separate fund for modernisation of the jute industry, Sir, the mills also have their own share of contribution to this pass to which the things have come to. Traditional ways of handling diverse sources and uses of funds and their reckless use of them are also the causes of the distressing condition of the industry. This is about the manufacturing side. But mere toning up manufacturing side of the industry would not achieve much unless marketing is improved by correcting its imperfect condition and the grower is protected. Nowhere else the middleman plays a more dominant role as in the jute industry. The grower's plight suffers from the highly complicated and anti-grower pattern of the jute marketing. There are roughly 3 stages, the primary, secondary and terminal and each stage, the middleman dictates. Since few average growers can do without the money advances—or "dadans" as it is called locally, for agricultural production and even for bare sustenance during the off-season, in the absence of a suitable alternative source of such finances, they are forced to sell their jute. A survey has shown that this type of sale is quite substantial, depriving the growers of the full benefit of the ruling prices. The growers need cash to pay off their creditors, who press them

[Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique].

for their dues immediately after the harvest, they are forced to sell their jute between September and December when the prices are the lowest due to glut created by bulk arrivals. Such hasty sales soon after harvest also become unavoidable on whatever prices available, due to lack of any storage facilities in the villages. Finally, the mills, in collusion with the major jute dealers, often depress the prices artificially by tactfully timing the purchases and by other means generally during the peak marketing season. It was expected that the Jute Corporation of India's procurement will be effective and that this procurement by the Jute Corporation of India will eliminate at least the artificial fluctuation of prices. But it is too inadequate for a real impact on the new jute market. In fact, there have been complaints that they do not have funds, and always groaning under such complaints, it has been reported that even this Corporation appointed those agents who are the old dealers and who were notorious for exploiting the growers. The only way out of this malaise is the strengthening of the cooperative movement. Cooperative societies alone can eliminate these middlemen and free the growers from the stranglehold of the moneylenders. (*Time bell rings*). I will take a few more minutes, because I come from the region where the jute is grown.

The next important step will be provision of warehousing facilities, and consequently, these cooperative societies should be able to store their jute there till the market prices look up. The Government may also consider introducing regulated markets. I believe, West Bengal has already had such regulated markets.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): The panchayats are willing to purchase the raw jute and the Government of India also has a scheme of rural godowns; but they are suffering due to lack of funds.

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: So, regulated market is another step Government may think of. The protection of the grower is very important; that is linked with the prospective increase in produc-

tion which furthers ultimately export promotion. I have a few more points to make. Then, we have come to know that Government, particularly, the Ministry of Commerce, has given instructions to make it compulsory to use jute bags for cement, for packing cement. I think, other user departments, should also be prevailed upon to use jute bags so that jute may substitute, jute may replace, the synthetic packing material for packing foodgrains, fertilisers, sugar and so on.

There is another promising possibility. The jute bags may even substitute plywood tea chests. Following the international meet at Budapest, a suggestion has been made for changing the packing material from plywood to other materials. This has been desired by the importing countries. As desired by the importing countries, the Tea Board of India has been going into the matter and it has been found that this can be used for domestic and export use. Bags can be made of odourless jute material with a lining provided to protect it from odour as well as moisture. If this materialises, I think, the tea industry will be able to come to the rescue of the jute industry. There should be a lining inside and it should be free from odour.

Here, the question of research and development comes which is one of the aims of the Bill and on which the hon. Minister has been so eloquent. For this, we have to organise research so that jute material can be improved and can be used as an alternative to many other packing materials.

Sir, before I conclude, I would like to say something about Assam. Assam is a jute growing State. But so far, no proper survey has been made. I think, still, a lot has to be done. Of course, it is not a small area. But much more areas can be brought under jute cultivation. In fact, all over Assam, jute cultivation can be introduced. In this connection, I would also like to suggest to the Government that the local people need to be involved in jute cultivation. We have a jute mill there in the co-operative sector. I have already said we have to resort to co-operative efforts. I do admit that the co-

operative jute mill there is not running well. But the management can be improved. There is one more jute mill which is yet to come up in Darrang district. I do not know what has happened to this proposed jute mill. I hope, the hon. Minister will clarify and let us know what the position is.

Sir, in the end, I do hope that Government will introduce the research and development programme so that the jute industry can be saved. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN (West Bengal):
 Sir, I fail to understand why the hon. Minister has come out with this Bill. I do not know what purpose this will serve and how this Bill is going to salvage the jute industry from the big crisis which it is faced with. Sir, jute industry is one of the oldest industries in our country and the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, while writing about the jute industry, commented that through the jute industry, the British merchants, the British capitalists, were taking away all the gold from India to England. By this, he wanted to say how the jute industry, how the magnates of the jute industry were exploiting our country and the workers. This exploitation adopted by the British regime is still continuing and the crisis which the jute industry is facing today is a self-made crisis. The crisis is a creation of the industry magnates themselves. This is because this jute industry is actually owned by a few monopoly houses, multi-millionaires. To run this industry they take money from the Government. In fact, 70 per cent of the capital is given by the Government itself through the nationalised banks. They take this money from the Government for running the industry and they reap huge profits. At the same time they employ the profits in other industries elsewhere. Now they say that the jute industry is suffering from lack of export. Previously, during the colonial days 70—80 per cent of this industry's products were exported to foreign countries. Now the trend has changed and only 30 per cent of the products are exported while 70 per cent of the products are utilised in our own country. It is not a fact that the jute magnates are facing a marketing crisis. In fact, despite difficulties, they have the

market abroad and inside the country. It is not a question of marketing alone. It is the question of reaping super profits. The jute industry magnates are not only taking money from the Government, but they are also swallowing the money deposited with them as the employees provident fund, employees State insurance fund, etc. That money does not belong to the jute mill-owners, but still they are trying to swallow that money. In this way, the entire jute industry of India has become a big source of reaping super profits by these mill-owners. So, I think it will be a futile attempt on the part of the Government if they tried to save the jute industry from the present crisis through these two Bills. By bringing forward these two Bills the Government is only tinkering with the problem. These two Bills are useless, infructuous. The IJMA is exploiting the workers and I do not know how these two Bills are going to save the workers from the exploitation of the UMA. In 1979 the UMA entered into an agreement with the jute workers trade union about wage revision and for giving them some other wage and service benefits. They entered into the agreement in 1979 and now it is 1983. Four years have passed. They have refused to implement the agreement. They are continuing to exploit the workers. They are depriving the workers of their due benefits to which they themselves agreed in 1979.

In this industry, Sir, not only the workers are exploited, the jute growers are also being exploited. I will give examples how the jute growers are being exploited and I will repeat that these two Bills are not going to save the jute growers even. Now, it is a well-known fact that the jute mill-owners purchase raw jute from the middleman. I will tell you how they do it. First of all, one middleman purchases jute from the jute grower. That middleman transfers to jute to another middleman. Then he transfers to another and at the last stage the mill-owners purchase the jute at the so-called market value. But if you actually investigate the middleman affair, you will find that this chain of middlemen is only a bogus thing. The jute mill-owners purchase the jute from jute growers through one middleman. The jute mill-owners takes the

jute at the price given to the original grower. It means a chain of middlemen which is only on paper. They say that the jute goods come through a chain from the growers to the mill-owners and that is why the price of jute is raised and that is why the mill-owners have to purchase the jute at the high market value. That is all bogus. Actually they purchase it directly from the growers at a very low rate and they have concocted this theory of chain of middlemen. It is their own people who are doing all this. That way, they are depriving the jutegrowers also.

Sir, you might be knowing that West Bengal is the biggest jute-producing State in the country. Out of 69 jute mills in the country, 58 are situated in that State. The Government of West Bengal had submitted some proposals to the Government of India to save this jute industry from the crisis. In 1982, the West Bengal Assembly passed a Resolution unanimously that the jute industry should be nationalised immediately. When the Assembly delegation came to Delhi and met the Prime Minister and asked the Prime Minister why 18 out of 58 jute mills in West Bengal were under lock-out, it is reported immediately. When the Assembly decided that the Prime Minister told the delegation that the lock-out was due to workers' strike or workers agitation. But the fact is that although 18 jute mills are under lockout, in West Bengal, none of them has been locked out for reason of agitation. It is the doing of the owners themselves. Their plea is that jute has lost its market and it is not profitable to run the industry and that is why they have had to close it. So out of 58 mills, 18 have been locked out. Can the hon. Minister assure the House that after passing these two Bills, these 18 jute mills will be reopened and the workers who have been thrown out on the streets will again be taken back in their jobs? Can the Minister give that assurance? No, I don't think he can. These two Bills cannot assure jobs to thousands of people who have been thrown out. If the Minister can assure that, then we can feel that these two Bills are going to at least touch some problems of the jute industry, or at least those who were thrown out are going to get back their jobs. There

is no such promise in these Bills that the workers will be saved from retrenchment, from lock-out, from the misdeeds of the management.

In conclusion, I would suggest that instead of tinkering with the problem, instead of coming out with these two Bills which will not be able to touch the fringe of the problem but will rather further accentuate the problem and complicate the problem, the Government of India should immediately nationalise the jute industry, the raw jute trade and export trade in jute goods and this should be brought under the Government of India. There should be necessary arrangements for purchase and sale of raw jute by Government of India. Further, the price of raw jute should be a minimum of Rs. 300 per quintal and necessary arrangements should be made in this regard. Then in consultation with the State Governments concerned, the panchayats should be associated with erection of godowns, purchase and sale of raw jute, identity cards should be given to the growers and purchase centres for raw jute should be opened. The West Bengal Government had proposed that they should be allowed to set up their own State Jute Corporation. That has not been considered. So the last item should be that since West Bengal is the biggest jute producing State in country, and the West Bengal Government has proposed to the Government of India that they be allowed adequate financial assistance to have their own Jute Corporation that should be allowed so that the State Jute Corporation can help the jute industry, can help the growers, can help the workers. I feel that proposal should be accepted. Only then the problems of the jute industry can be solved. Otherwise these two Bills are not going to solve the jute industry's problems and its crisis. That is why I request the hon. Minister that instead of coming out with these Bills, they should touch the depth of the problem and, as suggested in the Resolution passed by the West Bengal Assembly, they should immediately come forward with nationalisation of jute industry and the suggestions that have been made in this speech should be accepted. Then only can the problem be solved.

With this, I conclude.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, I rise to support these two Bills. The first is the Jute Manufacturers Cess Bill (No. 47-C of 1983); and the second is the Jute Manufacturers Development Council Bill (No. 48-C of 1983).

Before coming to the jute crop, I would like to speak something on these two Bills. The second Bill has been formulated with the very good intention to help the cultivators, the jute growers. Sir, in this Bill, there are 28 members in total without the Chairman being considered. There are 6 members appointed by the Central Government, 8 members appointed by the Central Government from different Ministries: Agriculture; Commerce; Finance; Industry; Civil Supplies; and Co-operation, 6 members from the jute growing States like Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Meghalaya, Orissa, Tripura and West Bengal, 4 members from the jute manufacturers; 2 from the exporters; 3 members only from the growers; and 5 members from the technical side, experts in jute research, jute marketing or agricultural economics.

What I feel is, while we are talking the language of helping the common cultivators in this country, either in the jute field or in cotton or in sugarcane, in this Bill itself we have included only three members from the growers side. It is the growers for whom we are doing this work. I think in the last Bill also, the one which was being discussed yesterday, i.e., the National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board Bill, there were three or four such members. What I would like to say is that the men who are engaged in the production of the jute crop should be given more representation. I do not want to say as to how many members should be there. But I am sure that Mr. Minister will take it seriously, that there should be in this Council more members, at least 6 or 7, from the growers' side. The second thing is that this Council has been formulated with the intention to provide the technology of jute production. It wants to develop research, education and extension. Sir, jute is one of the important cash

crops of agriculture. We have got two main cash crops. Now sugarcane has dominated most of the crops, but formerly cotton and jute were the main crops of this country. I read that the Britishers also came to India with the lust of textiles and jute. Even today, India exports 30 per cent of the total jute production. Before the Partition, India was one of the major countries in the world and was exporting majority of the jute fibre to the entire world. After the Partition also, while we were afraid that jute production and jute export will suffer, our brave farmers from West Bengal and other States like Assam, Bihar, Meghalaya, Orissa, have bridged the gap and have produced a lot of jute, and today also we are exporting about 30 per cent of jute. Sir, I think Mahatma Gandhi also fought for the economic betterment of the producers, all the farm workers. He had started his *andolan* from the jute growing area. This is an importing crop, but this is the most disregarded crop in this country. Jute is a natural fibre, though it is rough. Now so many fibres have come: synthetic fibre, polythene, terylene, terycot. But if you view from the point of view of comfort and utility, artificial fibre cannot be compared with natural fibre. So, from that point of view, Sir, jute crop is very important. Jute crop can be cultivated throughout the country. Though in my State, Maharashtra it is not grown, there is scope. Once I have also grown jute crop in my farm. The seed was supplied by the National Seeds Corporation. And I have made sufficient profit. But traditionally we are bound, and our minds are bound by tradition. We must grow sugarcane, cotton, groundnut so that we can get good return. It is not to.

Second thing why people are not going in for jute cultivation is that the price of agricultural commodities are very low. The main bottleneck in agriculture, the main drawback in the field of agricultural production, is that we are not giving to the cultivators remunerative prices. He is the man who has to work in the field for four months or five months under hot Sun and in rains. He is the proof of Sun-heat and cold, and he does not get remunerative returns of his labour. So, the entire problem of this country is that

[Shri Vithalrao Madhavrao Jadhav] the man who is working actually in the field, who physically exerts, does not get a remunerative return in the form of money and in any other form. Unless we give that fellow his due, I think no industry can develop.

I belong to the field of agriculture. I know that jute is the roughest crop. It belongs to malvaceae family. It is grown mostly in low-lying areas with high rainfall low rainfall we can grow jute very successfully.

I congratulate the hon. Commerce Minister, the Deputy Commerce Minister, who has taken this very good step. Some drawbacks, some deficits, are there. But as the time passes, as the necessity arises, then, those deficits can be removed. So, he has formulated this Council. And our Government wants to help the poor farmers the poor farm labourers who are working in the jute fields.

One thing, I would like to suggest, through this House, through the media of this House. There are several agricultural universities and there is a lot of work being done in the field of evolution of new varieties of rice and wheat and jowar and bajra and maize and so many other crops and sugarcane also. But I am sure that not much work is done in the field of jute. The most important reason why the jute industry is getting a setback is that we have not cared much for its research. In the formulation of the Council it has been mentioned that this Council is going to pay full attention to the research and development of the jute crop. So, I would like to request through this House that we must make an appeal to, we must request, several agricultural universities that they must conduct favourable and very useful research in the field of jute crop.

Sir, West Bengal today is the dominating State in jute production. The great son of India, Ravindra Nath Tagore, was born in West Bengal, and his poetry, "Gitanjali" famous in the world, I am sure, is the string of jute. It has taken Ravindra Nath Tagore to the whole world. So, through the media of this House I request, Mr. Vice-Chairman, that we must initiate, we must make a big potential, we must give big encouragement, for research and

development of the jute industry, and through that we can acquire the position of the number one jute exporter in the world. So, Sir, through research we have to form, we have to invent, new varieties which are resistant to the vagaries of monsoon and climatic conditions. Till today we were talking that we wanted remunerative price for cotton. The position is not that jute is getting a big set back, but all the agricultural crops are getting a setback. This year, after all, the Government has declared Rs. 527 for one quintal of cotton exported. That is a good step that the Government has taken. In the same way, it is necessary that we have to accept one day or the other the principle of fixing the prices of the farm commodities on the basis of their cost of production. That is the only way, that is the only solution to take this agricultural revolution forward in this country. And unless the agricultural revolution is completed, our industrial revolution will never be completed. So, from that point of view, if we want to raise the standard of the common people of the rural area, then we must think of this aspect very seriously.

Then I welcome the suggestion made by one of our friends from that side, that a crop insurance scheme should be started. There is no insurance for the farmer. There is no insurance, there is no guarantee. As there is no guarantee for his life, in the same manner, there is no guarantee for his crop. If an industrial unit becomes sick, money goes waste. But if agriculture goes wrong, nothing can be done. So from that point of view I request that there should be a crop insurance scheme not only in respect of jute, but in respect of all cash crops, including cotton, sugarcane and jowar, all the main crops of the different parts of the country. A crop insurance scheme should be started.

Then, the cultivator, the farmer produces the jute, but where is the market? Sir, I have worked out that the producer has to cross five stages. First, he produces. Then the middleman comes and purchases the material. Then it goes to the manufacturer for the finished product. Then there is one more agent, that is, the seller. And then comes the consumer.

So from producer to consumer, he has to cross five stages. And among these stages, the lowest paid man is the producer and the highly exploited man is the consumer. So, if we can remove the other stages, middleman, manufacturer and seller, and if we can have some correlation between the producer and the consumer, I am sure the exploitation of the farmers in this country can be avoided easily. Now it is a quarrel between the grower and the Government because we say that the Government is not giving proper prices. And what is the Government to do? The Government can collect taxes from the consumer. That poor consumer pays the taxes and he requests the Government not to charge more taxes. And who is the exploiter actually? It is the middleman, the industrialist and the seller. So these so many agents should be removed. I recommend through this House the starting of cooperative jute mills, as Maharashtra has started in the case of sugarcane several cooperative sugar factories. Maharashtra has entered in a big way in the setting up of co-operative spinning mills because the textile industry is the main economic base of our country. In the same manner, in the jute growing areas, we must encourage co-operative jute mills. Private entrepreneurship should be taken away or units where exploitation takes place should be taken away, and the farmer, the producer, should be the owner of the finished product. He must go to the market. And the margin between the producer and the consumer should be at the most 10 to 15 per cent, so that our economy can improve and the economic well being of the poor farmer can be improved.

With these few suggestions and comments, I welcome this Bill and I am very much thankful to the Chair for allowing me to speak on this Bill. Thank you very much.

श्री राम लखन प्रसाद गुप्त (बिहार) :
उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे पूर्व वक्ता ने बिल का स्वागत तो किया परन्तु उन्होंने यह नहीं कहा कि जो कुछ वह चाहते हैं क्या वह है इस बिल के अन्दर। इस बिल के लाने का क्या दृष्टिकोण है, इससे

क्या फायदा होगा, यह कुछ भी इस बिल में नहीं दिया है। यदि बिल में देखा जाए तो इसके शुरू में लिखा गया है—

“A Bill to provide for the establishment of a Council for the development of production of jute manufactures by increasing the efficiency and productivity in the jute industry, the financing of activities for such development.”

अगर इस दृष्टिकोण से देखा जाए तो अभी तक जितनी यहां संस्थाएं हैं क्या वह सारी चीज इसमें शामिल हैं या नहीं?

अभी यहां पर जूट कारपोरेशन आफ इंडिया है जो खरीद का भी काम करता है और एक्सपोर्ट का भी काम करता है। फिर जूट टैक्नालोजी रिसर्च लैबोरेटरीज हैं जहां पर इनकी रिसर्च होती है। जूट रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूट भी अलग से है, जूट इंडस्ट्री एसोसिएशन है वह भी इसी रास्ते पर काम करता है। ये सारी चीजें और सारी संस्थाएं तो हैं लेकिन प्रश्न यह उठता है कि ये इफेक्टिव कितनी हैं, इससे सरकार काम कितना ले सकती है और सरकार का उसके ऊपर कंट्रोल कितना है। मेरा यह कहना है कि सरकार इस ओर बिल्कुल ध्यान नहीं देती है। यहां पर लगभग 60 जूट मिलें हैं। उसमें ढाई लाख मजदूर काम करते हैं। इनमें 21 मिलें बन्द पड़ी हैं और 70 हजार से 80 हजार मजदूर बेकार पड़े हुए हैं। यह क्यों है? अभी हमारे पूर्व वक्ता ने कहा कि मजदूरों का कहीं आंदोलन नहीं है। यह आंदोलन मजदूरों का नहीं है यह मोनो पॉलिस्टों का है। ये जो जूट के उद्योगपति हैं, मिल मालिक हैं उनका है। जूट के जो बड़े-बड़े 9 उद्योगपति हैं उनका किया हुआ है और यह जानबूझकर इसलिए करते हैं ताकि यह जो जूट है उसकी जो प्रोडक्ट है, उसकी कीमत बड़े और कम से कम, न्यूनतम कीमत क्या हो यह तय हो। इसीलिए वे सरकार के ऊपर दबाव डालते

[श्री राम लखन प्रसाद गुप्त]

हैं। जो सबसे बड़े परचेजर हैं, वे सरकार के ऊपर दबाव डालकर कीमत बढ़वा कर यह चाहते हैं कि हम मिलों को धीरे-धीरे खोलें। आज बंगाल में 19 मिलें और मध्य प्रदेश और आंध्र प्रदेश में एक-एक मिल बन्द है। इस तरह से चारों तरफ तबाही मची हुई है। इस हालत में ये जो मिलें काम कर रही हैं इसमें 192 करोड़ रुपया रिजर्व बैंक और गवर्नमेंट ने अपनी तरफ से दिया हुआ है। लेकिन जो उद्योगपति हैं उन्होंने इस पैसे को इस उद्योग में न लगाकर दूसरे कामों में डाइवर्ट कर दिया है, दूसरे कामों में खर्च कर लिया है। यह रुपया इन मिलों में नहीं लगा हुआ है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो 9 मोनो-पोलिस्ट हैं उनके ऊपर सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है? क्या सरकार ने उनके ऊपर कोई मुकदमा किया है? क्या आपने इनको जेल भेजा है? इतना सारा रुपया देने के बाद उसका डाइवर्सन हो जाता है, जिस उद्योग के लिये पैसा दिया जाता है उस उद्योग में उस पैसे को नहीं लगाया जाता है। वह उद्योग सिर्फ दिखावे के लिये लगाया जाता है। वह पैसा, जहां दूसरे काम में ज्यादा मुनाफा हो वहां लगाया जाता है। इसके ऊपर सरकार की तरफ से पिछले 10 सालों में कोई मुकदमा नहीं हुआ। इसके साथ उद्योग को नुकसान होता ही है साथ ही साथ उत्पादन करने वाले जो किसान हैं उनको भी परेशानी होती है। हमारे एक भाई ने बहुत सही कहा कि किस प्रकार से मिडिलमैन पर मिडिलमैन होता है। उससे मिल मालिक खरीदता है। पिछली मर्तबा हमने इस पर इसी सदन में चर्चा की थी। उस समय यह कहा था कि किस तरह से जूट कारपोरेशन वाले किसानों को तबाह करते हैं और किस तरह से दलाल किसानों से दलाली का रुपया लेकर उनको आगे

सोचते हैं। इन सारी चीजों के संबंध में मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस पर क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है?

इस बिल में एफिशिएंसी के बारे में और रिसर्च के बारे में बातें कही गई हैं। जहां तक रिसर्च का सवाल है, रिसर्च का एक सेंटर हालैंड में और एक कामनवैलथ लंदन के नजदीक में है। वहां जूट के ऊपर रिसर्च होता है। हम उस टेक्नोलोजी को अपने यहां ले सकते हैं। रिसर्च तथा एक्सपोर्ट प्रमोशन के लिये हमने यू० एस० ए० में और ब्राजील में अपने अफसर रखे हुए हैं। उन लोगों से क्या सचमुच इन उद्योगों को लाभ हुआ है यह देखने की जरूरत है। फिर मार्केट की बात आती है। अगर हमें यूरोपियन कंट्रीज में, डेवलपड कंट्रीज में मार्केट नहीं मिलती तो अफ्रीका की तरफ हम अपना ध्यान ले जा सकते हैं। हमें ऐसा लगता है कि हम इस तरफ सीरियसली नहीं ध्यान दे रहे हैं जिससे हमारा एक्सपोर्ट बढ़ सके। कौंसिल के लिए तरह-तरह की कमेटियाँ और उसमें मेंबर की बात आती है तो मैं इसमें नहीं जाना चाहता क्योंकि इसमें रहने या न रहने से कोई फर्क नहीं पड़ता। इसमें टी.ए. वगैरह सारी बातों की चर्चा आती है। उससे प्रमोशन क्या होगा, उससे डेवलपमेंट क्या होगी इस विषय में कोई चर्चा इसमें नहीं है। अब उस कौंसिल के खर्च के लिए रुपया चाहिए। आप जानते हैं कि रुपये की बात पहले आती है। जैसा कि खुद मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है, इसको 0.125 परसेंट से बढ़ाकर 1 परसेंट कर दिया गया और 1 परसेंट में यह प्रावधान रखा गया है कि इसकी बढ़ाकर 3 परसेन्ट किया जाता है। आजकल स्थिति यह है कि सरकार की तरफ से जब इस तरह के कारपोरेशन की बात आती है तो इस पर पहले ध्यान जाता है कि रुपया

कैसे आना चाहिए और रुपया ज्यादा से ज्यादा कितना बढ़ना चाहिए। यह सरकार रुपया बढ़ाकर उपभोक्ता के ऊपर भार डालती है। इससे उसकी कास्ट बढ़ेगी, परन्तु लाभ नहीं हो सकेगा। इस लिए मेरा आग्रह है कि इस तरह के बिल से कोई लाभ नहीं है। इस तरह का बिल लाने की कोई जरूरत नहीं है। अगर रात्रमुच में आप जूट उद्योग को बढ़ाने में दिलचस्पी रखते हैं, इसके उत्पादन को बढ़ाने में दिलचस्पी रखते हैं तो इस सम्बन्ध में बहुत से जो सुझाव आए हैं उन सुझावों को देखिए और वे कार्य रूप में कैसे परिवर्तित हों और किस तरह से उनके अनुसार काम हो सके, इस पर ध्यान दीजिए। मैं समझता हूँ कि वे सुझाव काफी हैं। इस बिल की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है।

DR. MALCOLM S. ADISESHIAH (Nominated): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I rise to support these two Bills, the Jute Manufactures Cess Bill, 1983, and the Jute Manufactures Development Council Bill, 1983, not because they will solve all the problems that the jute industry is facing. It has been clearly outlined by my friend, Shri Surendra Mohan, and very clearly outlined also by the Member from the Communist Party from West Bengal, that these bills will not solve the problems faced by the jute industry. I do not think that any Bill can solve all the problems that the jute industry is facing. I support these two Bills because I believe that they are a contribution, not more than a contribution, to meeting some of the problems of the jute industry.

Now, Mr. Vice-Chairman, we have had alternative suggestions. Mr. Surendra Mohan suggested that the workers and the growers or the cultivators should really take over the mills and should run the industry. And, Sir, we have had the suggestion from my colleague from West Bengal that the industry should be nationalised. A suggestion also came from my friend from Maharashtra that the industry should be run by the co-operatives or it should be cooperativised.

Now, these are all long-term issues which need to be very carefully examined and they have not been examined and their implications have not been studied. Therefore, what is before us, I believe, is this bill. For instance, Mr. Vice-Chairman, I have my doubts about the public sector taking over more and more of sick industries. Therefore, when you say, "Nationalise the sick industries. I am for the Government starting new industries, running industries. But, about taking over industries which have been rendered sick, which have been made sick by the private sector, I have my own doubts. Therefore, the suggestions made by the Members here deserve a profound study which has not been undertaken so far.

Now, my next point is this: The basic problem with the jute industry is that it is a sick industry. The Minister mentioned 69 jute mills in the country. I would like to ask him how many of these mills are closed down today. I have the figure of 12 mills closed down in 1982-83 and my colleague from West Bengal mentioned 19. Can we have the official figures? What is the total number of mills which are closed down? Secondly, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the exports, that is, the jute exports of our country are declining. May I ask the Minister again whether he can give the House information on the rate at which it has been declining. My figure is that since the Sixth Plan since two or three years, it has been declining at about 15 per cent. This is my figure, and I would like to be corrected if I am wrong. Then, Sir, the price that the mills obtain for the manufactures is a price which is causing serious losses. My figures show that at current prices the industry is losing Rs. 1,200/- a tonne on sacking, Rs. 2,000 a tonne on carpet backing, and Rs. 850/- a tonne on plain backing and now this is too heavy a rate of loss for any industry to be able to sustain itself without going sick. This is one of the practical reasons.

Now, the problems faced by the industry have been outlined by the Minister. They are: (1) We are facing a shrinking export market and domestic market. (2) We are facing a very serious competition from other countries. (3) We are facing also a competition from synthetics. (4) The industry being a sick industry, is characterised by low production.

[Dr. Malcom S. Adiseshiah.]

tivity and low efficiency. (5) It is facing rising costs in relation to falling prices. No where does the Minister refer to the fact mentioned by my colleague from West Bengal or Mr. Surendra Mohan that one of the causes for the sickness of the industry is that the private managements are diverting the funds of the mills for their own private purposes or for other purposes. This is what is called in rather strong language 'looting', which is a well-known technique, which is the reason why so many textile mills have gone sick. No reference has been made by the Government in the document to this very important factor of the diversion of the resources of the mills by the owners themselves.

Now, Mr. Vice-Chairman, I welcome the Bill. I believe that the functions set forth for the Council in clause 7 are comprehensive. They cover jute cultivation, markets, targets for jute production, research, prices and information. Now, I do not think the Council is going to be able to deal with the problems of the middlemen, who are responsible for the cultivators not being able to obtain a decent price. These are very comprehensive functions that you have given to the Council. But may I ask the Minister will these functions really be carried out? I believe that even if two or three of these functions are carried out, particularly, if we can do something for the farmer, if we can do something really on research and marketing, it will really raise the level of productivity of the industry.

Now, secondly, my hon. friend Mr. Handique, referred in vague terms to 'modernisation'. There is no reference to modernisation in the Bill. Or is there some clause which does not speak of modernisation but which provides for modernisation?

My next question to the Minister is whether in the light of the fall in prices, etc., is there any chance of our being able to re-enter those markets, in the US and in Europe, and re-capture these markets?

The last point I would like to make is that I very much like the provisions for

the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman and the provision for technologists, and so on. Yesterday there was very strong criticism even from the Treasury Benches in connection with the Bill that we passed yesterday about the position of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and the absence of scientists, and so on. I am very glad that this Bill meets all these requirements. I am supporting this Bill. But I have a feeling that there are too many Central Government representatives in the Council and only six from the States. May I ask the Minister why do you want the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Ministry of Cooperation to be represented there? Why should there not be a parity between the Union and the State Government? The last question that I have to ask on the first Bill is this. I have a feeling that West Bengal should not be equated with all the other six States. This is a major State. In fact, all the jute mills are located there. Am I right in thinking that you have given one seat to West Bengal because West Bengal will come in another way? West Bengal will come as far as the producers are concerned, West Bengal will come again as far as the exporters are concerned. Now, West Bengal will come more heavily than the other States on account of exporters, producers and cultivators. Otherwise, it looks to me as if it is not very fair to give Assam and West Bengal just one seat along with other States. I hope that Chapter 5 means that the Council will have the power to check the delinquent mill-owners which is a great problem.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, may I just end with the second Bill on the cess? I am very glad to hear from the Minister that the range of cess is from one per cent of the value of production to three per cent. I am a little confused about the interchangeability of the terms of cess and excise. As an economist, I am a little confused about the interchangeability between the term 'cess' and 'excise'. For me they are quite different. My next question is this. Why is there such a big range between the maximum and the actual that you mention in the Schedule? In the Schedule, Column 3 gives the maximum whereas Column 4 gives the actual. For carpet backing, the maximum cess would be Rs. 195 per ton. Today,

the actual is Rs. 65 per ton. I want to ask why such a big difference is there between the maximum and the actual. Thank you, very much.

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो विधेयक मंत्री जी ने पेश किया है इस विधेयक का कुछ लोगों ने स्वागत किया है और मुझे भी स्वागत करना चाहिए था लेकिन मेरे जैसा आदमी इस विधेयक का इसलिए समर्थन नहीं कर रहा है कि भारत सरकार ने जूट कारपोरेशन बना कर के कोई कंपनियों का अधिग्रहण किया है और करोड़ों करोड़ रुपया अधिग्रहण करने के नाम पर दिया जैसे नेशनल जूट कारपोरेशन, हावड़ा को इन्होंने दिया उसकी स्थिति को सुधारने के लिये। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपको हैरत होगी कि मेरे जैसा आदमी, करीब डेढ़ साल से मैं लगा हूँ और डेढ़ साल से हमारा पत्र व्यवहार इस सरकार से हो रहा है और मंत्री जी को जानकारी है। हमने एक केस मंत्री जी के सामने रखा है और इस तरीके से रखा है कि कहीं भी मंत्री जी को गुजाइश नहीं है कि वे जाव कर सकें। मैं नहीं समझता, अगर हमारे जैसा आदमी मंत्री परिषद् में होता, मैं इस पद पर होता या तो मैं अपना इस्तीफा दे देता नहीं तो जिन लोगों ने करप्शन किया है उनके खिलाफ कार्यवाही करता। नेशनल जूट कारपोरेशन में मैं केवल एक केस को ले जा रहा हूँ। हमारे साथी जो हमसे सीनियर हैं आदिशेषया साहब, मैं केवल एक इश्यु खड़ा कर रहा हूँ और वह है नेशनल जूट कारपोरेशन हावड़ा का। 10 करोड़ रुपया इन्होंने दिया मशीन को खरीदने के लिए, मशीन को रिपेयर करने के लिए, लेकिन उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपको हैरानी होगी कि जो मशीन उसमें लगी है, उस मशीन को रंग करके, पालिश करके फिट कर

दिया गया और उसी मशीन को परचेसिंग करके दिखा दिया गया नम्बर एक।

नम्बर दो, यह कोर्ट का जजमेंट है। मैं कुछ जजमेंट आपको सुना देना चाहता हूँ। ए० के० मुखर्जी, जाइंट सेक्रेटरी, गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया, मिनिस्ट्री आफ कामर्स डिपार्टमेंट आफ टैक्सटाइल, उद्योग भवन, नई दिल्ली, ने इल्लोगल तरीके से कलकत्ता में मकान बनवाया और नेशनल जूट का सारा सीमेंट और लोहा ले जा करके अपने मकान में इस्तेमाल किया और इनको पटुंचाने वाले हैं वहाँ के डाइरेक्टर वी० के० बसु, जिनको, यह सदन में प्रणव मुखर्जी जी का, चान्ना साहब का बयान है कि, करप्शन के अभियोग में टर्मिनेट कर दिया गया है। आपको हैरानी होगी कि सात आठ महीने के बाद बगैर किसी आदेश के, कहीं कोई आदेश नहीं है, मैं यह कोर्ट का जजमेंट आपकी इजाजत से रखना चाहूंगा, अभी यह जजमेंट हुआ है—उनको नेशनल जूट मिल में पुनः उस पद पर भेज दिया गया है और जाते ही उन्होंने वहाँ करीब 20-25 लोगों को निकाल दिया। निर्मल कुमार नाम का एक आदमी जो परचेसिंग सेक्शन में था, वह कोर्ट में गया, उन्होंने कोर्ट में चैलेंज किया कि इनको कोई राइट नहीं है टर्मिनेट करने का या एक महकमें से दूसरे में ट्रांसफर करने का, क्योंकि ये बाहर के आदमी हैं, ये करप्शन में हटाये गये हैं। जब वह कोर्ट में जाते हैं, कोर्ट उनसे तलब करता है कि आप टर्मिनेट कर दिये गये हैं—सदन की प्रोसीडिंग को कोर्ट में रखा गया है, उसमें कोर्ट ने जब देखा कि प्रणव मुखर्जी का बयान है, चान्ना साहब का बयान है कि वी० के० बसु को करप्शन के चार्ज में टर्मिनेट कर दिया गया है तो कोर्ट ने उनसे कहा कि आप कैसे आ गये वह

[श्री रामेश्वर सिंह]

कागज पेश करिये, नोटिस पेश करिये। नेशनल जूट को कोर्ट ने नोटिस तलब की कि बी० के० बसु किस आधार पर यहाँ आये हैं। नेशनल जूट कोई कागजात कोर्ट जजमेंट देता है कि — बी० के० बसु के पास कोई राइट नहीं है। ये पब्लिक के आदमी हैं और किसी सरकारी कर्मचारी को टर्मिनेट करने का किसी बाहरी आदमी को हक नहीं है... (व्यवधान)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सैयद रहमत अली) : इस वाक्य का इस बिल से क्या ताल्लुक है ?

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : इसका बिल से ताल्लुक है... (व्यवधान) आप बहुत लर्नेड आदमी हैं (व्यवधान) कल्प नाथ जी डिस्टर्ब करने चले हैं। आप बहुत काबिल आदमी हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सैयद रहमत अली) : मेरी तारीफ की जरूरत नहीं है मैं कह रहा हूँ आप अपनी बात (व्यवधान)

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : मैं चापलूसी नहीं कर रहा हूँ। मैं यह बताने की कोशिश कर रहा हूँ कि आप समझदार आदमी हैं। इस बात को समझने की कोशिश करिये कि इस बिल से इसका कितना बड़ा ताल्लुक है, मैं यह समझाने की कोशिश कर रहा हूँ। कोर्ट जजमेंट देता है। वह क्या जजमेंट देता है? कोई राइट नहीं है डाइरेक्टर के पास कि तुम किसी कर्मचारी को सस्पेंड कर दो। मामला यहीं शांत नहीं होता है। टर्मिनेट करने के बाद, कोर्ट के जजमेंट के बाद, नेशनल जूट को क्या अधिकार है कि नेशनल जूट जा करके उनको फिर नौकरी में रखने के लिये हाईकोर्ट में अपील में जाये? अब हाईकोर्ट

में मामला है। मैं उसमें नहीं पड़ना चाहता हूँ। मैं केवल इतना बताना चाहता हूँ कि वड़ी बंगलिंग है, कितना बड़ा यहाँ पर करप्शन है। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह मैं ला रहा हूँ, सारे डाकू-मेंटस हैं, यह देखिए। यह अखबार है यह मेरा अखबार नहीं है, "जूडीशियल डायरी" मिस्रुज आफ पब्लिक आफिसेज यह पूरा का पूरा पेज बी० के० बसु के जजमेंट का है। इसमें लिखा है कि करोड़ों रुपया यहाँ पर गवन हुआ है। मैं अभी मांग कर रहा हूँ और मैंने इसी सदन में मांग की है कि बी० के० बसु बतायें कि उनके मकान के बनाने में जो 10 लाख रुपया लगा है, यह मेरा अनुमान है। कहां से सीमेंट उनको मिला एक भी परमिट पेश करें, कहां से लोहा उन्होंने इस्तेमाल किया, एक भी परमिट पेश करें। अगर एक भी परमिट सीमेंट का या लोहे का लाइसेंस पेश कर दे, तो निश्चित उन्हें बरी कर दिया जाए। सिंगल परमिट उनके पास नहीं है। क्या उन्होंने जवाब दिया है, आपको मालूम है, उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय? आपको मालूम नहीं है। मुझको मालूम है क्योंकि मैं इस केस के अंदर हूँ। क्या उन्होंने जवाब दिया है कि मैंने ठेकेदार से लोहा और सीमेंट लोन में लिया है, यानी दस लाख रुपये का सीमेंट और लोहा उन्होंने ठेकेदार से लोन में लिया है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि ठेकेदार से लोन में लिया है, अगर यह सही है, तो ठेकेदार के पास इतनी बड़ी सीमेंट की मात्रा और लोहा कहां से आया? आखिर ठेकेदार के पास भी तो लाइसेंस होना चाहिए उतने सीमेंट और लोहे के स्टॉक का कि यह चीजें उसके पास कहां से आई? आप कह रहे हैं कि इससे ताल्लुक नहीं है।

अब बी० के० बसु ने अपने सगे भतीजे को—जूट पर्वेजिंग के डिपार्टमेंट

से जिस अफसर निर्मल कुमार को ट्रांसफर किया, क्योंकि निर्मल कुमार उनके भतीजे को किसी भी हालत में कम्पनी में घुसने नहीं देना चाहता था— इन्होंने अपने भतीजे के नाम से एक फर्म खुलवाई और उस फर्म ने नेशनल जूट मिल की जूट सप्लाय करने का ठेका लिया। आप इस बात को सोचिये। जितना भी पर्चैजिंग हुआ है वी० के० वसु के जमाने में और ए० के० मुखर्जी के जमाने में यह सारे का सारा उनके भतीजे के नाम से हुआ है।

श्रीमन्, क्या आप चाहते हैं कि इस बिल में इस तरह की छूट दी जाए, क्या इस तरह की बंगलिग करने का सरकार को अधिकार दिया जाए? क्या यह सरकार एक दिन भी पावर में रहने का हक रखती है? क्या यह मिनिस्टर एक दिन भी इस पद पर बैठने के हकदार हैं?

अगर मैं इस सारी चीज को पढ़ूंगा तो आप कहेंगे कि रामेश्वर सिंह जी समय नहीं है।... (व्यवधान)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संयद रहमत अली):
आपका समय तो खत्म हो चुका है।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : मैं इसे दे रहा हूँ यह पेज नम्बर 1, 2, 3, 4, पर है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संयद रहमत अली) :
इसे छोड़ दीजिए। इस तरह से और अधिक वक्त जाएगा।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : अब सुन लीजिए, यह सारे का सारा मैं कुछ नहीं बोलूंगा, मैं बैठ रहा हूँ। आपकी इजाजत से यह सारे का सारा डाकुमेंट उनको स्टडी करने के लिए देता हूँ और अगर जेनरल हो, तो एक्शन लेने के लिए देता हूँ। आपकी इजाजत से मैं उनको हँड ओवर कर देता हूँ।

लोखिये यह सारे का सारा डाकुमेंट मैं आपको देता हूँ।

श्री सूरज प्रसाद (बिहार) : मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करने में असमर्थ हूँ क्योंकि यह बिल मुट्ठी भर जो जूट उद्योग के पूंजीपति हैं, उनकी सहायता करने के उद्देश्य से यह दो बिल लाये गये हैं।

अगर इस बिल में मजदूरों की मदद करने की कोई बात होती, अगर किसान जिनको जूट की उचित कीमत नहीं मिलती है, उनके स्वार्थों की रक्षा के लिए इसमें कोई बात होती, तो मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता, लेकिन यह बिल बिल्कुल जो छह या सात इस देश के अन्दर बड़े-बड़े जूट के पूंजीपति हैं, उनकी रक्षा के लिये लाया गया है। इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि हमारे कई माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा कि जूट उद्योग बीमार है, सरकार इसे स्वास्थ्य लाभ देना चाहती है और इसलिए सरकार चाहती है यह कि कहीं से संजीवनी बूटी लाई जाए ताकि जूट उद्योग को जिलाया जा सके और सरकार के हाथों में सेस नाम की एक संजीवनी बूटी है, जिससे सरकार इस उद्योग को जिलाने का प्रयास कर रही है, लेकिन मेरा कहना यह है कि रोग इतना भारी है और यह उद्योग इतना बीमार है कि सेस जैसी संजीवनी बूटी से यह उद्योग जिंदा नहीं हो सकता है। इसलिए जरूरत इस बात की है कि इसमें कुछ भारी कदम उठाया जाय। और भारी कदम क्या होगा? भारी कदम यह होगा कि सरकार अगर जूट उद्योग को इस स्थिति से उबारना चाहती है तो इस उद्योग के राष्ट्रीयकरण के अलावा दूसरा कोई रास्ता नहीं है। क्यों मैं इस बात को कहता हूँ क्योंकि जूट उद्योग के सामने अनेक समस्याएँ हैं। जूट उद्योग के 19 कारखाने बन्द हैं। देश के अन्दर 70-71 कारखानों में से 19 बन्द हैं, 75 हजार मज-

[श्री सूरज प्रसाद]

दूर बेकार हैं, जूट उद्योग में जो मशीनें लगी हुई हैं वे आउट आफ डेट हैं, घटिया किस्म की हैं जिन से उत्पादन में कोई मदद नहीं मिलती, जूट उद्योग का उत्पादन ठहराव की अवस्था में है, 13-14 लाख टन से अधिक पैदा कर नहीं पाते, निर्यात भारी संकट में है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जूट का उत्पादन 70 और 83 के बीच ठहराव की अवस्था में है। एक समय था जब जूट उद्योग निर्यात उन्मुख था, एक्सपोर्ट ओरियेंटेड था। आज स्थिति क्या है? 1951 में देश में फारेन एक्सचेंज से जो अर्निंग होती थी उस का 40-50 प्रतिशत जूट से होती थी। आज जूट उद्योग से महज 2.95 परसेंट फारेन एक्सचेंज की अर्निंग होती है। इस प्रकार से जूट उद्योग कोई बहुत अधिक निर्यात-उन्मुख हो ऐसी बात देखने को नहीं मिलती है, बल्कि धीरे धीरे जूट का एक्सपोर्ट देश के अन्दर में घटता जा रहा है। '71 में जहां 6 लाख 69 हजार मीट्रिक टन का एक्सपोर्ट होता था वहां 80-81 में 4 लाख 39 हजार मीट्रिक टन रह गया है। जूट उद्योग, जैसा मैंने कहा, ठहराव की अवस्था में है।

दूसरी तरफ हम लोग देखते हैं कि जूट उद्योग की किसानों लूट का बहुत बड़ा हथियार बन चुका है। सरकार का आदेश यह है कि मिलों को जूट निगम से जूट खरीदना चाहिए, लेकिन वह खुले बाजार से जूट खरीदते हैं। किसान जब जूट का उत्पादन करके लाता है तब यह खरीदना बन्द कर देते हैं और जब दाम गिरने लगते हैं तब खरीदना शुरू कर देते हैं। इस प्रकार से किसानों को कम दाम देकर उनका जूट खरीदते हैं और भारी मुनाफा की दिशा में अग्रसर होते हैं। एक बोरा बनाने में एक किलो जूट खर्च होता है। वही जूट बोरे के रूप

में बिकने के लिये बाजार में जाता है तो 6-7 रुपये में बेचा जाता है। इस प्रकार से जूट के उद्योगपति किसान को कम दाम देकर और उपभोक्ताओं से भारी दाम वसूल करके दोनों तरह से फायदा उठाते हैं और किसानों को लूटते हैं। किसान ने यह सोचा था कि जूट निगम के जरिये उनको भारी मदद मिलेगी, उचित दाम मिलेंगे, मगर मेरे पास जो फिगर हैं उनके मुताबिक जूट निगम—जब से इसकी स्थापना हुई है 72 से तब से लेकर आज तक—जूट उत्पादन का 9 से लेकर 20 प्रतिशत ही खरीद पाता है। शेष जूट बाजार में बिकता है जिसको बड़े-बड़े ट्रेडर सस्ते दाम पर खरीद कर भारी मुनाफा कमाते हैं। जो 20 प्रतिशत जूट निगम खरीदता है वह भी सीधे किसान से नहीं बल्कि मध्यवर्तियों से खरीदता है और इस प्रकार जूट निगम बड़े-बड़े कारखाने मालिकों के हाथों में हथियार बन गया है किसानों को लूटने का। जूट का उत्पादन खर्च क्या है? पब्लिक अन्डरटेकिंग कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक 250 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल जूट का उत्पादन खर्च पड़ता है और इस बार सरकार ने जो जूट की कीमत तय की है वह 185 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल है। उत्पादन खर्च से भी कम कीमत सरकार किसानों को देना चाहती है उनके जूट के लिये। ऐसी अवस्था में इस बिल से किसानों को क्या लाभ होगा। जो मजदूर बेकार हैं उनको क्या लाभ होने वाला है। इस लिये मैं सरकार से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जूट उद्योग के सामने जो बीमारी है वह प्रशासनिक बीमारी नहीं है क्योंकि जूट उद्योग की मदद के लिये कुछ कम सरकारी प्रशासनिक संस्थाएँ नहीं हैं। सरकारी संस्थाएँ हैं जूट कमिश्नर है, सरकार का कामर्स विभाग है और जूट निगम है और इसी तरह की और कई संस्थाएँ हैं जो सरकार ने बना रखी हैं फिर भी जूट उद्योग अपनी बीमारी से

उबर नहीं पाता है। ऐसी अवस्था में इस बीमारी से उस को निकालने के लिये एक ही रास्ता है कि जूट उद्योग का सरकार राष्ट्रीयकरण कर दे और यह सेस से कुछ रुपया दे कर जूट उद्योग को उबारा नहीं जा सकता है। कुछ लोगों ने यह सुझाव दिया कि जूट उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं करना चाहिए बल्कि जूट कोआपरेटिव बना कर उस की मदद करनी चाहिए जैसा कि कोआपरेटिव सैंक्टर में शुगर मिलें खोल कर किया गया है। यह बम्बई में और दूसरी जगहों पर किया गया है इसी प्रकार से इस जूट उद्योग को भी चलाया जाना चाहिए। मेरा ख्याल है कि जिस प्रकार से (शुगर) मिल्स का उदय बम्बई वगैरह में हुआ है वह स्थिति बंगाल की नहीं है और इसलिए राष्ट्रीयकरण के अलावा दूसरा कोई रास्ता इसके उद्धार का नहीं हो सकता है।

दूसरा सुझाव मैं इस संबंध में यह देना चाहता हूँ कि काटन का मोनोपोली परचेज होता है महाराष्ट्र में और उससे किसानों को काफी लाभ होता है। यहां जूट कारपोरेशन जो है वह मोनोपोली परचेज नहीं करता पूरे उत्पादन का, वह केवल 10 या 20 प्रतिशत तक ही खरीद पाता है। ऐसी अवस्था में अगर सरकार किसानों को कुछ लाभ पहुंचाना चाहती है तो मेरा सुझाव यह है कि सरकार को चाहिये कि जूट का वह मोनोपोली परचेज कराये चाहे वह जूट कारपोरेशन के द्वारा हो या किसी दूसरी संस्था के द्वारा हो।

तीसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि रूस या दूसरे मुल्कों में जूट गुड्स का

निर्यात होता है। अमरीका और जर्मनी आदि में भी इसका निर्यात हो सकता है लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान के पूंजीपति बहुत अधिक कीमत पर वहां चीजों को बेचना चाहते हैं इस लिए उन देशों में यह चीजें नहीं जा पाती हैं। इसलिए सरकार को चाहिए कि इनका मुनाफा थोड़ा कम करके इन देशों को वह जूट निर्यात कराये और इसके निर्यात को बढ़ाये।

चौथी बात जूट उद्योग का अभिनवीकरण जरूरी है। इस का माडर्नाइजेशन होना चाहिए तभी इस में तरक्की की जा सकती है। बिहार में दो जूट मिलें खोलने की चर्चा थी लेकिन अभी तक कोई जूट मिल वहां नहीं खूल पायी है। इस लिये चाहिए यह कि दो जूट मिलें बिहार में खोलने की दिशा में कदम उठाये जायें क्योंकि बंगाल के बाद वही दूसरे नम्बर का राज्य है कि जहां जूट का अधिक उत्पादन होता है। किसानों को जूट की उन्नित कीमत देने के लिये प्रति क्विंटल जूट का दाम 300 रुपया रखा जाना चाहिए। जो संस्था बनने वाली है जूट कौंसिल उसमें किसानों के प्रतिनिधि रखने की बात है। प्रश्न उठता है कि उनका चुनाव कैसे होगा। मेरा सुझाव है कि देश में विभिन्न पार्टियों की अलग-अलग किसान सभायें हैं, किसान संगठन हैं। कांग्रेस की किसान सभा है, सी० पी० आई० की है, फारवर्ड ब्लाक की है, लोक दल की है और अनेक किसान सभायें हैं सभी राजनीतिक दलों की। इसलिए किसानों के प्रतिनिधियों का चुनाव करना बड़ा मुश्किल है इस लिए किसान सभाओं के प्रतिनिधियों को ही उसमें रखा जाना चाहिए और उनकी संख्या बढ़ायी जानी चाहिए।

PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, at the outset. I would like to recount an instance of what is now

[Prof. Sourendra Bhattacharjee]

Bangladesh, Long back even in Bengal it was Bengal which produced jute in the largest quantity. In West Bengal it is largely a post-independence phenomenon. At that time a landlord of distinction in that area was of the opinion that the peasants should not cultivate jute, they should concentrate on the production of paddy. His argument was, jute did not provide food in a comprehensive term, but the farmers did not listen to him because some cash money was readily available. Then there was a food scarcity. The gentleman invited all the farmers to his house and when they all sat down, he distributed jute, bound-up for them to eat. He said that since they had produced jute, they should eat jute only, wherefrom they will get anything else. But the position has changed from the days of the British rulers. It was they who introduced this production of jute for their own interest, financial interest, and they diverted a large portion of land to this cash crop. But the benefit did not accrue to the grower. That position continues up till now and unfortunately, the Government of India has been able to devise no measures to protect the interest either of the producer or of those who are working in the manufacturing concerns. One Bill is 'The Jute Manufactures Cess Bill' and the other is 'The Jute Manufactures Development Council Bill' for the purpose of promoting the interest of manufacturers. In the body of the Bill the question of growers and also of the workers is there, but there is no indication how the growers or the workers would be benefited. The picture in the jute industry is well-known. It is in a precarious state. In a different context, a question was posed by me in this House and that is not a unique question that in our country the experience is that industries get sick but not the industrialists. The same thing is true of the jute industry. The jute industry is sick, but not those engaged in the industry. The Minister replied in the other House that there was no question of take-over of the jute industry. The management would continue to be the same. Those sharks who have been bleeding white both the workers and the growers in different incarnations as

manufacturers, as exporters, as buyers of the produce, will be kept intact. They have made the industry sick. They are responsible for periodic closures thereby depriving the workers of their dues on the one hand and by periodic lock-outs they have cornered raw jute and rendered impossible the packaging of jute in successive years. In this House we discussed how godown facilities were not available. West Bengal has given a proposal. My friend Comrade Sukomal Sen from that side has referred to setting up of a Jute Corporation of West Bengal in order to protect the interests of the growers. That proposal is still awaiting clearance from the Union Government, but the Jute Corporation of India has failed signally to protect the interests of the producers. It so happened that a quintal of jute had to be sold at Rs. 50 or Rs. 60. Funds were not provided. Those who were entrusted with the task in the Jute Corporation of India did not go to the market. When the poor cultivators were forced to bring their produce to the market after the crop was raised, quite some time after that when the production was cornered at a very cheap price from the immediate producers, the farmers, the Jute Corporation of India appeared on the scene. There are reports that whether it is the Food Corporation of India or the Jute Corporation of India, they act as agents of these Corporations but at the same time they act as agents of the private traders and they give precedence of the interests of the private traders to that of the Jute Corporation of India or the Food Corporation of India this Bill, while maintaining the structure of the industry as it is, without contemplating any change, contemplates a super structure with a view to bailing out the industry and the private management. What is the extent of the resources? At the most it will be Rs. 19.5 crores at the present level of production if the optimum amount of cess is levied—i.e. 3 per cent. Next comes the question of Government contribution and third is whatever contribution is made by other agents—an unspecified amount for which the financial estimate has not been given here. Again a ceiling on the collection charges is statutorily included—i.e. 4 per cent. But there is nothing

on the establishment charges of the Development Council itself. In many a place, this has been the experience that most of the funds are eaten up by establishment and other charges and very little is left for the development work for which a particular Council or body has been formed. While collection charge has been restricted, no such restriction is there on the establishment and other charges of the Council anywhere in the Bill proposed. And in spite of the penal provisions, we know in our country it is a very old saying by no less a person that Gunnar Myrdal that this is a country where all the ideal legislations are in existence and those legislations are observed more in breach than in observance. So penal provisions are there. But who is going to impose them. So many provisions are there. What will be the impact of whatever is done by the Development Council on the private managements? And at the same time everything has been brought within the purview of this Development Council. While calling it a Development Council for Jute Manufactures, the question of jute production, planning and every thing under the sun have at the same time been brought within its purview. This is because of the fact that we feel—this is in no way to show any disrespect to the Minister piloting the Bill because this is a question of the policy of the Government—the Government is unwilling to confront the problem squarely, directly. It is only to hoodwink the concerned people. This Bill has been brought to show that the Government is not sitting idle. This does not touch the core of the problem by even a mile—by even scores of miles. It goes wide off the mark. If the Government has the real intention of tackling the problems faced by the jute growers, by the workers, then two steps are necessary in the form of nationalisation of all the jute mills because we know, as the Minister himself has stated, a capital of Rs. 300 crores is involved here. Thirty per cent of the total production available in the world regarding jute products, involving Rs. 650 crores of produce at the existing level, is involved. 2.5 lakh families are involved. At the same time, 45 lakh families of farmers are also

involved, according to his own statement. If their problem, which is a stupendous one, has to be dealt with, the system has to be confronted direct and not from the sidelines, as has been sought to be done by this Bill.

Before concluding, I would raise another demand before the Government. The producers are losing on producing jute, not getting remunerative prices. But they are doing this in order to enable the country to earn foreign exchange for its other development works. There may be a movement, there may be an advice to them, not to produce more jute, to shift from the production of jute, but jute production has a place in our economy from the point of view of earning foreign exchange. If those people fail to get the real value of their labour for enabling the country to earn foreign exchange, if they are to continue to produce these for larger national interests, they are entitled to compensation from the Government because of their continuance in growing of jute. That is to say, the jute growers should be compensated for their continuing in this production. That is my specific suggestion, a suggestion which can be ignored by the Government only at the peril of this industry.

Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman.

PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE (Nominated): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bills. The Government is seriously thinking of setting right the jute industry which has been ailing, rather which is undergoing a setback. Jute production is mainly concentrated in West Bengal, Tripura, Assam, Meghalaya, Bihar, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. Although internal consumption of jute goods has increased, the Indian export market for jute had fallen from 53 per cent to 29 per cent, i.e. by 24 per cent as Mr. Adiseshiah has said. Regarding the demand for nationalization of the whole industry, it is not going to solve the problem, as already mentioned by Mr. Adiseshiah. However, the interests of the jute growers have to be fully protected.

[Prof. (Mrs.) Asima Chatterjee].

Now, for the improvement and growth of the jute industry, I have a few suggestions for the hon. Minister. Firstly, the technology of jute retting, i.e. separation of the fibre from the stick, has to be modernized. The new technology which has been developed has to be applied, and for that microbiologists have to be consulted and this information has to be propagated among the growers so that they can increase the yield of jute fibre by application of the new technology. Secondly, the jute fibre may be used in combination with other fibres so that they can replace and compete with the synthetic substitutes which are becoming costlier. I am suggesting all these points because I have been associated with the Indian Jute Industrial Research Association as a member and also I have been associated with the Jute Technological Research Centre, Calcutta for very many years and I know what they are doing. Nobody has mentioned as to what can be done with the jute stick. After the separation of fibres the stick which is left is usually utilized by the villagers as fuel, but this can be utilized for the production of various chemicals like vanillin which finds commercial application. It is used in the preparation of ice-cream and pudding etc. as a flavour and for various other products. Secondly, the lignin of the jute stick may be converted into sugar by the application of immobilized enzyme technology. That study is going on in the USA. The lignin of the jute stick has been converted into sugar. The lignin with the cellulose of the jute stick can also be converted into sugar. If that can be successfully achieved, then, the sugar that is produced will have a world market as a sweetening agent. And this problem can be undertaken by the Indian Jute Research Association and the Jute Technological Research Centre. If jute sticks can be properly utilised, I think, taken together the jute fibres and jute sticks, it will be a flourishing industry, a successful industry, rather a profiteering industry, I would say.

With these words, I would like to conclude.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I want to make a few comments on these two Bills.

So far as the jute industry is concerned, it is a very important industry in our country, and it should be encouraged by all means. One depressing thing is that in 1950 we exported 7.27 lakh tonnes of jute. Our exports have now come down to 4.4 lakh tonnes. Why this decline? Whatever the reasons, why has the Government not taken any steps to increase our exports? Our neighbouring country, Bangladesh has increased the exports of jute because they have, I think, new machinery. So, the Government must take necessary steps to see that new machinery is imported and the industry should be put on the right lines.

Another thing to which I would like to draw the attention of the Minister is that there is no provision in the Bill for a machinery for the implementation of the decisions taken by the Board. A proper machinery should be created to implement all the decisions taken by the Board.

Thirdly, I would like to say that the growers, that means the actual manufacturers or growers, the farmers of jute, should be given all facilities, encouragement, so that the jute production should be more in this country. Of course, some provision has been made about the manufacturers and other personnel, but the growers of jute should be given all facilities.

Fourthly, so far as the composition of the committee is concerned, in clause 3(4) (c) you have provided:

"six members to be appointed by the Central Government by rotation in the alphabetical order to represent respectively the Governments of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Meghalaya, Orissa, Tripura and West Bengal in which jute is cultivated on a large scale:"

I fail to understand why only six members are to be appointed and in rotation

by the Central Government. Why not seven? You have given the names of seven States, and you are telling that six members will be appointed by rotation by the Central Government. Instead of rotation, let us have one more member representing all these States. That is my point.

Fifthly, in my view this industry can be properly improved only if it is nationalised. The private industrialists, big industrialists, are hoarding. They are making loss to the nation, loss to the country, and they are interested in their own benefit. So, it is better to nationalise this industry. Then only it can make progress. Then the Public Undertakings Committee has made certain recommendations so far as the jute industry is concerned. I request the Minister to go through the recommendations made by the Public Undertakings Committee thoroughly and try to improve this industry according to those comments and recommendations made by that Committee.

Lastly, I will once again say that this jute industry should be nationalised.

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हम चाहते हैं कि जूट उद्योग की तरक्की हो। जूट उद्योग बहुत पुराना उद्योग है। यह उद्योग फारेन एक्सचेंज अर्नर रहा है लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से यह उद्योग टूट रहा है, दम तोड़ रहा है, नीचे जा रहा है। उसी रूप में जिस तरह से सूती कपड़ा उद्योग और हम देखते हैं कि बहुत सी मिलें सिक हैं। चीनी मिलों में भी हम देखते हैं कि बहुत सी मिलें सिक हैं और सबके सामने समस्या यह है कि सरकार टेक ओवर कर ले। यह बात हम लोग रोज-रोज रखते हैं लेकिन बावजूद इसके सिलसिला वही चल रहा है। अब जहां तक जूट का सवाल है मैं सरकार का ध्यान दो मिलों की ओर खींचना चाहता हूं। एक है आर० वी० एच० एम० कटिहार, सरकार ने 1979 में ले लिया बंगाल की मिलों के साथ इसको भी ले लिया। लेकिन इतना मिसमेनेजमेंट है बावजूद सरकार के

हाथ में जाने के और सरकार का जो बंगाल का अर्वाइ का फैसला है मजदूरों के बकाया वगैरह, वेतन आदि देने का वह उसमें लागू नहीं हो रहा है। बंगाल की ओर मिलें हैं जो इसके साथ ली गई हैं उनके मजदूरों को दिया जा रहा है लेकिन उसी अर्वाइ में जो यह आती है आर० वी० एच० एम० कटिहार जूट मिल उसको नहीं दिया जाता है। क्या मन्त्री महोदय जांच करेंगे कि यह अन्याय क्यों हो रहा है। यह बेइन्साफी क्यों हो रही है आर० वी० एच० एम० कटिहार जूट मिल के सम्बन्ध में और साथ-साथ उसके जो डाइरेक्टर हैं, इंचार्ज हैं, संचालक जो उसमें बहुत धांधलियां कर रहे हैं। वहां के मजदूरों ने मजदूरों के नेताओं ने कई बार हड़ताल की, भूख हड़ताल की। यह सब नोटिसेज भी सरकार के पास हैं लेकिन फिर भी ब्रेक थू जिसको कहते हैं उसके ढंग से संचालन का रास्ता नहीं निकाला जा रहा है। दूसरा उसी कटिहार में है एन० के० चमारिया का मिल। एन० के० चमारिया का भी वही हाल है आप की तरफ से उनको पैसे भी दिये गये हैं उसको चलाने के लिये लेकिन फिर भी उस पैसे के बावजूद भी उसका दुर्दशा है उसकी हालत ठीक नहीं है। पैसे आपके हैं लेकिन फिर भी एन० के० चमारिया की मिल ठीक नहीं है उसको भी आप टेक ओवर कर लें लेकिन बात कुछ कंटेडिक्टरी हो जाती है। जो आप लेते हैं उसकी भी हालत अच्छी नहीं है उसमें भी मिसमेनेजमेंट है फिर भी हम लोग रोज कहते हैं कि आप ले लीजिए। आप रिकार्ड देख लें हम लोग कहते हैं कि सरकार ले ले लेकिन हम लोग कहते हैं कि उसका मिसमेनेजमेंट है यही बहुत बड़ा डाइलेमा कंटेडिक्शन है जैसे पटना सरकार का काम है। असल में बात यह है कि जो उद्योग आप लेते हैं उसके संचालन में उत्पादकों का इन्वाल्वमेंट नहीं करते हैं। उनके अन्दर आप यह भावना पैदा नहीं कराते हैं कि हमारी मिल है

[श्री शिव चन्द्र झा]

वे यह समझें कि यह समाज की है। इसकी कमी हो जाती है। जो वर्करज पाटिसि-पेशन वाली बात है उसकी कमी रह जाती है लेकिन यह बात आएगी। इस पर हम लोग जोर देंगे लेकिन मिल लेने का जो बड़ा रास्ता है, वह नहीं रुके। वर्करज पाटिसिपेशन आप को रखना चाहिए। इसलिए जितने उद्योग हैं, सरकार सभी जूट उद्योगों को अपने हाथ में ले ले। अभी कहा गया है कि 19 मिल बन्द हैं या 31 मिल हैं। 75 हजार मजदूर बेकार हैं। ढाई लाख मज-दूर उसमें इनवालन्ड हैं। चार लाख परि-वार सम्बन्धित हैं। इतना बड़ा उद्योग है इतने लोग जिससे सम्बन्धित हों क्यों उन मालिकों के हाथों में छोड़ दिया जाए जिन्होंने खूब दूहा है। आप माडर्नाइजेशन की बात करें। आज क्यों एक्सपोर्ट कम हो रहा है वह फेंस कर रहा है सिथेटिक सब्सटीट्यूट अमरीका और दूसरे मुल्कों से वे कागज से सैक बनाते हैं। क्यूबा से और दूसरी जगहों से कागज का बोरा बनता है और आपका जूट का बोरा है इसलिए उनको इसकी जरूरत नहीं होती है। आप इसका मुकाबला करें। जब आप इसमें टेक्नालाजिकल विकास के लिये सोचते हैं तो जो आपका यह उद्योग है इसमें यदि आप गौर करेंगे तो जो मन्त्रालय आप लेते हैं वे केवल एग्रीकल्चर, कामर्स फाइनेंस, इंड-स्ट्री और सिविल सप्लाय आदि हैं। तो फिर आप साइंस एण्ड टेक्नालाजी को क्यों छोड़ देते हैं? क्या साइंस एण्ड टेक्नालाजी का मन्त्रालय इससे सम्बन्धित नहीं है, क्या वह इसके बारे में सोच नहीं सकता है? यह कैसा लगता है कि आप चाहते हैं कि टेक्नालाजीकल विकास करें लेकिन जो मन्त्रालय इस पर कन्सल्ट कर रहा है, उसको आप नहीं ले रहे हैं।

दूसरी बात जो वर्कर्स का ले रहे हैं, थोड़ी ढेर के लिए जूट मैनुफैक्चरर्स को

ले रहे हैं, प्रोग्रार्स को, उनके मेम्बर्स को ले रहे हैं इस काउंसिल में, लेकिन जो ससद सदस्य जट प्रोइंग एरिया के आते हैं, उनको आप क्यों नहीं लेते हैं। आप जो अपना डेवलपमेंट काउंसिल बनाते हैं उसमें वहां के जो एम० पीज हैं उनको क्यों नहीं लेते हैं। आपको यह मान लेना होगा कि जनता का जो प्रतिनिधि है चाहे वह जहां कहीं रहेगा। चाहे धीमी आवाज में हो, चाहे जोर की आवाज में हो, स्पष्ट शब्दों में या अस्पष्ट शब्दों में लेकिन वह जनता की बात कहेगा क्योंकि उसके सामने समाज रचना की भावना, समाज रचना का नक्शा है। इसलिए इस काउंसिल में जिसमें अफसरशाही का बोलबाला रहेगा जिसकी कि संभावना है, अगर उसमें जनता का प्रतिनिधि रहेगा उस एरिए का तो कुछ प्रकाश आता रहेगा। इसी लिए उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जिस रूप में यह विधेयक बना रहे हैं वह भी भी डिफेक्टिव है। इस उद्योग को टेकल करने का जो इनका दृष्टिकोण है—तुर्कि सारे उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं कर रहे हैं जो कि करना चाहिए—इसी लिए वह दिशाहीन है और दूसरी बात सेस का जो मामला है। यह ठीक ही कहा गया है कि सेस लगा करके इतना क्विंटल बढ़ा करके जो आप दिखाते हैं कि हम इस उद्योग को बढ़ा रहे हैं, माडरनाइज कर रहे हैं, इनको कम्पटीटिव बना रहे हैं, लेकिन हकीकत में आप मालिक की मदद कर रहे हैं, आप उसकी सेवा कर रहे हैं। दूसरे शब्दों में जो आपकी बुनियादी नीति है जो कारखाने के मालिकों के साथ आपकी सांठ गांठ है, वही काम आप कर रहे हैं। इसी लिए मेरा कहना है कि विधेयक इस तरह का हो लेकिन ज्यादा डिफेक्टिव हो। इन सब बातों को इन्कलुड करें, विचार करके लायें यह मैं नहीं कहता कि ऐसे ही करें

बल्कि इसको सिलेक्ट कमेटी में भेज दिया जाय ताकि और बहुत सी बातें जो हैं जो कि जल्दबाजी में हो नहीं पाती हैं उस कमेटी में हम उनको रखें। तब जा करके यह विधेयक मतलब वाला होगा वरना यह केवल लिप सविस वाला या सूडो कहिए, वह बिल हो सकता है। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का विरोध करता हूँ।

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK (Orissa): Mr. Vice-Chairman, about the jute affair I have only two points to make. I have to make one observation with agony in my heart and mind because I come from a State jute is grown as a money crop, rice being the only crop that is grown for other purposes. In the neighbouring State of West Bengal jute is probably one of the major crops; that is why they have become dependent on other States for rice which is the staple food of their area. So far whether in the so-called private organisations, whether cooperative or panchayat, or in the Government concerns, everywhere I find there is not jute management. There is only *jhoot* management. That is the satire. That is why people are not willing to bring under cultivation their land with jute as a crop, because when jute becomes a standing crop, it goes up in height up to 8', 9', 10', practically creating a forest around the villages where many anti-social elements indulge in all sorts of crimes, what with our present Government which claims to be a Government that works but which hardly works. Even recently we have heard cases in bushy jute growing areas of naked aggression taking place on ladies; I think the cases have come to the Supreme Court.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri R. Ramakrishnan) in the Chair]

I should not be misunderstood for saying this. But the question now is that the farmers must be assured of a stable price for their produce. But all the merchants are pressuring the farmers in such a way that there will be a crash in prices and they would be forced to sell away their jute at a very low price. In this process, what will happen is that jute being a highly inflammable thing will

go up in flames in the godowns or in the houses of the producers. Therefore, I would like to request the honourable Minister to look into this and I would also like to know whether he will take a delegation of Members of Parliament round the areas in Orissa where jute is grown so that they may know what the farmers feel and what the consumers feel and we will know what their problems are. (*Time Bell rings*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): That will do, Mr. Mallick. You have made very valuable points.

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK: Sir, the jute industry should be modernised and the gunny bags and other such things which are used for packing of foodgrains, fertilizers, etc. should be modernised.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): That will do, Mr. Mallick. Now, I have to call the Minister.

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK: Therefore, I would request the honourable Minister to involve these States where jute is grown and see how the interests of the farmers can be protected.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): Very good. Now, the honourable Minister.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I am very much thankful to the honourable Members for having taken a very active part in the debate and also for having given a lot of good suggestions, and I am particularly, thankful to Mrs. Chatterjee and other Members.

Sir, as I have stated earlier, while moving the Bills for consideration, the jute industry in our country is really passing through a very very critical phase and, maybe, as one of the honourable Members put it, it is the worst period in the history of the jute industry in our country. So, Sir, we as the Government are very much worried about this and we have been trying to solve the problems of this industry. With this end in view, the Government of India appointed a task force in the year 1980 to go into

[Shri P. A. Sangma]

the various aspects of the jute industry and also to suggest ways and means as to how solution could be found. Now, this task force has given its report and the Government in turn has referred its suggestions and recommendations to the empowered committee. Mr. Surendra Mohan has referred to this particular task force in his speech and he has mentioned that there were about forty recommendations made by this task force and that we have not said anything about these recommendations. In fact, the number of recommendations made by this task force is not 40, but it is 58. The honourable Member has alleged that the Government has not taken note of any of the suggestions made by this task force and that we have done nothing about these suggestions and recommendations. Sir, for the information of the House I may say that the Government has, by and large, partially, accepted all the recommendations excepting one or two and it is because of the acceptance of these recommendations that we have come forward with the present two Bills which are under consideration now.

As I said in the beginning, the crisis in the jute industry is mainly due to the shrinkage in the export market. The well-known economist, Dr. Adisesiah, has said that there is a shrinkage in the export market.

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK:
 Why?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: One reason is the problem of the market. Now, there are two types of markets. One is the export market and the other is the internal or the domestic market. As far as the export market is concerned, all the honourable Members have mentioned, and I have also initially mentioned, that the export market is going down and it has fallen very sharply.

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK:
 Why?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): Mr. Mallick, please do not disturb.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Unfortunately, Sir, the honourable Member was not present when I was speaking. He has come at the last moment and he is putting questions. Mr. Mallick, if you want to take an active part in the debate, please be present here from the very beginning and try to know what points are made. Our export is very, very bad because of the synthetics substitute and also because of the competition from other countries, specially Bangladesh. Now, in this respect I can assure the House that we have been trying to regain our markets which we had lost or about which we had not been able to do as much as we were expected to do. We do hope that we will be able to regain some of the lost markets. Then, as far as competition from outside is concerned, specially Bangladesh which is our competitor, as many hon. Members have pointed out, we have been trying to come an understanding with Bangladesh to have a joint export market strategy. I may mention, Sir, that a couple of meetings have already been held at the level of the Secretary, one at Dhaka in Bangladesh, and another at Bangkok, and we are trying to come to an understanding with Bangladesh so that we can have a joint export market strategy. As far as the domestic offtake of jute goods is concerned, it has gone up; it has not reduced but it has gone up, because of the various steps that the Government of India has taken. For example, we have taken the decision that the cement industry in this country should use jute bags 100 per cent. So also the sugar industry. We have also tried to impress upon the Department of Fertilizers, so that they also use our jute bags instead of synthetics, which they have been trying to do, and I am sure that they may also try to help this industry. Because of these steps we have taken, the domestic offtake of jute goods in the country has in fact gone up. But, as I have said, the only problem with us is that we have not been able to keep up our export market.

Another important point which hon. Members have referred to is about the research and development. I do agree with all the hon. Members who have stressed very rightly that we should give importance to research and development, Dr. Chatterjee, who has been associated with research and development in this country, has also made a number of points. It has been said that we have done nothing in the field of research and development in our country. We have done quite a number of things. In fact, Dr. Chatterjee has mentioned about the technique of blending jute with natural synthetics, polyester, etc. We have already developed this technique, and very successfully, and on many aspects also we have done considerably good job in the research field. But the only problem is that we have not been able to support perhaps enough the research institute, because the existing Jute Development Council has very limited resources to give to these research institutes. But I can assure you that with the enactment of these Bills, it will go a long way even in these fields of research and development, because, we hope, that out of the funds generated from this attempt, we will be able to give better support financially for research and development purposes.

Many hon. Members have spoken about the growers, that there is nothing in the Bill about the growers. Sir, the Bill which is before this House is about the manufacturers. (*Interruptions*) Will you please hear me? Are you understanding me or not?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): Don't take note of what Dr. Mallick says, because he is a running commentator (*Interruptions*).

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: But I must say that this is a manufacturers' Bill. We are going to have this Jute Council and out of it we will have a jute fund which will be for the overall development of jute, not only jute industry but also the growers. The hon. Members are very much aware that we have a separate mechanism to help the growers. We have the Jute Cor-

poration of India which gives the support prices to the jute growers. As far as my information goes, at least this year in the present season, there is no problem about the prices of jute. I am told that the farmers are quite happy this year. In case, the prices come down, I can only assure that as our Jute Corporation of India has been doing in the past, we shall always be entering the market wherever the farmers do not get reasonable price. This mechanism is there. Until and unless jute industry in our country is revitalised, the farmers cannot be helped. We do not export raw jute from our country. Our exports are very negligible. Whatever jute is produced, there has to be an outlet for it. The only outlet is jute manufacturing industry. Therefore, we are making this attempt to revitalise the industry and it is certainly in the interest of the growers. Even in the Jute Development Council, we have given representation to the growers. Some hon. Members have asked about the number of jute mills closed down. At the moment, out of 69 jute mills, 24 are closed down and the number of workers comes to 60,000. It is a very very sad situation. I am told that the Government of West Bengal is doing something. Most of the jute mills are in West Bengal and the Labour Minister of West Bengal who is heading the Tripartite Committee, is holding negotiations. Let us hope that he will be successful in his mission and that these mills will be reopened.

Mr. Bhattacharjee has mentioned one point. I want to clarify it. An impression has been created through the newspapers and through the questions in Parliament that the West Bengal Government has asked permission from the Central Government to constitute a West Bengal Jute Corporation. To the best of my knowledge, we have not received any proposal whatsoever from the West Bengal Government for the creation of a West Bengal Jute Corporation. As far as my common-sense goes—I have not checked the legal position—I do not think that there is any need to have permission for creating a Corporation in West Bengal. I think the Government can go ahead with it.

[Shri P. A. Sangma]

These are the main points which have been raised by the hon. Members. I can assure the hon. Members that we are very sincere in our attempt. I hope all the hon. Members will support the two Bills.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): I shall first put the amendment of Shri Shiva Chandra Jha to vote:

The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the levy and collection by way of cess, of a duty of excise on jute manufacturers for the purpose of carrying out measures for the development of production of jute manufacturers and for matters connected therewith, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha consisting of the following members, namely:—

1. Shri R. R. Morarka
2. Shri Biswa Goswami
3. Shri Shridhar Wasudeo Dhabe.
4. Shri G. C. Bhattacharya
5. Shri Suraj Prasad
6. Prof. Sourendra Bhattacharjee
7. Shri Rameshwar Singh
8. Shri Hari Shankar Bhabhra
9. Shri Kalraj Mishra
10. Shri Nepaldev Bhattacharya
11. Shri Dipen Ghosh
12. Shrimati Mohinder Kaur
13. Shri Shiva Chandra Jha

with instructions to report within a week.

The motion was negatived.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): Now, I shall put the first motion of Shri P. A. Sangma to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the levy and collection, by way of cess, of a duty of excise on jute manufacturers

for the purpose of carrying out measures for the development of production of jute manufactures and for matters connected therewith, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): We shall now take up Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill.

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

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

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be returned."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): Now, we shall go to the second Bill. I shall now put the Amendment of Shri Shiva Chandra Jha to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of a Council for the development of production of jute manufactures by increasing the efficiency and productivity in the jute industry, the financing of activities for such development and for connected therewith, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha consisting of the following members, namely:—

1. Shri R. R. Morarka
2. Shri Biswa Goswami
3. Shri Shridhar Wasudeo Dhabe
4. Shri Suraj Prasad
5. Shri G. C. Bhattacharya
6. Prof. Sourendra Bhattacharjee
7. Shri Rameshwar Singh
8. Shri Nepaldev Bhattacharya
9. Shri Dipen Ghosh
10. Shri Hari Shankar Bhabhra

11. Shri Kalraj Mishra
12. Shrimati Mohinder Kaur
13. Shri Shiva Chandra Jha

with instructions to report by the first week of the next Session."

The motion was negatived.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): I shall now put the Motion moved by Shri Sangma to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of a Council for the development of production of jute manufactures by increasing the efficiency and productivity in the jute industry, the financing of activities for such development and for matters connected therewith, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): We shall now take up Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 25 were added to the Bill.

Clause 4, the Enacting Formula, and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): The House stands adjourned till 11.00 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at fifty minutes past five of the clock, till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 12th August, 1983.