

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Now we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill,

Clauses 2 and 3 Were added to the Bill.

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

SHRI NIHAR RAJAN LASKAR: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be passed."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Now we go to the next item. It is a small Bill. And we are racing against time.

The wild life (Protection) amendment Bill, 1982

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINA-THAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, there was no Central Act on wild life until 1972 when the Wild Life Protection Act was passed by Parliament. The existing Act provides for the protection of wild animals and birds and for matters connected therewith, or related thereto. This Act is now applicable throughout the country except Jammu and Kashmir which has a similar law based on the Central Act.

The existing Act has five Schedules. The most important is Schedule I which has at present 253 species. These are totally protected from hunting as well as trade and commerce. There is no provision in the Act for permitting capture and translocation of wild animals for scientific management. For instance, it may be necessary to shift the population of elephants or to introduce endangered species in alternative suitable habitat for proper scientific study. In order to achieve this purpose, it is necessary to amend section 12 of the Act as proposed in the Bill.

It is noteworthy that the proposed amendment clearly lays down that in the case of any wild animal included in Schedule I, the State Government would have to take the prior approval of the Central Government. Of course, the proposal will come from the State Government whose co-operation and association will be necessary.

The other purpose of the Bill is to amend the existing section 44 of the Act to permit grant of licences subject to certain conditions. The arbitrary limit of 15 days in sub-section (3) of section 44 is being removed! because it is unnecessary. It is also proposed to give to the Central Government the power to issue guidelines by way of rules, if necessary.

The Bill has these limited objectives. I would request that it may be considered and passed.

The question was proposed.

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

"That the Bill to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, be referred to a Select Committee of

the Rajya Sabha consisting of the following members, namely: —

1. Shri R. R. Morarka
2. Shri Shridhar Wasudeo Dhabe.
3. Shri Biswa Goswami
4. Shri Harekrushna Mallick
5. Shri Rameshwar Singh
6. Shri Hari Shankar Bhabhra
7. Shrimati Mohinder Kaur
8. Shri G. C. Bhattacharya
9. Prof. Sourendra Bhatta-charjee
10. Shri Kalraj Mishra
11. Shri Shiva Chandra Jha

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

The question was proposed.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Now the motion and the amendment are before the House for consideration. I have already requested the Members to co-operate, Shri Biswa Goswami.

SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI (Assam): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, while I am all for protection of wildlife and for doing everything for the protection of wild life there are certain provisions in this Bill which are most objectionable. In the name of scientific management certain animals, particularly Rhinoceros, are sought to be translocated from the famous Kaziranga Games Sanctuary to some other parts. There has been strong resentment in the State of Assam against this move of the Central Government.

A provision for scientific management has been included in this Bill with a view to protecting wild life and particularly those species which are facing extinction. I would like to mention in this House that Rhinos are not facing extinction. Rather the number of Rhinos is increasing day by day. For example, it was said

that since Kaziranga Games Sanctuary has got a sufficient number of Rhinos, the surplus should be transferred outside Assam. There are other games sanctuaries in Assam itself, and if Kaziranga Games sanctuary has a surplus of Rhinos they can be transferred to other games sanctuaries of the State itself.

I am not going into details. But it is a wellknown fact that Rhinos can thrive only in marshy places with suitable climatic conditions. Assam provides suitable climate for the survival of Rhinos. Kaziranga Games sanctuary has by now become world famous and is attracting world tourists to the state. The Government, by this move, want to take away the Rhinos from Kaziranga Games Sanctuary. There is a feeling among the people of Assam that the Central Government is willing to take their share of the assets of Assam, but they are not willing to share their burden. The people of Assam have been agitating for dispersal of those who infiltrated into the State in the other States. Instead of doing that, the Government of India is now embarking on a plan for the dispersal of the Rhinos from the State. I strongly object to this move of the Central Government.

Moreover, wild life is a State subject. A provision has been brought in this Bill to bypass the State Government in this respect. I only hope that the hon. Minister will withdraw this amendment and respect the sentiment of the people of the State of Assam.

If the Rhinos are translocated from Kaziranga Games Sanctuary, then Kaziranga will lose its importance and Assam will ever remain a neglected State. Therefore, I strongly object to this.

One point more. In the recent past, the Central Government has issued an order prohibiting catching of wild elephants and as a result Assam is overcrowded with wild elephants.

[Shri Biswa Goswami—contd.] These wild elephants are damaging our standing crops and killing people. Those who live in this city cannot understand the number of wild elephants in our State nor the damage they are causing. The Government should revise this order. They should not stop catching wild elephants because their number is increasing to a large extent and they are damaging standing crops and killing people. While the Government should protect the wild life, they should also protect the interest of the tribal people and others living near the forest areas.

With these words, I oppose this particular provision which deals with translocation of Rhinos. I do not know about lions; but about the rhinos I can say this. Sir, I express my strong objection to this clause and I also want to record my note of dissent on this clause.

With these words, Sir, I oppose.

डा० रघु प्रताप सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : आदरणीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आपका मैं हृदय से आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझको वन्य जीव संरक्षण संशोधन विधेयक, 1972 पर अपने विचार प्रकट करने का अवसर प्रदान किया है। मैं इसका समर्थन करने को खड़ा हुआ हूँ। श्रीमन्, जैसा कि माननीय सदन को ज्ञात है कि इस विधेयक का उद्देश्य अत्यन्त सीमित है। माननीय मंत्री ने अपने भाषण में भी उसको स्पष्ट किया है। इस कारण से इस विधेयक पर अधिक चर्चा करना इस सम्मानित सदन का समय नष्ट करना होगा। मैं अपने को बहुत सीमित करके अपने विचार प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ। मान्यवर, जब से इस सृष्टि की रचना हुई है तब से मनुष्य का वन के साथ, पशुओं के साथ और पक्षियों के साथ में गहरा संबंध रहा है। यह संबंध समय समय पर बदलता रहा है। एक समय वह था जब कि मनुष्य केवल पशुओं और

पक्षियों को मारकर उनसे अपना पेट भरता था। धीरे धीरे मनुष्य सभ्यता की ओर अग्रसर हुआ, सुसंस्कृत हुआ, उसने कृषि कार्य करना आरम्भ किया और आज तो वह चन्द्रलोक पर जाने की कल्पना कर रहा है। तो मान्यवर, यदि हम पशुओं और पक्षियों के साथ में अपना प्राचीन संबंध बनाए रखना चाहे और उनको केवल अपने पेट भरने के साधन समझे तो मैं समझता हूँ कि पशु और पक्षियों के प्रति यह बहुत बड़ा अन्याय होगा। अब हम लोग सभ्यता के शिखर पर पहुँच चुके हैं। जहाँ पर पहुँच कर अब हमने यह समझा है कि हमारे भोजन में उचित मात्रा में प्रोटीन प्राप्त होने के लिए अधिक स्वस्थ रहने के लिए संसार में बहुत से ऐसे पदार्थ हैं जिनको खाकर मनुष्य दोषायु हो सकता है, स्वस्थ हो सकता है। तो ऐसी परिस्थिति में मैं समझता हूँ कि जिन पशु और पक्षियों को आहार के लिए मारा जाता है, यह बहुत अनुचित बात है।

दूसरी बात मैं यह भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इधर कुछ लोगों ने उनको पकड़ना, उनको मारना व्यवसाय बना लिया है। उनको पकड़कर लोग इन्हें विदेश भेजते हैं, उनको मारा जाता है और दुःख की बात यह है कि उनसे प्रसाधन की सामग्रियाँ बनाई जाती हैं।

मैं समझता हूँ कि रूप को अधिक रूपवान बनाने के लिए पशु पक्षियों की हत्या की जाए, जो मुझे बिल्कुल उचित नहीं लगता तो उन पर दया की जानी चाहिए।

मान्यवर, यह देश महात्मा बुद्ध का देश है, यह देश महात्मा गांधी का देश है, हमारी सभ्यता और हमारी संस्कृति में हमने अहिंसा को सर्वोपरि स्थान दे

रखा है। इस दृष्टि से भी उचित नहीं लगता कि इन पशु-पक्षियों की हत्या की जाए।

अंत में, मान्यवर, मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि बहुत से ऐसे वन्य जीव-जंतु हैं, ऐसे पशु-पक्षी हैं जिनका कि एक राष्ट्रीय महत्व है, सांस्कृतिक महत्व है, जैसे कि हमारा बाघ, जैसे कि शेर, भालू, जैसे कि हमारा हाथी, जैसे कि हमारा मोर पक्षी, जैसे कि हमारा कबूतर जिसे शांति का पक्षी कहा जाता है, मोर को हम अपना राष्ट्रीय पक्षी समझते हैं। तो इसी प्रकार से हमारे बहुत से जीव-जंतु हैं जोकि हमारे लिए एक नैतिक या अध्यात्मिक महत्व ही नहीं रखते, हमारे जीवन में उनका एक सांस्कृतिक महत्व भी है, तो इस कारण से भी उनकी रक्षा होनी चाहिए।

अंत में मैं यह अवश्य कहना चाहूंगा कि जहां पर हम इन जीव और जंतुओं की तथा पक्षियों की हम रक्षा करना चाहते हैं, जिस उद्देश्य के साथ मैं हमारे सम्मानित मंत्री जी यह विधेयक यहां लाये हुए हैं, तो मैं उनसे निवेदन करूंगा कि वे इस बात का भी ध्यान अवश्य रखें कि जनके निकट में जो हमारी बहुत सी अनुचचित जातियां और अनुसूचित जन-जातियां तथा आदिम जातियां जिन्हें सदैव जंगल से लकड़ी लानी पड़ती है, पत्तियां लानी पड़ती हैं, और उनके जानवर वहां चरने के लिए जाते हैं, तो इस बात का ध्यान रखते की आवश्यकता है कि कहीं ऐसा न हो जाए कि हम उन पशु-पक्षियों की रक्षा करते हुए, जो मनुष्य जाति है, उसकी सुरक्षा कठिनाई में पड़ जाए, इस बात की आवश्यकता है।

मैं इस बात की आशा करता हूं कि हमारी सरकार, जो प्रधान मंत्री जी

के नेतृत्व में सफलतापूर्वक कार्य कर रही है, हमारे मंत्री जी इस बात का प्रयास करेंगे कि मानव जाति की सुरक्षा और पशु-पक्षियों की सुरक्षा दोनों के बीच में संतुलन और सामंजस्य रह सके और भारत विश्व के सामने एक महान भारत बन सके।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Mr. Dinesh Goswami.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Assam): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, everybody is in favour of bringing in suitable measures for the protection of wild animals. We know, Sir, that in our country a large number of animals, even some of those species which are getting extinct, are being sacrificed as a status symbol of the affluent sections of the society. We have newspaper reports that monkeys are constantly been exported, snakes have been killed, and so on. But I have got a strong objection to this Act. My objection is that I see a sinister design in this Act because it has been brought in with the purpose of translocating the valuable Rhinoceros from Assam. I have before me the Bill as it was introduced in the Lok Sabha. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is clearly stated:

"There is no provision, at present for permitting capture and translocating of wild animals for scientific management which may, for instance, be necessary in the case of elephants for their population management or for introduction in alternative suitable habitat of endangered species like the Great Indian Rhinoceros and the Asiatic Lion. ..."

And in the case of this translocation, under clause 2, subclause (a), even the previous permission of the State Government has been done away with.

[Shri Dinesh Goswami]

You know, Sir that Rhinoceros occupy a very emotional place in Assam. It is a symbol of the State. The moment this thing came to our notice, so far Rhinoceros are concerned, a very serious objection was taken by the Assam Government. I wrote a letter with very detailed note to the Prime Minister the note to be found was not written by me because I am not really a person who is equipped with sufficient scientific knowledge but my note was based on reports of persons who have knowledge and experience about such matters, that such a step should never be taken, and that it would be against the interests of these protected species. The hon. Prime Minister was kind enough to write back that the letter—and the note was a very detailed note—was sent to the Agriculture Minister. Before this Bill was brought before the House, I expected and it was in the fitness of the things that the Agriculture Ministry ought to have given a reply to the points raised by me. After all a Member of Parliament knowing full well that a Bill is likely to be introduced writes a note to the Prime Minister and the Prime Minister refers that note to the Agriculture Minister and requests the Agriculture Minister to look into the points raised in that letter. Before you ask me to give my right of approval to the Bill, the minimum that the Agriculture Ministry ought to have done is to give a reply refuting the points raised in it. And because of the fact that the Agriculture Ministry has not been able to refute the points, raised I take it that the points which I raised in the letter are very valid. Therefore, Sir, in the normal course, I would not have opposed such a Bill but, in this case, not only am I opposing this Bill but I shall be also compelled to ask for a Division on this Bill because I must record my note of dissent on this Bill and the people of Assam will not excuse me if I permit this Bill to be passed without dissent.

Therefore, Sir, my submission will be that this Bill is a sinister one. When we ask for a solution of the foreigners problem, we do not get a solution. So far as the liabilities of the State are concerned. The Government at the centre is not prepared to share them. But so far as the assets of the State are concerned, you want to transfer those assets from us to other States. This has been the tragedy of Assam. I could have given and enlightened the House with a number of facts and figures on this because I have still the note with me. But I am conscious of the fact that the corruption issue is being taken up at 3 o'clock and that does not permit my discussing this in detail. But I would request the hon. Minister to withdraw the Bill at this stage and have a discussion with Members from Assam and try to satisfy us on the points that have been raised by us in that letter. And I can also point out that the State Government which was under the Chief Ministership of Mr. Keshab Chandra Gogoi, who was a Congress (I) Chief Minister, wrote to the Government against this. Therefore, Mr. Minister, please withdraw this Bill. Have a discussion with us. Satisfy us. And having satisfied, you proceed further. Otherwise, I have no other alternative but to oppose this Bill.

Thank you, Sir.

SHRI BUOY KRISHNA HANDI-QUE (Assam): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, while discussing this Wild Life Protection (Amendment) Bill, I seek certain clarifications from the hon. Minister. What is the main reason for the translocation of the rhinos? The hon. Minister gave a reply on 15th March in Lok Sabha saying that it was for the survival. Next day, he gave a reply where he made a statement on the growth rate of this rhino population in Kaziranga Game Sanctuary. According to his own statistics, the population of rhinos in Kaziranga Game Sanctuary was 366.

in 1966, 671 in 1972 and 960 in 1978. That means, it is not a question of survival. It is quite an appreciable upward rate of growth. Then, there is the other view that of over-population. The Indian Board for Wild-Life has held the view that due to over-population, there is a strain on the natural resources in the Kaziranga Game Sanctuary and soon, the growth rate, if it continues at this rate, will exceed the carrying capacity of the Sanctuary. If you look at both of these views carefully, you will find that they are contradictory. Survival or the over-population, which of the two is the main reason for translocation? Then, it is surprising, Sir, that neither the Government nor the Wild Life Board made the simplest suggestion of meeting this over-population problem by transferring some of the rhinos to some other sanctuaries already existing in Assam. Sir, we have some of the forest regions which have already had some rhinos. For instance, we have the Manas sanctuary, almost, equal in size to Kaziranga. Sir, this Kaziranga sanctuary has got an area of 432 square kilometres and Manas has 390 square kilometres. (*Time Bell rings*). Sir, I want some more time. Kaziranga has 950 rhinos, whereas Manas has only 75. So, some of the rhinos can very well be transferred to Manas and there can be even some other forest reserves. One such is in Orang in Darang district. There are already about 30 to 40 rhinos. I do not know whether they have decided to translocate them outside Assam. But in view of the statement that he himself has made in the Lok Sabha, it is clear that they want to do what is the big idea behind the translocation of these rhinos. If the Government thinks that there is a threat of poaching in Assam and Assam alone, well, I am afraid, it is not the truth. The problem of poaching exists all over the world, and not only in this country. And, the whole world should be grateful to Assam for saving this precious species for the posterity.'

Sir, when discussing this translocation, the most important point is to examine, the pattern of distribution of wild life in the country. As there is not much time, I simply quote what late P. D. Stracey, the great doyen of conservation in India and one of the leading naturalists of the world associated with wild life in Assam for over two decades said:

'A sub-di vision on ecological grounds reveals that there is a close similarity between the fauna of the areas where the south-west monsoon is prevalent—the eastern Himalayas, Assam (with Burma) and the Western Ghats and parts of Ceylon. These areas have heavy rainfall and great humidity, which influence their vegetation and in turn their insect bird and animal life. These two regions could be grouped together as a zoo-geographical subdivision as suggested by Prater.' (*time Bell rings*). This is the type of climate in Assam. Then, Sir, let us look at the other side of the picture, the climate in Uttar Pradesh. This is what he has said about it and I quote: •

"The dry plateau zone is a distinct faunal area and covers the barren plateau beyond the Himalayas but within the northern frontiers of India, extending from Kashmir to Bhutan. It is characterised by both desert and arctic conditions and has the wild ass and the arctic hare, the bharal or Tibetan sheep, and the yak as characteristic animals."

No mention of Rhino. In fact there are no rhinos in Budhwa National Park so far. And, it is also reported that the sub-committee constituted by the Indian Board for Wild Life to go into the proposal for translocations had great reservations as to the suitability of this area as a rhino habitat. Government have mentioned Jeoldapara and Goromura also for translocation of rhinos. Jeoldapara has already had the rhino, Goromura has already had the rhino. In 1964

[Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique]

there were 60 rhinos in Jeoldapara and the species has now been reduced to 20.

Now, what is the idea of translocating these rhinos from Assam to Jeoldapara. Since they have failed to conserve the rhinos let them learn, at least the hard way, as we have done in Assam. So, Sir, I want an assurance from the hon. Minister that nothing will be done in haste because this is imperilling the existence of rhinos, because it is a costly experiment, I should call it a cruel experiment. In regard to these rhinos, those who know about their ways, particularly, in Kaziranga, are aware how tamed they are. Even when tourists go past on elephants' back, these rhinos relaxing themselves on the ground are unperturbed and unconcerned. When you pass the national park along the national highway, you see that, on either sides of the road, these rhinos are grazing just like cows and buffaloes. If they are translocated, they will fall an easy prey to poaching. Since we did not have much time to discuss this Bill, I would request that for some time, we should not implement the provisions of this Bill, at least so far as the translocation of rhinos is concerned. Let us have more time. Let us take the view of naturalists; let us take the view of conservationists. Let us examine the distribution pattern of the wild life in India. Then, we can come to some conclusions, we will be able to take a decision. Thank you, Sir.

श्री राम लखन प्रसाद गुप्त (बिहार) :

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह विधेयक जो लाया गया है यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय के ऊपर है। प्रकृति ने मनुष्य की, जानवरों की, पक्षियों की, सभी की रचना की है और सभी को इस संसार में रहने की आवश्यकता है। परन्तु आज हम देख रहे हैं कि जो जंगली जानवर हैं उन की संख्या दिनों दिन

घटती जा रही है और जो आंकड़े हम को देखने को मिले हैं उन से पता चलता है कि आजादी के बाद बड़े जानवरों में 90 प्रतिशत और छोटे जानवरों में 75 प्रतिशत और आखेट करने वाले पक्षियों की संख्या का 60 का सफाया हो चुका है और बाघ के बारे में तो यह है कि 1930 में उन की संख्या 40 हजार थी जो 1972 में केवल 896 रह गयी है। यह इस बात का घोटक है कि इसी तरह की स्थिति रही तो प्रकृति में एक इन्बैलेंस हो जायगा और यह उचित नहीं होगा। छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना में 12 करोड़ रुपये इस के लिये रखा गया है परन्तु उस के अन्दर जो एक इन्स्टीट्यूट बनने की बात है और जिस के लिये 10 लाख रुपये उपलब्ध हैं उसके लिये अभी तक क्या हुआ है यह अभी तक समझ में नहीं आ रहा है और इस के साथ साथ दूसरी ओर जहाँ पर जंगल 33 प्रतिशत चाहिए देश में वे 11 प्रतिशत रह गये हैं। तो वनों के लिये जो कोशिश हो रही है वह ठीक से होनी चाहिए, वन देश में बढ़ने चाहिए और इन जानवरों को बचाने के लिये सारे उपाय किये जायें इस का प्रयत्न होना चाहिए। इन शब्दों के साथ में इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion on this Bill. Two Goswamis, Shri Biswa Goswami and Shri Dinesh Goswami, particularly, expressed their apprehensions in regard to this Bill, they said that this Bill has been brought forward just to translocate the rhinos. This is not the purpose of the Bill. This Bill has been brought forward only for two purposes. Under the present Act, the animals, which are mentioned in Schedule I, listed in Schedule I, whose number is 253, cannot be touched. In case we want to translocate the

animals for scientific management, we sanno'; do so. For instance, Shri Goswami mentioned that wild elephants are giving too much trouble and that they should be translocated. As per the present Act, we cannot translocate any animal, we cannot touch the wild elephants. This is sought to be achieved through this amending Bill. The hon. Members have expressed some fear about the rhinos. There are more than thousands rhino, in Assam. We have not taken any decision to translocate the rhinos.

The hon. Member Mr. Dinesh 3 P.M. Joswami has written to iae Prime Minister. That letter has been forwarded to us. We have considered that letter and given, it due consideration.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): This is an enabling provision.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: We have not taken any decision. Anyhow, what is there if 10 Or 12 rhino-ceres are translocated. Now poaching is taking place. By poaching hundreds of rhinoceres are being killed and no action is taken. Even the Assam Government is not able to co-total those poachers. Also it i_s not advisable to put all the eggs in one basket. If all the animals are put in one area, and suppose there is a disease, contagious and expidemic spaeds¹ and animals are attached, it will be very difficult to save them: all these animals would b_e destroyed. Therefore, some of the animals should be translocated to different places.

[Mr. Deputy Chairman in the chair! Also, even if they are translocated, it will b_e done in a proper manner. The fauna will be clearly, scientifically researched and examined. Therefore, the Members need not have any apprehension that we ar_e going to take >away all the rhinoceres and all that. It is know_n that some ■ time back bisons are destroyed in forests by rinderpest disease. Suppose there is

such an attack, what will be the position? Hon. Members are claiming as if it is only in Assam that rhinoceres. are found. It wa_s found in many places. In the Himalayan foothills, it was found in older days. Today it may not be. But it was found then in the Himalayan hills.

Therefore, Sir, the Bill has been brought only for two purposes. One to translocate animals for scientific purposes- and the other point is that according to the 1972 Act, when it was • passed, if anybody wanted to get a lirpnee, he had to apply and withiff fifteen days and accordingly those who applied for it got it. Now nobody can get a licence if he wants to have animals. Even if the Bharat Leather Corporation wants to have licence for this purpose, they cannot get a licence. This is the reason we- are removing that clause.

Sir, this is a simple Bill and I commend that this Bill b_e passed. About the Selected Committee, it is not necessary to refer it to a Select committee. I oppose that Motion for referring it to th_e Select Committee. And I commend that the Bill be passed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN; I shall first put the amendment of Shri Shiva Chandra Jha to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill to amend th_e Wild Life (Protection) Act. 1972, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha consisting of the following members, namely:

1. Shri R.R. Morarka.
2. Shri. Shridhar Wasudeo Dhabe.
3. Shri Biswa Goswami.
4. Shri Harekrushna Mallick.
5. Shri Rameshwar Singh.
6. Shri Hari Shankar Bhabhra.
7. Shrimati Mohinder Kaur.
8. shri G.C. Bhattacharya.
9. Prof. Sourendra Bhattachar—jee.
10. Shri Shiva Chandra Jha.

[Mr. Deputy Chairman]

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

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Motion moved by Shri Swaminathan to vote.

The questions is;

"That the Bill to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.

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

SHRI R.V. SWAMINATHAN: Sir, I move.

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The question was proposed.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, I am not asking for a formal division. But my dissent should be recorded.

SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI: Sir, my dissent should also be recorded.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Both their dissents will be recorded.

The question is:

"That the Bill be passed." *The*

motion was adopted.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Issuance of a Notification by the government of Assam for the purpose of the essential services maintenance (Assam) Act, 1980.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RAN JAN LASKAR): Sir, in exercise of powers conferred under sub-clause (v) of clause (b) of sub-Section (1) of Section 2 of the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Act, 1980 (41 of 1980) as amended by the Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981 (40 of 1981), the Government of Assam have issued a notification on 5-5-1982 to declare certain services as essential services within the State of Assam for the purpose of the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Act, 1980. The Government have given intimation about the notification through a wireless message dated 5.5.1982. Printed copies of the notification which are reported to have been sent by air-parcel have not, however, been received so far. In the absence of the printed copies, it has not been possible to complete action for laying the notification on the Table of the House as required under sub-Section (2) of Section 2 of the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Act, 1980. The notification will be laid on the Table of the House on the first day of the commencement of the next session of the Rajya Sabha.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 176

Growing corruption in the country affecting the political, Social, economic and moral fabric of our national life.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we shall take up the discussion under Rule 176, Shri Piloo Mody. I think we shall conclude the debate by six and I hope the hon. Members will exercise restraint so that the debate may not be turned into an acrimonious one.