

## NOES—8

Ghosh, Shri Niren  
Gupta, Shri Bhupesh  
Kumaran, Shri S.  
Mandal, Shri B. N.  
Menon, Shri K. P. Subramania  
Nair, Shri G. Gopinathan  
Raha, Shri Sanat Kumar  
Roy, Shri Manoranjan

*The motion was adopted.*

THE NORTH-EASTERN AREAS (REORGANISATION) AMENDMENT BILL, 1974

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): Sir, I move :

"That the Bill to amend the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971, be taken into consideration."

Sir, this is a simple piece of legislation which seeks to replace the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1974.

As a result of reorganisation of Assam under the principal Act of 1971 as from 21-1-1972, the Assam State Electricity Board and the Assam State Warehousing Corporation existing at that time in the composite State of Assam became inter-State Corporations. A provision was made in section 53 of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971 for the continued functioning of these two bodies in all the territories of the composite State, that is, the present State of Assam, the State of Meghalaya and the Union territory of Mizoram. It was also provided in sub-section (3) of the same section that these bodies will cease to function and stand dissolved on the expiry of a period of two years from the date of reorganisation or such earlier date as the Central Government may, by order, appoint. At the time of drawing up the legislation of 1971 it was expected that the Governments of Assam and Meghalaya would evolve appropriate schemes, within the period of two years specified in the Act, for establishing joint or separate bodies to take over the functions of these bodies. However, due to pressure of diverse problems which the new administrative units had to face, it could not be possible for them to evolve the necessary schemes. In order, therefore, to avoid any abrupt situation developing because of the automatic dissolution of these bodies by efflux of time, it became necessary to provide for the continued functioning of these bodies as inter-State bodies for a further period not exceeding one year beyond the period of two years specified in sub-section (3) of section 53 of the Act of 1971, and thereby

allow more time for the appropriate schemes being formulated. As the necessary amendment had to be made before the expiry of the period of two years mentioned in the Act of 1971 and as Parliament was not in session, an Ordinance amending the relevant provision of the principal Act was promulgated by the President on 19-1-1974. The present Bill seeks to replace the Ordinance.

*The question was put and 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 RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, I beg to move :

*"That the Bill be passed."*

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

THE NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1974

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the National Co-operative Development Corporation Act, 1962, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

This Bill seeks to amend the National Co-operative Development Corporation Act, 1962. As hon. Members are aware, the National Co-operative Development Corporation came into being in 1963 by a statute of the Parliament. It is a successor organisation to the National Co-operative Development and Warehousing Board which was established in 1956, in pursuance of the recommendations of the All India Rural Credit Survey Committee. The principal responsibility of this Corporation is to promote planned development of marketing, processing and storage of agricultural produce and distribution of essential agricultural requirements, of farmers through co-operatives, and to this end, provide financial assistance to them through the State Governments.

The Public Accounts Committee in 1969-70. Fourth Lok Sabha, in its 106th Report on the National Co-operative Development Corporation, made certain observations on the functioning of this Corporation and suggested that the Government should have a detailed expert

study made of the working of this Corporation and come to a decision on the necessity for the continuance of the National Co-operative Development Corporation. In pursuance of this, the Government appointed an expert committee under the Chairmanship of Shri B. Venkatappiah. The Committee made a detailed review of the functioning of the Corporation and came to the conclusion that the NCDC should not only be continued but should be adequately strengthened. Referring to the performance of the Corporation, the Committee observed :

"The striking progress recorded by various co-operative programmes, the planning and promotion of which is the responsibility of the NCDC under its charter, does credit to the NCDC."

As for the need for the continuance of the NCDC, the Committee observed -

"If the main object which underlay the establishment of the NCDC was important when that institution was conceived, it is even more important to-day when agricultural growth is much larger in dimension and much more diversified in composition. In our view then, the NCDC should remain but it must do so as an effective promoter, innovator, co-ordinator and, to the extent necessary, financier. The Corporation has to function in conjunction with and through the State Governments who are responsible for the implementation of various co-operative programmes."

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"The aim of the NCDC should be to help the State Governments to initiate and implement programmes of cooperative development in the States. There is nothing in this that can be regarded as an encroachment on the activities of the State Governments. Nor does the NCDC unnecessarily duplicate the functions of the Union Department of Cooperation. While the Department is responsible for enunciation of policies in relation to the Corporation and its activities, the scope of the Corporation's responsibility relate to the formulation, execution and financing of programmes. Further, the NCDC should be a representative body at the national level, it has to be so reconstituted as to provide a forum for cooperative and other non-official leadership on the one hand, and, on the other, for the Central Government, the State Government and the relevant public sector organisations, both financial and commercial. In such a forum can be discussed broad policies concerning planning, initiating developing and financing of a nation-wide cooperative programme for marketing, processing, storage and other allied activities. Thus, conceived, the role of the NCDC cannot be regarded as prejudicially affecting the prospects of de-officialisation of the cooperative movement."

The other major recommendations of the Committee are :

(a) The Corporation should pay special attention to evolving suitable economic programmes for assisting tribals, small farmers and other weaker sections of the rural community as also for relatively backward areas of the country;

(b) The activities of the Corporation should be specifically extended to cover dairy, fishery poultry and minor forest produce for benefiting tribal population and other weaker sections;

(c) The constitution of the Corporation should be broad-based so that it becomes a more representative and expert body;

(d) The Corporation should have adequate funds to match its new responsibilities.

Government have accepted the recommendations of the Committee that the NCDC should not only continue but it should be strengthened both financially and organisationally. The basic principles underlying the recommendations of the Committee are sought to be incorporated in this Bill. The salient features of the Bill are :

(a) The activities of the Corporation are proposed to be extended to cover dairy, poultry, fishery and minor forest produce. (Clause 8 of the Bill read with sub-clause (iv) of Clause 3 of the Bill)

(b) The constitution of the NCDC is proposed to be more broad-based. The General Council of the Corporation will consist of 51 members. Representation will be given to the Central Government, the State Governments, the national federations, the State federations, and Central financing and other institutions. (Clause 4 of the Bill)

(c) The board of management will consist of twelve members in which representation will be given to the Central Government, the national federations, the State federations, the State Governments, the Reserve Bank and experts in agriculture, cooperative development. (Clause 9 of the Bill)

(d) At present the NCDC can borrow only from the Central Government. Provision is being made for providing access to the NCDC to borrow funds from the open market and financing institutions. (Clause 11 of the Bill)

As I explained, the primary objective of the Bill is to strengthen the rural infrastructure for economic activities in the agricultural sector through cooperatives, with accent on helping weaker sections and

[Shri B. P. Maurya]

backward areas. This is a simple and non-controversial Bill whose main objective is rural development through cooperatives. I, therefore, hope, Sir, that all sections of this august House will support this Bill.

*The question was proposed.*

**श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (बिहार) :** माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, जैसा कि अभी मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि यह विधेयक विवादास्पद नहीं है। विधेयक ही कोई विवादास्पद है, बात यह नहीं है मैं मंत्री महोदय को याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि जिस समस्या को इस विधेयक में दिया है उस समस्या के निरूपण में इसमें कुछ नहीं कहा गया है वास्तव में यही विवादास्पद है। आप पूछेंगे वह क्यों? मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि आपने उस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट का सब कुछ उल्लेख किया है लेकिन उस कमेटी ने जो रिकमैन्ड किया है आप अगर उसे गौर से देखें तो उसमें वन्यजातियों के विषय में कुछ नहीं कहा।

मैं आपका ध्यान सर्वप्रथम इसी ओर ले जाना चाहता हूँ। अगर वन-जातियों की ओर आप ध्यान दें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि हिन्दुस्तान में जहाँ जहाँ पर उनकी सहकारी समितियाँ हैं वहाँ शुरु में तो स्थिति ऐसी लगी कि सहकारी समितियाँ बड़ी अच्छी बनी लेकिन वह सहकारी समितियाँ प्रायः मृत अवस्था में चली गईं। उदाहरण-स्वरूप आप हमारे बिहार प्रदेश की वनवासी समितियाँ लें। एक ओर उदाहरण और ज्यादा साफ करने के लिए देता हूँ। वहाँ पर जो वन को आपरेट करते हैं उन्होंने जो समितियाँ बनाई वह न जीवित में हैं और न मृत में। अगर कोई दूसरी समिति बनाना चाहे तो वह बना नहीं सकती। पहली बात तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सारे देश के जो वनवासी पिछड़े क्षेत्र में हैं उसके लिए यह बिल क्या करता है। दूसरी बात मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो आपने बोर्ड बनाया है उस बोर्ड में किसी भी तरह से, कही से भी पिछड़ी जाति का कोई वनवासी, कोई हरिजन आ सकता है? इसलिए मैं जानना चाहता हूँ

कि आपने रिकमैन्डेशन के मूल आधार को विवादास्पद क्यों नहीं माना।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को एक बात बता देना चाहता हूँ खुले शब्दों में, साफ शब्दों में, जिससे मंत्री जी को इसकी पूरी-पूरी जानकारी हो सके। बिहार राज्य ही उदाहरण स्वरूप लीजिए जिसकी मुझे पूरी जानकारी है। मैं आपको बता दूँ कि बिहार राज्य में राज्य स्तर पर बिहार स्टेट लैंड डवलपमेंट बैंक है, बिहार स्टेट को-ऑपरेटिव बैंक है, बिहार स्टेट मार्किटिंग यूनियन है, बिहार स्टेट वेयर हाउस निगम है और बिहार स्टेट कापरेटिव फेडरेशन है। ये पांच संस्थाएँ सहकारिता की राज्य स्तर पर हैं। मैं आपसे पूछना चाहता हूँ, आपके विभाग भी होंगे जिसके द्वारा आप पांच मिनट में खबर मंगवा सकते हैं, इसमें किसी वनवासी को स्थान दिया गया है क्या, हरिजन का कोई स्थान है क्या? हरिजन को छोड़ भी दें तो इनमें बैंकवर्ड लोगों की परसेन्टेज क्या है, यह ही बतला दीजिए।

अभी मंत्रीजी ने कहा कि यह बिल विवादास्पद नहीं है इसीलिए मैं आपकी नज़र में असली मूलभूत सिद्धांत लाना चाहता हूँ। मुझे आश्चर्य होता है इस चीज को देखकर कि कृषि विभाग में कम से कम 75 समितियाँ, निगम हैं जिनको मैं जानता हूँ। उनमें जो चुनाव की पद्धति है उसके अनुसार दूसरे दल के लोग शायद एक आध हैं भी उनमें जो आपने नामांकन किया है उस नामांकन में प्रजातन्त्र को ताक पर रखकर अपने ही लोगों का नामांकन किया है। मुझे दुःख इस बात का है कि नामांकन में ऐसे लोगों को लिया गया है जिसका सहकारिता से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं रहता है। जो 75 समितियाँ, निगम वगैरह हैं आप उसमें देख लीजिए सत्य क्या है और सही स्थिति हमें बताएं।

जहाँ तक प्रावधान की बात है, ईस्टर्न स्टेट्स मिनिस्टर्स कांफरेंस गौहाटी में हुई थी, आप उस समय मंत्री पद को नहीं ग्रहण किए

ये लेकिन मंत्री होने के नाते उसकी रिपोर्ट आपने देखी होगी, डिसकशन भी देखा होगा। उसमें इस तथ्य को स्वीकार किया गया कि ईस्टर्न स्टेट कोआपरेटिव्स में असफल हो चुका है और जो यह शब्द बराबर सहकारिता क्षेत्र में प्रगट किया जाता है—पिछड़ा स्टेट, पिछड़ा वर्ग, पिछड़ा कोई भी क्षेत्र—उसकी प्रगति करना इन का काम है। मैं उदाहरणस्वरूप मंत्री जी को बताना चाहूंगा कि कोई भी विभाग नहीं है जो यह नहीं कहता है कि छोटे छोटे किसानों और माजिनल किसानों की सहायता करो और कभी भी उपदेश में आप यह नहीं मानते कि आप हरिजन बंधुओं का हर प्रकार में उपकार करें, वनसासियों का उपकार करें। सुनने में अच्छी बात लगती है, है भी वास्तव में अच्छी, लेकिन मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो जो स्टेट कोआपरेटिव्स में पिछड़ गए हैं, जो जो जातिया किसी भी प्रगति में पिछड़ गई हैं, उनके लिए आज तक कौन से काम किए गए? इसीलिए मैं उदाहरण देना चाहता था : अब जब किसान की बात आप लेते हैं, उसमें भी छोटे किसानों की बात जड़ आएगी, मांस के लिए, मछली के लिए, दूध के लिए और खाद्य सामग्रियों की सहकारिता के लिए, तो इस संबंध में आज तक जो काम हुए वह आपके सामने रखना चाहूंगा। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ मंत्री जी से कि जब किसानों को पावर ट्रैक्टर नहीं हैं, तो क्या पावर टिलर भी नसीब नहीं? क्या उनके खेतों की मिचाल के लिए नलकूप, खुले नलकूप, बड़े कुएं, नहीं होने चाहिए? क्या जब उनके लिए खाद नहीं, पानी नहीं, तो उसकी खेती अच्छी हो सकेगी, तो उसके लिए खाद नहीं चाहिए, पेस्टिसाइड नहीं चाहिए, पूजा नहीं चाहिए, फिर इसमें छोटा किसान कैसे तरक्की कर सकेगा। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ आज आप छोटे किसानों को कितना प्रतिशत देते हैं जो करोड़ों-करोड़ों रूपए कृषि के सहकारिता क्षेत्र से देते हैं? उसमें से उन छोटे और माजिनल किसानों को कितना

प्रतिशत मिला है? उनका ट्रैक्टरों में कितना हिस्सा है, पावर टिलर में कितना हिस्सा है, ट्र्यूबवेल में कितना हिस्सा है? यदि मैं कहूँ उन तीनों में उनका हिस्सा नहीं के बराबर है तो शायद यह अत्युक्ति नहीं होगी। तो आज 25 वर्षों तक उस क्षेत्र में काम नहीं हुआ, अगर यह कहे, तो विवादास्पद नहीं है। हम सब इस काम को करने में सहायता देना भी चाहेंगे लेकिन आपसे यह भी जानना चाहेंगे कि जिस बात को आपने रखा है वह कार्यान्वित हो तो कैसे हो? मंत्री जी अगर इस पर विचार करके पता करने का कष्ट करेंगे तो सचमुच में हमारा भी और इस देश का भी उपकार होगा।

मैंने रेफरेन्स दिया वहां स्टेट कोआपरेटिव मिनिस्टर्स कांफरेन्स की जो रिकमंडेशन हुई है तो मैं जानना चाहूंगा इस सहकारिता विकास निगम के रूप में जो आपने यह संशोधन विधेयक रखा है तो क्या उस रिकमंडेशन को केन्द्र बिंदु मानकर उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए क्या आपने सचमुच में कोई कार्यक्रम रखा है। आपने इस विधेयक का यह जो आधार बताया है कि "सहकारी सिद्धांतों के आधार पर कृषि उपज खाद्य पदार्थों और कतिपय अन्य वस्तुओं के उत्पादन, प्रसंस्करण, क्रय-विक्रय, भण्डारकरण, निर्यात और आयात के कार्यक्रमों की योजना बनाने और उन्हें संप्रवर्तित कराने के प्रयोजन के लिए तथा उनसे संबद्ध विषयों के लिए निगम के निगमन और विनियमन का उपबन्ध करने के लिए अधिनियम" तो इसमें एक शब्द का भी कहीं पर कोई सदस्य विरोध नहीं करेगा। लेकिन अगर उसको स्वीकार करते हुए, एक-एक शब्द मंत्री महोदय के सामने रखें जैसे एक भण्डारण शब्द को ले लें तो हमारे बिहार स्टेट में वेयरहाउसिंग कारपोरेशन है मगर वेयरहाउसिंग कारपोरेशन का गठन इसलिए नहीं किया गया कि किसान अपना अनाज ठीक से रखे उसका अनाज चूड़े न खा सकें, कीड़े मकोड़े न बर्बाद करें

(Amdt.) Bill, 1974

[श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव]

और गरीब किसान फसल के समय अपने साल को बचा कर रख सके जिससे उसको अपनी फसल के ठीक-ठीक दाम मिल सकें।

क्या आप बतलायेंगे कि इस तरह के भंडारण पटना और दो चार बड़े शहरों को छोड़कर कहीं नीचे तक जा सकें हैं? क्या आपने किसानों के लिए कोई इस तरह की कोठी बनाकर दी है ताकि वे अपना अनाज उसमें रख सकें और उनमें किसी तरह से कोई कीड़े मकोड़े न लगें। इस तरह के भंडारण के ऊपर आपने किसानों की भलाई के लिए कोई खर्च नहीं किया।

इसी तरह से क्रय और विक्रय का कार्य सम्पूर्ण देश में राज्य स्तर पर होता है लेकिन आप पायेंगे कि जो मूल सिद्धांत है जिसकी वजह से इसका निर्माण किया गया है वह उस खास उद्देश्य के लिए काम नहीं करता है बल्कि केवल खाद आदि बेचने का काम करता है। उसके नाम के साथ जो शब्द जुड़े हुए हैं उसके लिए वह काम नहीं करता है।

आपने एग्रो-इंडस्ट्री खोली है और इंडस्ट्री शब्द इसके साथ लगा है। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिस उद्देश्य के लिए यह खोला गया था क्या उसने अपना कार्य किया और केवल ट्रैक्टर ही बेचने का काम इसने किया? इस बिल में जिन शब्दों का उपयोग किया गया है अगर मैं उनका वर्णन करूँ तो आप को मालूम होगा कि जिन कार्यों के लिए उनका उपयोग किया गया है उससे जनता को कोई फायदा नहीं पहुंच रहा है और इसीलिए मैं आपका ध्यान इन चीजों की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

आपने तो साधारण ढंग से बिल को सदन के सामने रख दिया और सहकारिता के क्षेत्र में जो धांधली मची है उस धांधली को छिपाने के लिए आप यह बिल लाये हैं। आज आप देखेंगे कि दुनिया में जो सब से अच्छा रास्ता दिखलाई देता है वह सहकारिता

का ही रास्ता है और बिना इस रास्ते के चले और कोई उपाय दिखलाई नहीं देता है। हमने देखा कि इंटरनेशनल कोऑपरेटिव जगती कि जहां और दूसरे राजनीतिक जगत में अनेक ब्लाक बने हैं। रूस का ब्लाक है और अमेरिका का ब्लाक है और तटस्थ का ब्लाक है। लेकिन यही एक अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहकारिता है जहां पर सब लोग एक ही ब्लाक में बैठते हैं और जो कुछ भी यहां पर फैसले होते हैं वे सब एक राय से किये जाते हैं और सब की राय से प्रस्ताव पास किये जाते हैं। तो यह इतनी आवश्यक चीज है कि इसको कोई भी इन्कार नहीं कर सकता है। इसलिए मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब आप कमजोर वर्ग का नाम लेना चाहते हैं जैसे मछुओं का नाम लिया तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मछुओं की जो कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटी बनी है उसकी भी अपनी कहानी है। आप किसी भी राज्य को ले लीजिये आप देखेंगे कि जितनी भी कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटियां इन लोगों की भलाई के लिए बनाई गई हैं, क्या उनमें उनका कोई अधिकार है। आज मछुओं के नाम पर बड़े-बड़े लोगों का दखल है। आप इस बात की जांच करा सकते हैं कि नाम तो गरीब लोगों का होगा लेकिन जो फल खाने वाला है वह कोई अमीर ही आदमी होगा।

इसी तरह से दूध के लिए सहकारी संस्थाएं बनी हुई हैं लेकिन आप देखेंगे डेयरी के डेवलपमेंट के लिए इन सहकारी संस्थाओं द्वारा कोई काम नहीं किया गया है। गाय और भैंस की नस्ल सुधारने तथा दूध का अच्छा वितरण करने का कार्य भी ये संस्थाएं अभी तक अच्छी तरह से नहीं कर सकी हैं और न ही इस तरह का कोई प्रयास ही किया जाता है। इस कार्य के लिए किसी न किसी तरह से रुपया ले लिया जाता है और उसका दुरुपयोग किया जाता है सदुपयोग नहीं किया जाता है। इस बिल में बहुत अच्छे

और मनोरम शब्द रखे गये हैं और उनके अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित शब्द आते हैं। जैसे नारियल और सुपारी, अंडे, फल, मधु, मांस, दूध और सब्जियाँ इत्यादि। इसमें इस तरह के शब्द हैं जिनसे जीभ से लार टपकने लगती हैं। लेकिन देखने में यह आता है कि इस तरह की कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटियों का जब गठन किया जाता है तो उसमें इस तरह के लोगों को रखा जाता है जो जनता को इसका लाभ नहीं देना चाहते हैं। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस तरह की संस्थाओं को स्थापित करने के लिए आप कौनसी पद्धति अपनाना चाहते हैं। इनके जो परिपक्व होंगे और उनके जो मेम्बर होंगे उनका गठन किस प्रकार से किया जायेगा। आपने इस तरह के परिपक्वों के गठन में प्रजातन्त्र पद्धति को स्वीकार नहीं किया है। मैं यह बात मानता हूँ कि कांग्रेस का बहुमत है, लेकिन इस तरह की संस्थाओं में तो आपको प्रजातन्त्र पद्धति का अनुसरण करना चाहिये ताकि उसमें जनता के हर वर्ग को पूरी तरह से प्रतिनिधित्व हो सके। आपने राष्ट्रीय वीज निगम में पार्लियामेंट के मात्र कांग्रेसी मेम्बरों को भेजा है, तो आपको हर वर्ग के मेम्बरों को उसमें भेजना चाहिये और इसी तरह की पद्धति को दूसरे क्षेत्रों में भी अपनाना चाहिये। आपको इस बारे में गारन्टी देनी चाहिये कि विरोधी दल के लोगों को भी इस तरह की संस्थाओं में लिया जायेगा ताकि उनमें विश्वास पैदा हो सके। आप अगर इस तरह से इन परिपक्वों का गठन करेंगे तो कम्पोजिट हाउस का प्रतिनिधित्व हो जायेगा। इसलिये मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आप को इस तरह की परिपक्वों में सदन से और सदन के बाहर, प्रपोजर्शन के हिसाब से लोगों को लेना चाहिये ताकि वे वहाँ पर अपने विचार का आदान प्रदान कर सकें।

आप उसकी कौन सी गारन्टी देते हैं ?  
अगर उसकी गारन्टी नहीं देते हैं तो यह गठन आपके अपने कुछ लोगों को भरने का साधन

होगा, कुछ लोगों को रोजी रोटी देने का साधन मात्र होगा। अन्त में मैं समाप्त करते हुए चाहूँगा कि जब आप पिछड़े वर्ग वनवासियों और हरिजनों की बात करते हैं, तब आप इस बिल के सन्दर्भ में यह भी एग्जामिन कर लें किसी भी स्टेज में कि जो स्टेट लेवल की कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटीज हैं, उनमें वनवासियों का, हरिजनों का, पिछड़े वर्गों का कितना प्रतिशत है। बिहार का पूछें तो हरिजन और वनवासी स्टेट लेवल पर एक भी नहीं हैं। आप इस प्रकार का विधि-विधान करें कि जब तक किसी को-आपरेटिव सोसाइटी में—‘अगर हरिजनों का स्थान चुनाव क्षेत्र में सुरक्षित न किया गया होता तो वहाँ भी उनको स्थान न मिलता’—कमजोर वर्ग भी आ सकें। कोआपरेटिव क्षेत्र में नाम गरीबों का है, कमजोरों का है, लेकिन उसके ऊपर प्रमुख बड़े लोगों का पूरा अधिकार है चाहे एन सी डी सी हो या कोई दूसरी संस्था हो। इसलिए मैं चाहूँगा कि मंत्री महोदय जब जवाब दें तो पूरी जानकारी दें और यह भी आश्वासन दें उसमें सचमुच गरीबों को, पिछड़े वर्गों को प्रतिनिधित्व मिलेगा।

SHRI G. R. PATIL (Maharashtra) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. The Public Accounts Committee of the Fourth Lok Sabha in the year 1969-70 had gone into the entire working of the National Cooperative Development Corporation and recommended that steps should be taken to see whether the work that had been carried out by the NCDC had been beneficial, whether it had to be continued and whether any changes were required to be made. In pursuance of those recommendations, the Government appointed a Committee under the chairmanship of Shri B. Venkatappaiah and that Committee had fully gone into the working of the National Co-operative Development Corporation. This Committee recommended very strongly to the Government that the activities of the NCDC should not only be continued, but this organisation should be strengthened and broadbased. I am very happy that this Bill has been brought forward today because of these recommendations and we are getting an opportunity to speak.

As far as the activities of the National Co-operative Development Corporation are

[Shri G. R. Patil]

concerned, they have been enumerated in the Bill as follows:

"An Act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of a corporation for the purpose of planning and promoting programmes for the production, processing marketing, storage, export and import of agricultural produce, foodstuffs and certain other commodities on co-operative principles and for matters connected therewith."

Sir, the NCDC has really done a good work as far as the promotional and processing aspects are concerned. So many co-operative sugar factories which have been established, have been helped by the NCDC. Many co-operative spinning mills established by the consumers as well as the weavers have also been supported by them. Many co-operative oil mills have been supported by them. It is a good thing that because of the active support rendered by the NCDC, so many industries and particularly the agro-industries, are developing in the co-operative sector. As the amendment proposes after clause (d) of Section 2 of the principal Act, they have already mentioned dairy, poultry, fishery, fruits, whether fresh or dried or dehydrated, milk, milk products and vegetables. It is really worth while because these poultry, dairy and fishery co-operatives should work for the sake of weaker sections of the population. In fact, one of the very important principles of the co-operative movement is, one for all and all for one. And from that point of view, those who are well to do should also sacrifice something for those who are not so well to do. Therefore, looking to the map of our country right from West Bengal, Orissa, then to some extent of Andhra, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Mysore and Maharashtra and up to Gujarat, we find that we have got a big coast line. And there is no doubt that the fishermen who are fishing are doing their work in their own traditional boats. At times, there are so many accidents also. They are not given proper help and they are to be organized in co-operatives, and those co-operatives have to be supported. And all sorts of financial and other help has to be given by the NCDC. In fact, we are earning much of our foreign exchange by exporting prawns and other sea-food. And their traditional way of fishing must be changed. They must be given modern equipment, machines, mechanised boats, trawlers, etc. As rightly pointed out by one hon. Member earlier, most of these co-operatives, registered in the name of these weaker sections, are being exploited by the vested interests. Therefore, some steps should be taken—not only the promotional activities, but there should be some strict supervision also. I know that the NCDC cannot undertake this nor the Department

of Co-operation of this Government. It is the State Governments who have to supervise the activities of these co-operatives. As far as the poultries are concerned, many big poultries which were set up could not run well because of so many difficulties. Traditionally, we find some people keeping some poultry and selling some eggs to meet their both ends.

I would like to personally appeal to the hon. Minister to see that the Corporation provides financial assistance to national and state level co-operatives for setting up processing industries and to actively encourage the organization of new units by providing help in subsidizing the feasibility studies and technical assistance also. That is at the national and apex level. They should also draw up a plan for the small farmers, for the poor people so that they can suitably carry on something like dairy, etc. Therefore, I think, it is high time, we changed the entire nature of the working of the NCDC. Otherwise, as per the amendment proposed, it is suggested that whatever help or whatever assistances that has to be given will be given to the national level organizations or to the multi-unit co-operatives. But it does not mean that they cannot go to the lower level. In fact, they should see that through these apex level bodies, they reach the gross root level co-operatives, co-operatives at the village level. Particularly, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one thing. We have set up today 186 oil mills and developed solvent extraction plants in the country. And the NCDC played a major role in the setting up of these co-operative oil mills and solvent extraction plants. But, in view of the fluctuations in the prices of groundnuts and other edible commodities, it was not possible for the co-operatives to function in a way in which the private sector oil industry is functioning. And most of them sustained heavy losses. As far as my experience goes, in Maharashtra, in my own district alone, there are 27 co-operative oil mills and hardly two or three are running. We have got solvent extraction plants in the co-operative sector also. Then we changed the mode and now at least, the solvent-extraction plants are making some profits.

Sir, I know that NCDC has helped but here I would urge upon the otherwise well to do farmers, who are getting the benefits of the co-operatives, to help the smaller farmers who are raising their crops and who want to process their crops. I personally feel that they should be given some help.

NCDC has helped in setting up in our country 745 co-operative rice mills. You know that because of the setting up of rice mills many of these rice growers, particularly farmers, have been benefited. But, in fact, the procurement policy of the State Government has also created certain diffi-

culties in the working of the rice mills. Now, a strange view is being taken in some States that since paddy is being procured by the Government, it is for the Government to give it to any rice mill for milling. That being so, the nature of the producers rice mills does not remain what it was and therefore they are questioning the utility of these rice mills which have been set up. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to see and apply his mind and also get the NCDC to think over the matter as to in which way these co-operative rice mills, which have been set up in the country after being imported from Japan, could function effectively. Unfortunately, the procurement policy of the State Governments is creating some difficulty. I know that these rice mills particularly in the State of Maharashtra are suffering for want of availability of paddy for milling. These are the central points.

As far as dairy industry is concerned, the Dairy Development Authority is a must in our country and I find that the corporation has so far given a loan to the tune of Rs. 2.25 crores to 8 co-operative societies to set up dairies. It means that they want to set up many big dairies which can in addition to the normal products yield some by-products also after processing them. It is a good thing. These dairy co-operatives should be developed on the pattern of Anand in Kaira District of Gujarat State. Simply setting up dairy co-operatives or dairy societies is not going to be much of a help without having the foundations laid at the grassroot level or village level. Some dairy co-operatives and dairy societies should be set up at these levels and the benefits of these should go to the farmers or those who are having some buffaloes or some cows or something like that.

Lastly I would like to come to section 3 of the Principal Act. Sections 3 of the Act is proposed to be amended and the amendment goes to show that the Corporation shall carry on its function through the General Council and the Board and that the General Council shall consist of the following members, whose number in all will be about 51. Looking to the constitution of this General Council, I cannot resist the idea that it has been dominated by officials. Not only that, the President and the Vice-President have to be nominated by the Central Government. I do not say that the officials should not be associated with the working of the NCDC. They are, as a matter of fact, very essential persons who are concerned with various Ministries, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank, Managing Director of the State Bank, Managing Director of the Food Corporation of India, Managing Director of the Central Warehousing Corporation, Chairman of the Industrial Finance Corporation. These are very important institutions and

for the development of these co-operatives and particularly for processing and industrialisation of the co-operatives in various parts of the country their association is very important. The Chairman of the National Co-operative Union of India, Chairman of the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation, Chairman of the National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Factories, Chairman of the All India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills and Chairman of the All India State Co-operative Banks' Federation are *ex-officio* members. Shri A. G. Kulkarni is the Chairman of the All India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills and he will be the *ex-officio* member of this Council. I find one exception, Sir. We have developed everything, but as far as the consumer movement in this country is concerned, I think it is being neglected. On the contrary I find that in an august body like the NCDC, when it is being broad-based—whether it is 51 or 52 it does not matter—the Chairman of the National Consumers Co-operative Federation is not being included here. Especially when we are trying to develop fisheries, dairies, piggeries and even manufacture of food-stuffs, we must also have a net work of consumer co-operative whereby we can reach the consumer in a better way. Therefore, I would urge upon him that those who do not represent the apex labour body or the national labour body should also find a place—as was rightly pointed out by Mr. Yadav. At times Mr. Yadav makes certain suggestions which should really be taken into consideration. Suppose we want to develop fisheries, are you going to take any person who is actually working in the fishery co-operatives and who is conversant with the problems and the plight of the fishermen? Such type of persons should be associated. I do not say that he should be a permanent member but, at least, when plans and programmes are to be chalked out for the development of things like dairies, poultry or fisheries, such type of co-operators who are actually working in the field should be associated with the working of these things. Otherwise, however laudable the objects may be—we say that this entire movement should be taken to the backward areas and to the people who are suffering the most and that the benefits of the movement should go to them—it will not help.

Looking at the map of the country, we find that U.P. is one of the richest tracks in the whole of the world but we do not find that the co-operative movement has flourished there. For example, Maharashtra is not so rich and even today it is deficit as far as foodgrains are concerned. . . .

SHRI V. B. RAJU (Andhra Pradesh) :  
Don't say it is poor.



SHRI G. R. PATIL : If you take Bombay away then Maharashtra also is poor.

SHRI V. B. RAJU : How can you take it away ?

SHRI G. R. PATIL : As a State I am telling. Take for instance, the marketing federations of Haryana and Punjab. They have made tremendous progress. And in Maharashtra also we are making some progress. There are certain States which have made some progress : Balanced growth of the co-operative movement is there. Therefore, I emphasise that the backward areas also should be given some importance. Otherwise it is of no use. Whatever good things we are seeing in Haryana and Punjab should be emulated by co-operators in other States. Therefore, I think it is time that these things also should be taken into consideration.

There is one suggestion : It is mentioned here that the President and the Vice-President are to be nominated by the Central Government and the President is to be the Chairman of the Board. I would only request that the President and Vice-President should be non-officials. I feel that there is no dearth of educated co-operators who can definitely shoulder this responsibility.

Though this is a very good piece of legislation that has been brought here, I feel that unless and until we carry out the entire activities on the lines or principles of the co-operative movement this will merely remain a statute and will not serve the purpose. Also I want that in all these activities the weaker sections and the backward areas should be given topmost priority, and instead of officialisation of the movement—when we are talking of de-officialisation—there should be de-officialisation, and the officialisation nature of this movement at least at the national level should be stopped. Otherwise, if it happens at the national level, it is bound to happen at the State level also.

Once again I support the Bill and thank you very much for giving me time to say my few words.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA (West Bengal) : Sir, I support this Bill with some observations. Sir, this National Co-operative Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill is not meant to reorient the co-operative movement and the co-operative societies on a genuine basis. The scope of the Bill is very limited. It wants to assist the national level organisations of co-operatives and also the inter-State level organisations. I wonder how this will assist and how this will bring about social justice.

[The Vice-Chairman (SHRI V. B. RAJU) in the Chair].

This Bill seeks to cover not only the agricultural co-operatives but also takes up new areas like fisheries, poultry, animal husbandry and wants to help build up the rural infrastructure. It is a very laudable object no doubt and it is very essential especially in the context of the vested interests and the market mechanism in these days of black money rule. In the situation that obtains today I think such a Bill should be supported and seriously implemented so that it can be effective in bringing about social justice to the rural people the poorer sections of our population. Here genuine real co-operatives do not thrive naturally because our system is a capitalist system and when there is capitalist growth genuine co-operatives cannot be created and developed. It is very difficult to create co-operatives. The most non-co-operative people came to start co-operatives with a view to killing it ultimately because of profit motive, personal gain and money hunger are there. At the cost of the Government money, at the cost of the co-operative funds, at the cost of the people's money, naturally some people are there in the rural areas as well as in the urban areas who are out to create co-operative societies to ultimately kill the movement in the interest of their own selfish ends.

It is also found that our socio-economic structure is not for the service of the poor people of the country, the tribal people, the village artisans, the cobblers, the fishermen. These people are not within the purview of the co-operative movement; they are left out. Only those who are capitalists, these who have vested interest, those who have some money with them, it is they who create these co-operatives and utilise all their energy in these co-operatives only ultimately to kill the people's initiative to build their own co-operatives. I apprehend that this Bill may not create such an atmosphere which will justify these conclusions which have been made by the expert committee on the National Co-operative Development Corporation. It has been stated by the Committee on page 139 in paragraph 9.7 :

"Our suggestions for making the NCDC a representative and effective all-India, promotional, developmental, financing and export body are all inter-related and call for complementary measures in different spheres, including finance, administration and legislation. For this reason, our recommendations would have to be considered as an integrated whole and not in isolation either from one another or from the programmes now in train in the rural sector for the growth of agriculture, the development of co-operation and the promotion of social justice."

The function of this NCDC is to assist the national level organisations and apex bodies of the State and inter-State organisations in the matter of promotional and development activities. Whose promotion? Certainly the promotion of black money which has its role. The entire object of the co-operative movement is to create some infrastructure for promotion of social justice and for development towards socialism. This objective cannot be achieved by such legislation. I hope the hon. Minister will consider these aspects of the co-operative movement and come forward with a comprehensive Bill ultimately so that he can reorient the co-operative movement in the country on a genuine basis which would be in the interests of the rural people, of the weaker sections of the population both in the urban and in the rural areas.

In clause 4 of the Bill I find there is a provision for a General Council at the national level consisting of 51 members. The expert committee says in para 9.5 of its conclusions that the Corporation should function as an autonomous organisation. It must have its own fund and non-lapsable grants which should be provided by the Central Government. Funds from other sources also should be provided. The committee has recommended that the NCDC must have sufficient funds, non-lapsable funds and it must have an adequate number of staff to cater to the promotional development and growth of the organisation. All these things are good. I find from the Bill that it has provided 5-1 members but in the name of autonomous body it is rather ridden with officials. The Minister should clarify in this House as to what was the conception of this committee regarding its autonomy. The body as has been constituted is rather official-ridden. Non-official initiative has not been taken into consideration. I find there is one member representing banks. When there is the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank and the Managing Director of the State Bank, what is the need for this nomination representing banks? This should also be clarified. Moreover I find there is no scope in the Bill for accommodating labour co-operatives. Are there no labour co-operatives? Is there no organisation of labour, workmen and the poor village people? The labour co-operatives have not been taken into consideration. Why have these people been left out? I want the Minister to clarify why this category of co-operatives has been left out.

I also find in clause 4 (xvi) provision for four members representing persons having special knowledge of, or practical experience in, agricultural co-operative development. Why not more? These people should be given have not been taken into consideration. field of co-operatives. Such people having sufficient experience and expertise but not connected with vested interests should be

there from among non-officials. The number of experts should be enhanced.

While I welcome this Bill I hope that the intentions of the expert committee will be fulfilled. The significance of such an institution is all the greater at the present moment when a strong public distribution system for essential commodities today is the national cry and demand. In the debate in this august House many times I have found that our distribution system is collapsing. It is not strong. It cannot reach the people. It is not non-corruptive. The purpose can be served by the NCDC helping the States. It can function in the field of distribution. A proper distribution system is the crying need of the country. When essential commodities are scarce, I think such an organisation will be an effective instrument for the distribution of essential commodities, when our country is in the grip of black money.

An integrated system of co-operatives in the interest of the rural weaker section of the community is a necessity today for rural economic growth as well as for rectification of disparities and imbalances in rural development. So the Expert Committee recommendations are highly according to the needs of the country and the wishes of the people. If the intentions of the Expert Committee are implemented, I think the NCDC would be able to play its role. But I apprehend that the system of our society is so polluted and corrupt that it can do nothing. Therefore, the administrative side of the NCDC should be always alert of the machinations of the vested interest and it should go into the minutest details, namely, how its money is going to be utilised, when the NCDC is going to get sufficient funds, when it will have sufficient staff and when it will function as it likes as an autonomous body. The NCDC should see to it that not a single pie is misused. The State Governments should be given guidelines by the Centre so that the co-operative movement reaches the poorer people in the rural sector.

Again, in paragraph 9.4 of its Conclusion the Committee says:

"While the department is responsible for enunciation of policies in relation to the corporation and its activities, the scope of the Corporation's responsibility relates to the formulation, execution and financing of programmes."

Sir, if this be the function of the Corporation, I think there is every possibility that the NCDC will not go into details. I hope keeping the objectives of the NCDC in view, the Corporation will not be misused and exploited by any State level co-operatives or any inter-State level organisation of apex society of the co-operatives, but I apprehend there is every chance of the NCDC funds being exploited and misused

[Shri Sanat Kumar Raha]

by these co-operatives. It is because usually such co-operatives are controlled and dictated by vested interest. Though I support the Bill I sound a note of warning in this House that if this national institution, this august body of the NCDC is to create an image about co-operative movement, it should remain out of the clutches of vested interest. In conclusion, though I support the Bill I apprehend that in spite of a good legislation, the infrastructure which is prevailing today, namely the capitalist system of society, will not allow a promotional or developmental atmosphere to be created for the good of the people who are really interested, who are in need of co-operation for their very existence. With these words I conclude and I hope that the Minister will clarify all the points which I have raised.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN (Kerala) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I welcome the principle of co-operation. The principle of co-operation is something which is fundamental for human progress for onward march. But unfortunately the word "co-operation" has been misused by certain vested interest in the country. Unfortunately, the word "co-operation" has become a bad word in the countryside.

Many co-operative societies or so-called co-operative societies are bywords for corruption, inefficiency and bureaucratisation. Unfortunately even the Central and State Governments, who are concerned with promoting co-operatives, have accepted a kind of philosophy that co-operation is the business of a particular department. In various economic and administrative divisions of the Government, in the departments and ministries of the Government, the principle of co-operation is negated, but one department is created exclusively for co-operation. In other words, co-operation has been departmentalised, bureaucratised and kept in a pigeon hole to be practised only by a few. I should have thought that a Government which accepts the principle of co-operation should endeavour to see that this principle is implemented in all the ministries and departments. Unfortunately, you will find in the various substantive economic ministries and departments, the principle of co-operation has not only been negated but it has been trampled under foot. On the contrary, it is the big business, corrupters, black money operators and owners of property who have been given the benefits of governmental finance and assistance. Unfortunately, therefore, if people in this country consider the word co-operation a bad word, it is not because co-operation is bad but it is because of the way in which co-operation has been misused by those who are in power.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra) : Dr. Kurian, why are you wasting your

energy on such a good movement as co-operation ?

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Because I hope that at least Mr. Kulkarni will get educated. My intention is not to educate the Government, but to educate at least Mr. Kulkarni.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : You can educate me, but your political vendetta can be aired against something else, why against the poor co-operatives ?

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : I am going to air it against the sugar co-operatives of Maharashtra also. Please wait.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : Do not personalise it.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : The expert committee which went into this whole question, i.e., the Venkatappiah Committee, submitted its report in October 1971. What did the Committee recommend ? I have tried to tally the content of the recommendations of the expert committee with the spirit of its acceptance as embodied in the Bill. First of all, the Committee said that "the Corporation must be made more effective in future; its autonomy has to be made real, its finances assured and technical services rendered adequate" and so on. I would like to know whether this Bill gives any indication of a corporation whose autonomy is made real. On the contrary, this Bill fortifies all the bureaucratic methods of functioning of public corporations. Sir, I will come back to this later. The Committee also recommended that the NCDC should be enabled to have its own funds, adequate to meet the growing requirements. I would like to know where adequate funds are being made available. In a country where funds are getting scarce, where funds are being misused, I would like to know where the Government has provided funds for this purpose. The Committee has recommended that non-lapsable grant should be provided by the Central Government and the Corporation allowed to have access to other sources, including market borrowings and so on. The Committee further suggested "that the NCDC should be a representative body" mark the word 'representative body'—"at the national level and that it should be so re-constituted as to provide a forum for co-operative and other non-official leadership." I would like to emphasise these two things—a representative body and a body in which non-official leadership is provided. Sir, I have gone through the Bill very carefully. I do not find it has representative character as embodied in the Bill. As for non-official leadership, where is the non-official leadership ? We find a large number of Government officials, bureaucrats, being nominated to the body. The whole body is being staffed by a large number of bureaucrats. I looked for at least one

representative of the organised peasant movement in the country. I looked for one representative of the organised agricultural labour movement in this country. But there is none. These are organised peasant movement and the agricultural labour movement, those who sweat and work and create value in the rural areas, have been kept out of the purview. Non-official 4 P.M. leadership is being given representation. Non-official leadership means only those who maintain their livelihood by this profession called cooperatives, those who go round in this country as professional cooperators. They have been staffed, used and put into this committee. I have no grudge against them. Let them be represented. Those who represent all-India labour cooperative societies, let us believe them. They are making some endeavour. But along with those gentlemen, let there be the authentic representatives of the peasant movement, of the agricultural labour movement. Let the Minister at least reconsider his proposals even at this last moment and provide for some representation to the organised peasant movement and agricultural labour movement in this country. There are a large number of areas where rural cooperation, genuine cooperation, has been attempted. The spirit of cooperation lives in the countryside. But they have been kept outside the purview of the entire Bill.

I go to another point. In the annual report of the National Cooperative Development Corporation it was stated, for instance,—I read from page 9 about the genuineness of marketing societies—"The Corporation pursued with the State Governments to get the bye-laws of the Co-operative Marketing Societies Act amended wherever necessary so as to ensure that the traders are prevented from being elected to the management boards of the marketing societies and that only *bona fide* producers are elected to the management boards of such societies." I would have wished the Minister to tell us what happened with this endeavour by the Corporation. Has the Government made any study about the continued presence of *mala fide* members, traders, blackmarketeers in various cooperative societies? What happened to their proposals? The fact that such a malpractice goes on in many so-called cooperative societies is accepted by the statement in the annual report. I would like to know what has happened to the remedial measures on this question.

Another point I would like to bring to the attention of the Minister is the proposal regarding model schemes. The NCDC has prepared a large number of model schemes, formulated and circulated to the various State Governments. There is a long list. I

would not like to read and exhaust the list. I would like to pinpoint a few items of the list: model scheme for pineapple processing unit; model scheme for mango canning factory; model scheme for tapioca factory; model scheme for ginger processing unit; model scheme for cashewnut processing unit; model scheme for cashew-apple processing unit. I refer to these because these are industries with which I am personally familiar. These are some of the agricultural products which have a great potential in a backward economy State like Kerala. Despite all these model schemes, I do not see at the grass-roots level any evidence of progress in this respect. Valuable cashew and cashew-apple is being destroyed while that should have been used for various processes. The small-scale industries organisations have prepared a large number of patented items. They have prepared schemes. But the schemes are still on paper. I would like to know from the honourable Minister what concretely he has done at least for these items which I have referred to, items which are vital for Kerala, which are vital for many other States in India. What has he done while the cashew industry and cashew workers are in a crisis because of lower wages and unemployment? Here is a potential employment for them for which I would like to know what the NCDC has done.

I would like to refer to one or two points before I conclude. I refer to "cooperation" as a bad word. It is not because I do not want it; I value the principle of cooperation. But unfortunately this picture has emerged because—I have also an example of some of the so-called cooperatives in Maharashtra—the so-called sugar cooperatives in Maharashtra, many of them, are really capitalist ventures, ventures of rich farmers and capitalists calling themselves cooperatives. I went to Punjab and Haryana. I saw there certain co-operatives in wheat production. These are co-operatives of two or three brothers and brothers-in-law, ex-landlords and ex-rich peasants. These people joined together under the provisions of the Cooperative Act and formed themselves into a cooperative society to get the benefits extended to cooperatives. This type of *mala fide* functioning of cooperatives consisting of moneyed people must be stopped with all the force. Unless this is done, cooperatives will vitiate the politics of the Government as the sugar cooperatives in Maharashtra have vitiated the Maharashtra politics. The funds given to such cooperatives in all the States should have been diverted to cooperatives of poor farmers, poor fishermen and poor cashew producers and so on.

I welcome the suggestion in the Bill that the scope of the Act should be widened to include fisheries, dairy and forest produce.

[Dr. K. Mathew Kurian]

But what is the effect of this Act? The same Government which brings this Bill gives licences to Union Carbide, Tatas and Marutis to go to Kerala coastal areas and fish in troubled waters there. In Kerala small producers and medium producers' cooperative societies in fishery are earning crores of rupees worth of foreign exchange for the country. But today I find that the fishery industry in Kerala is being destroyed or taken over or manipulated by monopolies and big business houses including Tatas, Union Carbide, etc. I understand from reliable sources that Maruti also is in the fray. Having bungled in motor car production, Maruti is now interested in something else. The huge amount of Rs. 250 crores provided for in the Fifth Plan for car advances to officers is possibly to support Maruti. Apart from that, Union Carbide and Tatas are trying to scuttle the fishing industry in Kerala which was built up with the sweat and labour of small fishermen. I would like to have an honest and forthright answer from the Minister whether in keeping with the spirit of cooperative movement he is prepared to support the fishery industry of Kerala by barring these big business people from entering the fishing industry. The point is both cannot go together. One Ministry allows big fish to catch small fish. It is said that the big fish lives on the flesh of the small fish. Likewise, one Ministry allows big fish and encourages exploitation by big fish of the small fish and the other Ministry tinkers with that policy and wants to encourage cooperatives. This type of self-contradictory policy will not help anybody. This will not work. Therefore, I want an integrated policy regarding fishery development, agricultural development and development of cooperatives for forest produce. This principle should be accepted not just by one Department, but by all the economic Departments of the Government. Unless, therefore, co-operation is elevated to that level, not only by the Department of Co-operation, but all other Ministries of the Government, this Bill cannot be implemented. It will remain only in paper.

In fact I welcome many provisions in the Bill. I welcome them. But I do not like the idea of bureaucratisation of the whole General Council or the Board of Management. Shri Kulkarni may be happy about it. Some of his friends may become members of the Council. I do not grudge that. But let there at least be some nominal representation, if it is not adequate, to the authentic representatives of peasant movement in this country so that this highest body does not function as a capitalist agency cutting the throat of the real cooperatives and people who work on the principle of cooperation at the grass-root level.

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE (Maharashtra): Sir, I welcome this Bill. I understand

that it seeks to give a democratic set-up to the NCDC. It provides for giving representation to the co-operative societies in the country. But, as my esteemed colleague Dr. Kurian, has pointed out, even the co-operatives are in the hands of the moneyed people. He is right when he says that even in Maharashtra, in the name of cooperatives, many societies are there which are in the hands of these people. When a cooperative is established, it provides an easy way of getting money from the Government and, therefore, persons carrying on their own industries also participate in the activities of the cooperative societies and benefit thereby and they are able to get benefits not only for their own industry, but also in areas where these cooperative societies operate. Therefore, when you want to give a democratic set up and when you have to take representatives from these cooperative societies, I do not think that even one single Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe person will be taken on the General Council which is going to be constituted under the provisions of this Bill because, according to my information, there is hardly any society which is run by the members of the weaker sections of the society. All that I want to say is that even today the cooperative societies are dominated by that section of the society which has monopolised the trade and industry in the country. This is my submission, Sir. Therefore, the object of the Bill, as I understand from the speech of the honourable Minister, is to lay emphasis on giving help to those people who belong to the weaker sections of our society.

Sir, by amending Section 2, the Bill attempts to bring within its purview the planning and promotion programmes for the production, processing, marketing, export and import of agricultural products, foodstuffs and certain other commodities on co-operative principles. It would have been better if the activities had been extended to cooperative farming also. Sir, the problem of poverty, as we understand it, is the problem of poverty of the marginal farmers and it is high time that co-operative farming is introduced so that the farmers having small pieces of land can come together and with the help of the co-operative movement they can not only help in increasing production, but they can also start other subsidiary industries, agro-industries, etc. It would have been better had the Bill provided for co-operative activities in the field of agriculture also. Unfortunately, no such provision is there.

As regards the question of representation on the General Council and also on the Board of Management, it has been very rightly pointed out that the Bill does not provide any representation to the Members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

It is, therefore, desirable to make a specific provision by which representation will also be given to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, so that their interests could also be protected by their representatives. As you know, Sir, all economic activities are monopolised by certain sections of the society and the benefits do not percolate to those who are at the low level. We hope that this institution will help the weaker sections of the society in securing their participation in the cooperative activities.

With these observations, I support the Bill.

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) :** The Minister.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI B. P. MAURYA) :** Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, before I start replying to the questions raised, I would like to extend my heart-felt thanks to all the hon. Members who took part in this debate. I will also like to extend my thanks to all the hon. Members who took interest by sitting in this august House.

जहाँ तक यादव जी का प्रश्न है, यादव जी की दो ही विशेष शंकाएँ हैं। सिद्धान्तः वह इस बिल के विरोध में नहीं। दो ही उनकी आपत्तियाँ हैं। एक यह कि इसका गठन कुछ इस प्रकार का है कि इसमें शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के लोग आ पाएंगे या नहीं और दूसरे, सरकारी लोगों का इसमें ज्यादा पलड़ा भारी लगता है। एक तरह से जो कमेटी की सिफारिश है उसका ध्यान ही रखा गया और दूसरी उनकी एक और चिन्ता है वह यह कि इस बिल के द्वारा जब यह कानून बन जायेगा तो जो शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स जिन क्षेत्रों में रहते हैं उनको वास्तव में कोई सीधा साधा लाभ यह पहुँचा सकेगा ? ये जितने प्रश्न हैं उन सबको मैं साथ-साथ मिला दूँगा। मैं चाहूँगा वह मुझे इजाजत दें मैं सबको एक साथ मिला कर उत्तर दूँ।

Most of the Members have objected to the composition of the body. So far as the composition is concerned, that is being mentioned in clause 4. Some of the objections are that the recommendation was that it should have almost autonomy. But some of the objections that are being raised are that because the officials are there,

so the autonomy is not going to be maintained, which was the idea behind the recommendation of the Committee. I think that is not a correct approach. So far as the official and non-official balance is concerned, out of 51, 25 are non-officials. Some of the Members, especially Shri Yadav and Shri Kumbhare, are having a lot of fear that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes may not have their representation in this body. First of all, I will like to say that this body itself is not the cooperative society. This is a body having been created by the statute of the Parliament, and this will like to see that the very aim for which this body is constituted, is being implemented. My colleague, Mr. Shinde, when he was replying in the hon. Lok Sabha, said that the President and the Vice-President will be the Minister of Agriculture and the State Minister of Agriculture concerned, who will be in charge of co-operation.

I would like to say that it is just possible that the Agriculture Minister himself may be a Scheduled Tribes or a Scheduled Castes man. Therefore, to have this fear that this body will not have any representation of the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes in this democratic set up is without any base. Moreover in sub-clauses (xvi) and (xvii), the Government is supposed to nominate some Members and I may assure the hon. Members concerned who have got this fear in their minds that Government will take into consideration these factors. At that time, representative will be given to those who are in charge of the co-operative movement at the national level in the field of piggyery, poultry farms and fisheries. The Government has to nominate 11 Members and at the time of nomination, these factors will be considered.

**SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE :** If the intention is to give representation to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people, then what is the difficulty in making a statutory provision ?

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA :** As I have submitted, first of all this body will not be a co-operative society. It is being created by the statute for a specific purpose. There is no basis to presume that the lot of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes most of whom are living below the poverty line, will not be improved.

**DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN :** You cannot maintain both the positions. Either you say that there is no need for Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes representation. If you say that there is need and you would consider it, then you are committed to consider.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA : I am trying to be very clear. The first thing is that this body itself is not a cooperative society. This body is the outcome of the statute for a specific purpose. Some hon. Members have the fear in their minds that fisheries will be suffering or the co-operative movement in poultry farming will be suffering or the co-operative movement among the tribals whose lot is worse, will be suffering because the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes representation will not be there. I want to submit to this august House that this body is for a specific purpose and it does not say that that specific purpose can be performed by a particular person belonging to a particular community or section. That is what I want to submit.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (बिहार) : आप गलत हैं। मैं अभी नहीं पूछता हूँ लेकिन बाद में पूछ लूंगा।

संसदीय कार्य विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ओम् मेहता) : अब मत पूछिए, आप बोल चुके हैं।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : बीच में अभी डिस्टर्ब नहीं करना चाहता हूँ लेकिन जो आप कहते हैं वह गलत है। मैं बाद में बता दूंगा।

श्री बी० पी० मौर्य : साक्षात्त विम-प्रमाणम् ? जो साक्षान् है उसके लिए किस प्रमाण की आवश्यकता है यादव जी ?

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : अब मैं आप से पूछना चाहता हूँ। पहले भी मैंने अपने भाषण में बताया था और फिर से कहता हूँ कि शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट डोर शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब के बारे में इसका बेसिक प्रिन्सिपल कहता है कि आपने समाज का जो सबसे कमजोर वर्ग है उसकी प्रगति हो और उसकी प्रगति तब तक नहीं होगी जब तक कि उसका रिप्रेजेंटेशन उसी के कामों में नहीं हो। मैंने आपको अपने स्टेट का उदाहरण दिया।

बिहार में पांच स्टेट लैवल पर कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटियां बनी हुई हैं और उनमें एक भी हरिजन या बंनवासी नहीं है। तो मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या

एक भी हरिजन या बंनवासी इनमें जाने लायक नहीं था ? यही कारण है कि आज इस कम्युनिटी की प्रगति नहीं हो पा रही है ?

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE : Regarding the representation to the Scheduled Castes...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : You have made your points already. The point is clear. The Minister is actually expounding the Government's policy.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA : I was trying to explain the approach of the Government. यादव जी मैं निश्चित पूर्वक इस बात से सहमत नहीं हूँ कि शिडियूल्ड ट्राइब्स का कल्याण शिडियूल्ड ट्राइब्स वाले ही कर सकते हैं और शिडियूल्ड कास्ट का कल्याण शिडियूल्ड कास्ट वाले ही कर सकते हैं और कोई दूसरा नहीं कर सकता है।

As a principle I do not agree but definitely I do agree that they must have due representation and that is what I was saying. When the Government makes the nominations, it will keep these things in mind.

Sir, Dr. Kurian raised the point regarding funds. In the Fourth Five Year Plan, they were to the tune of Rs. 7 to 8 crores per year, and that amount was at the disposal of this institution. And in the Fifth Five Year Plan, they will be having Rs. 86 crores. Moreover, this Corporation will have its own corpus of funds to the tune of Rs. 20 crores. Dr. Kurian was doubtful about the funds. So, this is the position in regard to funds.

Shri Yadav was saying that the weaker sections of the society do not get any help. Sir, according to the Reserve Bank statistics for the co-operative years 1969-70, 1970-71 and 1971-72, about one third of the credit advanced by primary credit societies was for cultivators having land holdings of less than 2 hectares. It is envisaged that through the implementation of various measures, by the end of the Fifth Five Year Plan, such advances to persons holding less than two hectares of land would constitute about 40 per cent of the total advances made. In other words, by 1978-79, out of the total target of Rs. 1200 crores for short-term advances, Rs. 480 crores would be for cultivators with less than two hectares of land. At present,

the loans given to this category, including tenants and agricultural labour during the year 1971-72 was Rs. 181 crores. And a statement giving the state-wise position is with me. The total credit disbursed by cooperatives in Bihar was Rs. 14.64 crores. Mr. Yadav mentioned about Bihar. This was the position about Bihar.

Sir, from the nationalized banks, the small farmers got to the tune of 22.7 per cent out of Rs. 205 crores and from the co-operative banks, they got 30.6 per cent out of a total amount of Rs. 613 crores.

Sir, there was some apprehension about corruption by one or two hon. Members. Corruption is definitely a sin in our national life. But it is not confined to the co-operative movement only. We should see that it is eradicated. But because of the fear of corruption, we should not leave a good thing aside, and the co-operative movement should not suffer. I agree that we should see that co-operative movement moves in such a way that corruption is completely eradicated. For a developing society co-operative movement is a blessing in disguise. That is the only way in which we can improve the lot of the tribals, lot of the Scheduled Castes most of whom are agricultural labourers and farmers, that too farmers of small holdings having less than 5 acres of land. With these submissions, Sir, I would like to request that the Bill may be passed.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : I asked about model schemes. Is something being done ?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : Now, I will put the motion.

The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the National Co-operative Development Corporation, Act, 1962, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : We shall not take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 to 16 were added to the Bill.*

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

SHRI B. P. MAURYA : Sir, I move :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The question was proposed.*

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Sir, I want to know whether there is any provision regarding labour co-operatives in the General Council or whether a provision to

that effect at the State level or the national level will be made in future..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : Yes, Shri J. P. Yadav.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आज कोओपरेटिव जो निहित स्वार्थ वालो से ग्रसित है उससे उसको छुटकारा दिलाने का भी कोई उपाय आपने सोचा है ? दूसरे राज्य स्तर पर पिछड़े वर्ग बनवासी और हरिजन को परिषद् में कैसे स्थान दिलाएंगे। अभी तो कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। आगे क्या करने वाले हैं ? आज भी कोओपरेटिव्स ओवरड्यू लोन्स से परेशान हैं। उसको कैसे कम करेंगे ? दुग्ध योजना का विस्तार गांव गांव कैसे हो ? मछुओं को आधुनिक साधनों से कैसे युक्त करेंगे ? जापान में मछुए आधुनिक साधनों से युक्त हैं और वे समुद्र में काफी मछलियां पकड़ते हैं। सहकारिता राज्य का विषय है उसमें आपका किस प्रकार इंटरफरेंस होगा जिससे लाभ हो ? छोटे छोटे किसानों की बात आपने की। लैंड मार्गेंज बैंक में एक पैसा भी किसी हरिजन को, बनवासी को नहीं मिला है। आपने सिर्फ बहुधर्मी कोओपरेटिव समितियों की बात कही है। इस बिल में यह नहीं है कि किसी खास जाति को देने से उस जाति का उत्थान होगा। मैं भी इस बात को मानता हूँ कि सभी जातियों के लिए हो लेकिन इनको भी स्थान मिले। बिहार में 5 स्टेट लेवल संगठन हैं लेकिन उनमें एक भी हरिजन या बनवासी नहीं है। क्या आपने सोच लिया है कि उनको न रहने दें ?

श्री बी० पी० मौर्य : श्रीमन् वैसे तो विशेषतः कहने को कुछ भी नहीं है। इस बिल के कानून बन जाने के पश्चात् निश्चय पूर्वक ही आपकी समस्याओं का हल निकलेगा।

जहां तक यह कहना है कि विशेष जाति का नहीं होना चाहिए श्रीमन् इस बिल में कहीं भी ऐसा नहीं लिखा हुआ है कि शूडूल्ड



कास्ट का या शैड्यूल ट्राइब का नहीं होगा ।  
• बल्कि उसके लिए तो रास्ते खुले हुए हैं ।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : माननीय मंत्री जी इसमें लिखा हुआ है कि वह नहीं होगा । आप इसको साबित करने के लिए कहते हैं तो मैं साबित कर सकता हूँ । ऐनक्सर 1 देख लीजिए लेंड मार्ट्गेज बैंक के लिए लिखा है कि शैड्यूल कास्ट का सदस्य भी नहीं हो सकता है और उसको रिप्रेजेंटेशन नहीं मिल सकता है । आप चाहते हैं तो मैं सारी चीजें कह सकता हूँ ।

श्री बी० पी० मोर्य : जिस भावना को लेकर आप रोप प्रकट करते हैं उसका मैं आदर करता हूँ । लेकिन निश्चयपूर्वक आप विश्वास करिये कि जहां तक इस बिल का सवाल है इसमें कहीं भी नहीं है । बल्कि आप देखेंगे और स्वयं मैंने कहा है कि आपके सामने एक चीज मौजूद है आप देखेंगे कि इसमें शैड्यूल कास्ट और शैड्यूल ट्राइबज के लिए यही नहीं कि वह नान आफिशियल में हों आफिशियल्स में भी आप उनको देखेंगे ।

मैं आप को निश्चयपूर्वक विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस बात का ध्यान रखेगी कि जो अनिसर्वहारा है उनका रिप्रेजेंटेशन इसमें अवश्य हो । लेकिन मैं

इस सिद्धान्त से बिलकुल इतिफाक नहीं करता कि शैड्यूल कास्ट ही शैड्यूल कास्ट का कल्याण कर सकता है और शैड्यूल ट्राइब ही शैड्यूल ट्राइबज का कल्याण कर सकता है ।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : मेरा जवाब नहीं मिला ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बी० बी० राजू) : आपको विश्वास मिल गया है ।

The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned till 6.15 P.M.

The House reassembled at fifteen minutes past six of the clock, (Mr. Deputy Chairman) in the Chair.

THE BUDGET (GENERAL) 1974-75

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Y. B. Chavan, I beg to lay on the Table a statement (in English and Hindi) of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India for the year 1974-75.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjournment till 11.00 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at sixteen minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 1st March, 1974.