

year back the Labour Directorate was entrusted with the work of verification of the membership of the different unions at the Paradeep port and may I know what is their report and when he got it?

SHRI CM. POONACHA: The report of the officer at the Paradeep port after conducting the verification has been received by the Labour Commissioner in Deihi in the Ministry of Labour and Employment. He has carried out the verification and it is found that one particular union has the largest membership.

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS: What is the name of that Union?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: The Paradeep Port Workers' Union.

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS: May I know from the hon. Minister when the Paradeep Port Workers' Union affiliated to the H.M.S. has been found after verification to have the largest membership why have they not recognised it? And when did they receive the Report from the Labour Commissioner?

SHRI CM. POONACHA: This was about two months back and the matter is under consideration.

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS: May I know whether the Transport Ministry referred this matter to the Labour Directorate and when they have got this Report, why are they still delaying?

SHRI CM. POONACHA: The matter is under consideration and there is no question of any delay.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: The point is, we have received reports that discrimination is practised in the matter of recognition of Union and in view of this fact that the Government makes it a point to give recognition only to the INTUC union may I know whether this verification procedure would be strictly gone into or whether unions with bogus membership and with no influence would be given recognition? Here when it is the H.M.S. union that

is concerned the matter has been delayed. May I know when the decision will be taken, in another month or within two weeks, when exactly?

SHRI CM. POONACHA: As early as possible; perhaps before the year is out, I hope.

\*257. [The questioner (Shri M. V. Bhadram) was absent. For answer vide cols. 4054-4055 infra.]

#### BAN ON COW-SLAUGHTER

\*524. SHRI D. THENGARL: SHRI V. M. CHORDIA: SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD PAHADIA; SHRI N. R. M. SWAMY: SHRI NIRANJAN VARMA: SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION be pleased to state the steps so far taken and also those proposed to be taken in future by the Government of India to ban cow-slaughter in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### STATEMENT

The subject 'Cow Slaughter' falls in the State List and not in the Union or Concurrent List. State Legislatures have exclusive power to make law with respect to the same under Article 246(3) of the Constitution. The following States have already imposed total ban on cow slaughter: —

1. Bihar.
2. Gujarat.
3. Madhya Pradesh.
4. Maharashtra (in the Vidarbha Region).
5. Mysore.
6. Orissa.

fThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri D. Thengari.

7. Punjab.
8. Rajasthan.
9. Uttar Pradesh.
10. Jammu and Kashmir.

Partial ban, that is, ban on the slaughter of young and useful cows has been introduced in the States of Andhra Pradesh in Telangana region, (2) Assam, (3) Madras, (4) Maharashtra in the former Bombay area and (5) West Bengal.

2. In pursuance of the announcement made on the 23rd August, 1966 in the Lok Sabha by the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation, the Chief Secretaries of Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Madras, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Kerala, Pondicherry, Nagaland and Goa, Daman and Diu, were addressed by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation on 31-8-1966, bringing to their notice the desirability of implementing the directive contained in Article 48 of the Constitution. The Minister of Home Affairs addressed Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, Maharashtra on 6-10-1966 and to the Chief Ministers of Himachal Pradesh, Goa, Daman and Diu and Tripura on 10-10-66 advising them to enact legislation for prevention of cow slaughter in their areas. The Home Minister again addressed on 28th October 66 the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Madras, Assam, West Bengal and Maharashtra for early legislation on the subject of cow slaughter. The Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs (Union Territories) also addressed a letter to the Lt. Governor, Delhi and the Administrator, Dadar and Nagar Haveli and Goa, Daman and Diu, advising them to enact legislation on the lines of X.J.P. Prevention of Cow Slaughter Act, 1955.

3. As announced by the Minister of Home Affairs in the Lok Sabha on 4th November 1966, the Ministry of Home Affairs is considering the question of undertaking appropriate legislation in so far as Union Territories are concerned. Himachal Pradesh is considering the matter. Tripura and Pon-

dicherry are thinking of legislation on the lines of Uttar Pradesh Prevention of Cow Slaughter Act. The Gujarat Law will be extended to Dadar and Nagar Haveli with suitable modifications. For Andamans, a regulation on the lines of U.P. Act will issue. In Manipur, cows are not slaughtered in Manipur Valley under Darbar Resolution 1936 and Manipur Administration will maintain status *quo*. For Chandigarh, the Punjab Law relating to Prevention of Cow Slaughter applies. Goa, Daman and Diu Government has expressed disinclination to adopt legislation for prevention of cow slaughter. In Delhi cow, calves or bullocks are not permitted for slaughter under Slaughter-house Byelaws of the Delhi Municipal Corporation. The Uttar Pradesh Prevention of Cow Slaughter Act will be extended to Delhi.

SHRI D. THENGARI: In view of the fact that the Central Government is convinced of the desirability of banning cow slaughter why does the Government not introduce an amendment in the Constitution to that effect?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Madam, there is no proposal to amend the Constitution for this purpose. After full consideration at the time of making the Constitution we came to the conclusion that this subject should be a State subject and it was for very valid reasons. There is no change in those reasons to change it now.

SHRI D. THENGARI: The Central Government is convinced of the desirability and many of the State Governments have already legislated on this. It is only a question of a few State Governments. What steps do the Government propose to take to bring the rest of the States also in line with the others? Unless there is an amendment of the Constitution in what other way will the remaining States be brought in line?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: By persuasion if necessary.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: May I know whether the Committee of Ex-

perts appointed by the Cabinet in 1954 went into the question, and decided that the total banning of cow slaughter would be injurious to the economy of the country and would be prejudicial to the health of the limited stock of healthy cattle in the country? May I also know whether a year later the Animal Husbandry Wing of the Board of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry arrived at the same decision and said that the banning of cow slaughter would be injurious to the economy of the country and would be injurious also in other respects? Now, in view of these two decisions of the Committee of Experts set up by the Cabinet and the other one . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think you cannot make a statement. You please ask a question which must be brief and specific.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: In view of these findings, will the Minister say that they would still stick to the fa-dish insistence by a certain section of the people that a total ban on cow slaughter should be immediately made in different States?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Madam, no doubt there is the expert view, but there is also the sentiment of the people, which will have to be taken into consideration. A balance has been struck in the Directive Principles of the Constitution and it is in accordance with it that we are taking action.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I ask the Food Minister directly whether . . .

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Not directly, but through the Chair.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I ask the Minister through you directly whether his Ministry was consulted before the Government took a decision to advocate total ban on cow slaughter, in view of the findings of the two Study Teams on the subject?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: It is the Government's decision. Therefore, separate Ministries do not come into the picture.

j

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA: I would like to know the names of the States which have so far not accepted the cow slaughter ban and have not passed any legislation to that effect. Further, may I know whether in respect of the States which have passed laws banning cow slaughter, these laws are similar to one another, or there is some difference between them?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: There are some differences between legislation and legislation, taking into account the local circumstances. A total ban on cow slaughter has been introduced in Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra in the Vidarbha Region, Mysore, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, U.P. and Jammu and Kashmir. A partial ban, i.e., ban on the slaughter of young and useful cows has been introduced in the States of Andhra Pradesh in Telangana region, Assam, Madras, Maharashtra in the former Bombay area and West Bengal. In Kerala and Nagaland I think there is no legislation.

SHRI N. R. M. SWAMY: The primary obligation of the State is to establish an organisation for agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines with a view to preserving and improving the breed and then only take steps towards slaughtering cows or draught cattle. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has taken steps to see that agriculture and animal husbandry are organised on a scientific basis.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Yes, we have made it during all this Plan period.

**श्री राजनारायण :** क्या सरकार इस बात में अवगत है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में जो कानून बना है, उस कानून के अंतर्गत गोवध निषेध नहीं है, पका पकाया गोमांस हवाई जहाज के अड्डे पर, स्टेशनों पर, लाया जा सकता है और कुछ पशुओं को डाक्टरी परीक्षा के बाद काटने की इजाजत दी जा सकती है ? क्या इसकी जानकारी सरकार को है ?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: There we should make a distinction between

cow slaughter and the slaughter of useless cow. Useless stock is allowed to be slaughtered and to the extent people are prepared to take that meat, perhaps that is being served. We cannot stand in the way of people eating that sort of meat. I think we have to make a distinction between what is prescribed in the Constitution and what is started as a religious movement. The whole thing has got mixed up with religion today. That is why it becomes difficult also for the Government to take any action, because it would look as if we are departing from the secular aspect of it. Religion is getting mixed and religious leaders are getting mixed up with it and as long as it is mixed up I do not think we can take rational action in this matter.

SHRI D. THENGARI: In order to ascertain public opinion on this point, is the Government prepared to have a referendum?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: This question does not arise at all. After all, the Constitution lays down certain principles and we have to take action accordingly.

\*525. *The questioner (Shri Mahabir Dass) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 4055-4056. infra.]*

\*526. *[The questioner (Shrimati Tara Ramchandra Sathe) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 4057-4058.]*

\*390. *[The questioners (Shri M. V. Bhadram and Shri P. K. Kumaran) were absent. For answer, vide cols. 4057-4058 infra.]*

#### **'HELP INDIA' DRIVE IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES**

\*527. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FOOD, AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of countries which started 'Help India' drive in 1966;

(b) whether any help was received in 1966 from any of these countries as a result of this drive; and

(c) whether any protest was lodged to any country for the manner in which 'Help India' drive was carried on in those countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON): (a) to (c) In some countries, such as Belgium, Netherlands, Italy, West Germany, Austria, Spain, New Zealand, Iran and Lebanon campaigns were launched by non-official organizations in those countries to raise funds for food relief to India. A statement showing the help received by the Government of India from these as well as other countries has already been placed on the Table of the Sabha on 21st November, 1966 in reply to Starred Question No. 286.

It came to Government's notice that a distorted picture of scarcity conditions was being painted in some of the countries. Our Missions abroad were therefore requested to put across in the countries concerned our food problem in its proper perspective and to correct any distorted portrayal of our food situation. No protest was lodged with any country, as efforts to raise funds were made out of goodwill for India.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know from the hon. Minister whether such 'Help India' drives were made in those countries at the request of the Indian Government or they were made by the countries of their own accord?

SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON: They took these steps of their own accord.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know from the hon. Minister whether he has seen some posters of some countries where India has been shown as going round the world with a begging bowl for collecting foodgrains and, if such posters have been seen by the hon. Minister, why no protest was lodged?

SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON: I have already said that it came to Government's notice that a distorted picture