

Parikh for the production of more long staple cotton and I hope, just as he hopes, when the Bhakra-Nangal irrigation starts, we will be in a position to produce all the long staple that we need. One of the points which has been repeated by my hon. friend Mr. Kishen Chand is about what system of taxation we should follow. It is more for the Finance Ministry to decide this. I don't mind if I get a lump sum grant from the Finance Ministry or through cess so long as I am in a position to carry on, but this system of cesses, has, I repeat, not been found unsatisfactory. I don't know where my friend has discovered irritation. I have not come across any irritation on the part of anybody.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: From his own brain.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: There was one point which my friend made previously also as to why should I be in a hurry to bring this Bill to give this representation to these various States at this moment. We don't know how long it will take. We don't know also how the reorganisation will take place. After all, the representation given is with respect to particular areas. Those areas are not going to disappear even if there is any kind of reorganisation of States. So I don't think there is anything inopportune or unwise in coming before this House at this stage mentioning which particular States should have representation. Moreover, even after reorganisation, we can do it merely by an Adaptation Order. If we have this passed now I need not take up any more time of the House later on by bringing in a number of amendments.

श्री कन्हैयालाल दूँ० बेंच : मेरा एक प्रश्न है.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No speech now.

श्री कन्हैयालाल दूँ० बेंच : मंत्री महोदय से मैं केवल यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने यह

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कहा कि जो व्यवस्था ईस्ट इंडिया काटन एसोसियेशन की है उससे देश में किसानों को नुकसान पहुँचा। श्री पारिख ने भी कुछ सुझाव दिए। ताँ क्या सरकार उस स्थिति का अंत करने के लिए कोई जांच समिति बनाएगी और यह देखेंगी कि किसानों के हितों के विरुद्ध कोई काम नहीं होना चाहिए ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : मैंने नुकसान की बात तो नहीं कही है। इससे भाव में कमी हो गई, इतनी बात मैंने बतलाई।

श्री कन्हैयालाल दूँ० बेंच : मेरा सुझाव है कि क्या सरकार जांच कमीशन बिठाएगी और उसकी सिफारिशों को मंजूर करेगी ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : इस वक्त तो मेरे लिए उसका जवाब देना मशकल है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

THE INDIAN LAC CESS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1955

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH) : Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Lac Cess Act, 1930, be taken into consideration."

Sir, here also the main reason why these amendments are proposed is the view expressed in Parliament that the legislatures should have representation on these committees and that inadequate representation of the growers should also be rectified. There was also the other reason for which the amendment was necessary namely,

(Dr. P. S. Deshmukh.) as in the case of the previous Act, in this Act also, the Part B and Part C States were omitted from being given representation, because at the time of those Acts there was the British India and the Indian States and so these Part B and Part C States did not find a place there. So taking advantage of this opportunity when we were to bring in provisions for giving representation to legislatures and for enhancing the representation of the growers, we have proposed giving representation to these various States which were not represented before.

Here my hon. friend Mr. Govinda Reddy will be pleased to find that we have given effect to his suggestion that we should not assign representation to particular organisations or chambers but that the Central Government should nominate the representatives. We have differentiated between the two Bills in respect of the various associations and chambers because we found that these chambers and associations to which representation was given under the Lac Cess Act were not very well established, unlike those in the case of cotton. Therefore, so far as these are concerned, we have taken the power in our hands to nominate as their representatives such persons as are approved by us, rather than give these organisations the authority to nominate them. We have increased the strength of the Governing Body from 15 to 24 by adding 9 more members, of whom 3 are to come from Parliament. We have also proposed that the chairman of the Advisory Board should be nominated under sub-section (2). Instead of 6 members to represent the cultivators of lac, to be nominated by the Central Government, 1 for West Bengal, 1 for Uttar Pradesh, 1 for Madhya Pradesh, 1 for Assam and 2 for Bihar, we have increased the number to 9, giving representation as follows: 1 for Assam, 3 for Bihar, 2 for Madhya Pradesh, 1 for Orissa, 1 for West Bengal and 1 for Vindhya Pradesh.

By this amendment we have been able to give Bihar which produces about 10 per cent of the lac produced in our country, the largest representation. And in the last category under sub-section (4) 2 members were to be nominated by the Central Government, of whom one at least shall represent the lac consuming industries in India. Instead of that, in this Bill we propose that 4 members should be nominated by the Central Government, one of whom shall be a scientist, one shall represent the cultivators of lac in States, other than those referred to in clause (vii) in which lac is cultivated, one shall represent the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and one shall represent the Ministry of Finance.

I think there is nothing controversial about this Bill which is merely trying to give effect to the wishes expressed in this House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Lac Cess Act, 1930, be taken into consideration."

DR. P. C. MITRA (Bihar): Sir, I submit that this Bill is very defective in the sense that mechanised factories are given more representation than ordinary indigenous lac factories. There are as many as 400 indigenous lac factories and there are only two mechanised factories. But these two factories get 3 representatives and the 400 indigenous factories get only one representative. This is actually inconsistent with the recommendation of the Bihar Shellac Enquiry Committee which was formed in 1953 and which submitted its report to Government in September 1953. They recommended that the former Indian Lac Cess Act is not suitable for present needs and that it should be changed suitably. They discovered many defects in that measure. They felt that the creation of a committee named the Indian Lac Cess Committee was solely for the collection of funds

and they felt that in order to extend the scope and functions of the whole organisation, it should be reconstituted and they have suggested that the Title to that Act should be modified as follows:

"An Act to provide for development and regulation of the cultivation, manufacture, marketing, collection of statistics and propaganda for the consumption of lac and its processed products, and for this purpose to establish a Central Lac Regulation Board and levy a cess on its exports from India."

The Committee suggests that the name of the Indian Lac Cess Committee may be replaced by "Central Lac Regulation Board" and it should be financed by a cess on the export of lac from India. The Committee suggests the following representation:

"We suggest that the Central Lac Board, when formed, should have—

- (1) either a Minister or a Deputy Minister or a Minister of State as Chairman;
- (2) a Principal/Administrative Officer who may be a whole-time salaried officer and may be styled as the Vice-Chairman on the lines of the constitution of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research; and
- (3) the Secretary to the Board may exercise such powers and perform such duties as may be prescribed or as may be delegated by the Board or the Chairman.

The Board should consist of the following: —

- (a) Four representatives of the State Governments concerned referred to in paragraph 150 and two of the Central Government.

- (b) Six members representing the cultivators of lac nominated by the State Governments concerned.
- (c) Four members representing indigenous manufacturers to be appointed in accordance with the rules framed by the Central Government.
- (d) One member representing the manufacturers of the mechanized shellac factories to be nominated by the Central Government.
- (e) Two members representing shellac export trade to be appointed in accordance with the rules framed by the Central Government.
- (f) One member representing the Shellac Brokers in Calcutta to be appointed in accordance with the rules to be framed by the Central Government.
- (g) One member representing the lac consuming industries in India to be appointed by the Central Government.
- (h) Four members representing the labour, one of which should be an officer of the Labour Department of the Government of India."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is it that you are reading from, Dr. Mitra?

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA (Bihar): Report of the Committee appointed by the Government of Bihar on lac.

DR. P. C. MITRA: Report on lac.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE (West Bengal): Who was the Chairman of the Committee?

DR. P. C. MITRA: Shri Bin^da-nandan Jha, a Minister.

[Dr. P. C. Mitra.]

"(i) Chairmen of different sub-committees constituted by the Board.

(j) Such other person or class of persons not exceeding four who, in the opinion of the Central Government, ought to be represented on the Board.

Functions of the Central Lac Board

The functions of the Lac Board, with suitable modifications, should correspond, more or less, to Section 10 of the Tea Act. With regard to the collection of statistics, powers given to the Tea Board under clause 7 of the Tea Act or authorised under the Indian Statistics Act may be given to the Lac Board and it shall be a statutory Board. One other very important function which could be entrusted to the Central Lac Board is the study of the need of the consumers and the expansion of market, both foreign and internal".

These are the recommendations and they should be considered.

श्री ४० कि० प्र० सिंह : उपसभापति महोदय, यह लाख का रोजगार, वह लाख का उद्योग, चन्द साल से बड़ी बुरी गह से गुजर रहा है।

डा० पी० एस० दशमुख : इस साल अच्छा हुआ।

श्री ४० कि० प्र० सिंह : इस साल अच्छा हुआ, लेकिन चन्द साल से इसमें मंदी आई हुई है। पहले यह लाख विदेशों में जाता था, खासकर संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका में इसकी बड़ी खपत होता थी। जब कोरिया की लड़ाई शुरू हुई तब वहाँ जो सामान इकट्ठा करने लगे, स्टाक पाइल करने लगे, तो उस वक्त कुछ इस रोजगार में चढ़ाव आया और लोगों को फायदा हुआ। लेकिन जब वह अध्याय खत्म हो गया और खासकर यूनाइटेड स्टेट्स में जब लोगों ने सिंथेटिक लाख की

तरह की काँई चीज निकाल ली, तब से वहाँ से लाख का निर्यात बहुत कम हो गया है। मेरे जिले में काफी लाख होता है। मैंने चन्द साल पहले जिन बाजारों को और जिन कस्बों को काफी सुखी और सम्पन्न पाया था, अब मैंने यह देखा कि उनकी तरक्की तनज्जुली में बदल गई है।

मेरा ख्याल है कि यह कमेटी अन्वेषण या रिसर्च में काफी ध्यान दे ताकि यह उद्योग मंदी में न पड़े। इसका मेरे ख्याल से एक ही उपाय है कि हम इस देश के अन्दर ऐसे रास्ते निकालें जिनसे यहाँ के दूसरे उद्योग-धन्धों में लाख की खपत हो और तब ही हमारा यह उद्योग ठीक तौर से चल सकता है। तो मैं पहला सुझाव यह देता हूँ कि इंटरनल मार्केट, भीतरी बाजार, को बढ़ाने की कोशिश की जाय।

इसके लिए मैं यह भी समझता हूँ कि अगर सेस बढ़ाना भी पड़े तब भी कुछ नाजायज नहीं होगा। चन्द लोगों का यह ख्याल है कि बहुत तरह के करों से अच्छा है कि एक ही कर लगाया जाय। लेकिन हमारे संविधान में सेस, ड्यूटीज और टैक्सेज दिये हुये हैं जिनको आप कर कह सकते हैं। अंग्रेजी में इनको इम्पोस्ट कहते हैं। तो तीन तरह के इम्पोस्ट हमारे संविधान में माने गये हैं। जनरल टैक्सेज आम खर्च के लिए लगाये जाते हैं और ड्यूटीज भी इसीलिए लगाई जाती हैं। लेकिन सेस का मतलब यह होता है कि वह खास काम के लिए लगाया जाय और खास काम में खर्च हो। जब एक खास काम के लिए यानी लाख की तरक्की के लिए पैसा उगाहा जा रहा है, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सेस का लगाना बुरा नहीं है। हमारा संविधान प्रत्येक राज्य को और यूनिशन को इस प्रकार के अधिकार देता है। दूसरे मंत्र यह भी सुझाव है कि अगर इसकी तरक्की के लिए सेस को बढ़ाना भी पड़े तो हमारे मंत्री उसमें आनाकानी न करें क्योंकि यह अच्छा होगा बजाय इसके कि लोग अभी सेस न दें और चन्द साल बाद अपनी दुकानें बन्द करके बैठ जायें।

इन चन्द शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, if I were to describe the purport of this amending Bill in one sentence, it is to widen the scope of the Lac Cess Act of 1930. Beyond that, it does not do anything else. The representation is going to be increased which is but natural because no nominated person should, in future, sit on organisations which belong to the public and which should have representatives of their own. Unfortunately our people are not yet so much advanced as to organise themselves into guilds and groups and professions and to be able to send their own representatives, but then they are learning to do it, and a time is soon to come and is sure to come when these intermediaries and interlopers who are representing other persons having no capacity to represent them will no longer be necessary to be nominated or appointed, and genuine representative^a pertaining to those organisations which are entitled to send their representatives will be forthcoming. Sir, the number of representatives, according to the amendment, is to be^b raised from 15 to 24 and that, as I said, is a happy augury and this Sovereign Parliament is also going to be given a representation in this inasmuch as 3 Members of the Parliament will also be selected, 2 from the Lok Sabha and 1 from the Rajya Sabha. Now, it is obvious that only those who have experience of this thing will be nominated, and in this way Parliament will also be responsible for the failure or success of the lac business on the Committee to which these representatives will be appointed.

Now, the Central Government or the Central Parliament is only a supervisory body because the actual work is done in the States. So with this fact before me and without having any knowledge of any ministerial post, I venture to hazard a suggestion

to the hon. the Minister for Agriculture and it is this that he should be watchful of the activities of the States so far as each and every item of his Ministry is concerned. The *function* and the duty of a Central Minister does not terminate by his presiding over his own Ministry and by proposing and sponsoring Bills in Parliament. His duties and functions are far more spacious and wide and a very vigilant and watchful eye is to be kept on the activities of the States because it is the States that do the actual work. Take the case of the lac production. Now, may I know how far or by what percentage the production of lac has increased during the last ten years? I do not think there has been any increase in production. It is a cultivable commodity; it can be increased; it can be expanded, but there has been very little expansion, if any. Now if we produce more lac we can export it and we can earn a large amount of money. In so far as ours is an agricultural country anything that pertains to being produced from land should be made use of by us and in this way and in other ways pertaining to land our country can grow richer and more prosperous. So, I would beg of the hon. Minister for Agriculture to pay special attention to expansion, more extensive production of lac and its export, and in this way he will be doing a really good service to the ministerial post that he occupies.

Sir, the number of representatives being raised from 15 to 24 makes the Lac Cess Committee more broad-based and it is obvious that we can expect better results from the Committee during the coming years. Now, I would repeat that we should adopt here and now measures for the production of lac on a very extensive scale so that this commodity which is needed for internal use as well as being fit for being exported is produced in a much larger quantity. As we all know, Sir, the womenfolk of the countryside of India wear lac bangles, and lac is as much needed for internal use as it is for the pur-

[Shri H. P. Saksena.] poses of export. The womenfolk of the countryside take it as an auspicious thing for them to wear bangles made of lac. Unfortunately, these bangles are also being replaced by bangles made of some very artificial material, plastics or something like that, the name of which I do not know, but then the countryside is still clinging to that old practice because it is considered auspicious to wear them. This, I would submit, should be an object of propaganda by the Ministry of Agriculture so that it may find more use in the countryside. Sir, the object of the Bill is commendable and, therefore, I support it heartily.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND (Hyderabad) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have only a few words to say in connection with this Bill. As compared to the previous Bill this is retrograde in the respect that here there is no election at all. In the Cotton Cess Bill at least there were 8 people elected by the various chambers of commerce but in this case except for the 3 Members of Parliament everybody else is nominated. Even the representatives from the States are to be nominated by the Central Government without consulting the States concerned because there is no mention of that in this Bill. In the previous Bill it was stated "in consultation with the State Governments concerned", but here the 9 members to represent the cultivators of lac are to be nominated by the Central Government, 1 from Assam, 3 from Bihar and so on, without consulting the State Governments concerned. So I would request the hon. Minister to have the representatives of the States elected by the local legislatures. Why should the Central Government nominate them without consulting the local legislatures?

Then, Sir, this is quite a different article. Now, cotton is grown on land while shellac is a thing which is grown on trees and it is a by-product, and the use of shellac also is quite different from the use of cotton. There it was an article of local consumption

with the home market ready to consume as much as we produced. There is even an expanding market which demanded a greater production of cotton. This is an article which is principally used or was formerly principally used; in the manufacture of gramophone records and in the manufacture of certain articles which, melt at a low temperature and yet become very hard and have a hard surface at the normal temperature and this article, as has been pointed out by a previous speaker, was formerly imported by U.S.A. from our country. They are now producing a synthetic article which resembles shellac and is produced at a much cheaper price, and, therefore, Sir, by having an Indian Lac Cess (Amendment) Bill and using the small amount collected by the cess in research, I do not think we are really helping the lac industry. A much bigger grant is needed from the Government to really carry on greater research in, the better utilisation of lac in our own-country, and until and unless we can utilise at least 70 to 80 per cent of our production in our own country, the future of the shellac industry is: very dark, because foreign countries are now manufacturing synthetic articles and they are not going to import shellac from our country.

The hon. Member who preceded me pointed out that shellac is used for colouring bangles used in the rural areas and asked the hon. Minister to devote all his energies towards propagating the use of those bangles. I beg to disagree with the hon. Member. I do not think that any amount of propaganda carried on by the hon. Minister will make the lac bangles popular in our countryside. Unless we can find industrial uses for shellac in our country and unless we develop the export market it is difficult for the producers of shellac to make any money out of it.

Therefore, I will once more request the hon. Minister to change the composition and introduce more elective element into it; and secondly, as far

as possible to remove this cess on every small industry. This is a very small industry; the whole production of shellac is worth only a few crores of rupees in our country and, therefore, to levy a cess on it will cause great hardship to the producers". We have the National Laboratories and we spend large sums of money running into lakhs on pure research. Why should we not add this research on lac to one of these big laboratories that we have set up in the country? Why should we collect this cess to Teally carry on research? Then, Sir, as I said, more elective element must be introduced in this Bill.

श्री कन्हैयालाल दौंडो बंधू (मध्य भारत) : उपसभापति महोदय, मुझे इस विषय में कुछ अधिक कहना नहीं है। जैसा कि माननीय श्री किशनचन्द जी ने कहा और श्री सक्सेना जी की सूचना है कि दश में जो महिलाएँ हैं वे लाख की चीड़ियाँ पहनना पसन्द नहीं करती या उनके लिए विशेष गुंजायश नहीं है। तो मैं उनकी जानकारी में यह ला दना चाहता हूँ कि अब भी लाख की चीड़ियों को वही स्थान प्राप्त है जो पहले था और आज भी शुभ प्रसंगों में जब तक लाख की चीड़ियाँ न हों तब तक विवाह आदि का वह शुभ प्रसंग पूरा नहीं होता है.....

डा० रघुनाथ प्रसाद दुबे (मध्य प्रदेश) : मध्य भारत, राजस्थान आदि में होता होगा।

श्री कन्हैयालाल दौंडो बंधू : विन्ध्य प्रदेश में भी होता है क्योंकि विन्ध्य प्रदेश में लाख का उत्पादन अधिक होता है।

इस नाते से मैं उन्हें यह बताना चाहूंगा कि वास्तव में लाख के उपयोग के विषय में बहुत सी ऐसी चीजें हैं कि जिनका दैनिक जीवन से सम्बन्ध रहता है और इसलिए गांमांछांग को उन्नति देने के लिए, जहां बहुत सी जगहों में सस्त तरीके पर लाख की सुन्दर वस्तुएँ बनाई जा सकती हैं और उनके लिए काफी मार्केट में भी गुंजायश है, हमको इस उद्योग को अधिकाधिक बढ़ाने का प्रयत्न करना चाहिए। किन्तु आज स्थिति यह है कि लाख के उत्पादन में कमी

होती जा रही है और इस प्रकार उन लोगों के लिए जिनका जीवन लाख की सुन्दर वस्तुएँ बना बना कर चलता था, उन कलाकारों और कारीगरों के लिए कोई व्यवस्था नहीं रही है। यह ठीक है कि आज हम कानूनों के अंदर बड़ी-बड़ी इंडस्ट्री कायम करके शहरों में कुछ लोगों को काम-धंधे दें, मजदूरी दें, लेकिन गांवों की इकोनोमी को मजबूत बनाने के लिए अगर आपको कुछ करना है तो वहां के लोगों को ऐसी वस्तुएँ उपलब्ध करा के धंधे खोलने में सहायता दीजिये। वास्तव में लाख का उद्योग ऐसा उद्योग है कि इसके उत्पादन करने में जिन लोगों को आप लगाएंगे उनको आप रोजी देंगे, उनको भी मजदूरी मिलेगी और इस दिशा में जो गांमांछांग के छोट-छोट धंधे हैं उनमें पुराने तरीके पर लाख का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि प्राचीन समय से ही हमारे देश में लाख की तमाम उपयोगी वस्तुएँ बनती आई हैं। जन्ता आज भी उन वस्तुओं की पसन्द करती है और उनका स्वागत करती है। यह भी ठीक है कि आज की चकाचौंध की दुनिया में कांच की और दूसरी प्लास्टिक की चीजों का चलन, जो कि बाहर की नकल है, भारतीय लोगों में बढ़ता जा रहा है और अगर दहातों के प्राचीन उद्योगों और धंधों के तरीकों और उनसे तैयार वस्तुओं का विस्तार नहीं किया जायगा तो हमारे गांवों, हमारे दहातों में भी उस चीज में फँसने का डर है और उससे वहां की इकोनोमी नष्ट हो जायगी क्योंकि अब तक दहात का जो पैसा था वह दहात में ही रह जाता था परन्तु जब देश विदेशों की वस्तुएँ बेखरीदने लगेंगे तो उनका पैसा वहीं चला जायगा। तो इसलिए वास्तव में इस देश की प्रगति के लिए यह लाख का धंधा एक बहुत आवश्यक धंधा है और इससे आप निश्चित रूप से उन गांवों के लोगों को भी थोड़ा बहुत अंश में उद्योग और रोजगार दे सकते हैं। जहां तक माननीय मंत्री महोदय का सम्बन्ध है, उनका विभाग इस प्रश्न का ध्यान में रख सकता है और अपने हाथ में ले सकता है, लेकिन जहां तक गांमांछांग के प्रश्न का सम्बन्ध है, मैं समझता हूँ कि

[श्री कन्हैयालाल दाँ० वैद्य]

सम्बन्धित व्यापार और उद्योग की जो मिनिस्ट्री हैं वह भी इस पर विशेष ध्यान देंगी। गामोद्योग विभाग को तो इस विषय में अधिक से अधिक सचेष्ट होकर ऐसी कोशिश करनी चाहिए जिससे यह जो मूलभूत धंधा बनता जा रहा है वह जीवित हो सके और हमारा देश जो पिछड़ी हुई हालत में दिन पर दिन जा रहे हैं वे उन्नति करके फिर से अपना स्थान प्राप्त करें।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ।

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Sir, my hon. friend Mr. Saksena wanted to know if there was any progress in the production of lac. There have been bad years so far as lac production is concerned, but the year 1954-55 has been a very fruitful one as compared with the previous year of 1953-54 when we produced only 6,54,000 maunds while in 1954-55 we produced as much as 10,23,000 maunds which will show that more than 50 per cent more was produced. Our best crop produced so far is somewhere about 11½ lakh maunds and from the point of view of production the year 1954-55 has been very satisfactory. And I am glad to say that this year the prices have improved. This is, however, a very fluctuating market and the Government have been trying their best to see, whenever exports are reduced, that it is utilised in the country. That is why this Committee is necessary. This Committee is necessary to improve production as well as to carry on research on its larger and better uses. Unfortunately, its trade and utilisation for gramophone records is slipping out of our hands because the plastic has come in. Plastic has many advantages. It is light, it is unbreakable and so it has not been possible for us to compete with it. At the same time we are busy trying to discover if we can utilise it for other purposes. So this small cess and this small Committee and whatever we are doing under the supervision of this Committee are all

directed to find out more uses. They are also directed to see that more lac is produced.

I have taken the greatest possible interest in this. I did not know anything about it two years ago, but at the invitation of the Minister from Bihar which is the main State where lac is produced in the largest quantity I went and spent full two days. That is how I have studied this Report from cover to cover—almost every line of it—and we evolved a certain plan of action. There were certain recommendations; a good many of them were accepted and given effect to. Later on, last May I called another conference not only to review what implementation had been possible from the time we met in Ranchi but to frame a second Five-Year Plan so far as production of lac and its utilisation are concerned. So, I should like to assure the House that this commodity has not escaped my personal attention and I should like to assure my friend Mr. Saksena that I consider it my duty to keep in the closest possible touch with Ministers as well as officers in the various States. And the proof is there for me to show that I was responsible for holding the very first conference of the Agricultural Ministers in 1953 and every six months I make it a point to call all these Ministers and meet them. Every month I issue at least 150 to 300 pages of suggestions that occur to me by way of circular letters to the States which go not only to the Directors of Agriculture, to the Registrars of Co-operative Societies, to the Forest Officers but also to the Deputy Commissioners and Collectors in the Districts as well as to the Project Officers. I do not know how many hon. Members know of this fact, but I would like to invite my hon. friend Mr. Saksena to have a look at those circular letters which have been responsible, as a matter of fact, in creating greater interest in the minds of not only officers but Ministers who are taking now much more personal interest than they ever did before.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: If it were in my power I will give forthwith a certificate of merit to my hon. friend, Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I do not require any certificate of merit. If the blessings of a veteran like him are with me, I am sure I will be able to serve India better.

So far as my friend's fundamental objection to imposing any cess and carrying on this research is concerned, I have already answered that point. I would like to add to what I have already said that it is not worthwhile, nor wise to concentrate all possible kinds of research in one place because some concentrated special attention is necessary. It would not be any good if this research was carried on in the chemical laboratory in Poona, for example. It is necessary to have the institute situated in the place where the commodity is manufactured and produced and that is the reason why it is necessary to have it in Bihar. Because the country is so large. Even in smaller countries like Denmark and others they have special institutes for the smallest of objectives. In a country like ours every one of our commodities is so large, the production is so big. In fact, lac is our monopoly in the whole world. Although it might look a small quantity, India enjoys today the sole monopoly in the world so far as lac production is concerned. So, from that point of view it is very necessary that we should direct our special attention to any particular problems of that commodity and look after it especially. And I think this arrangement of the Lac Cess Committee looking after research is far more satisfactory than to put it amongst other commodities and other researches and thus get lost more or less.

Dr. Mitra referred to this Report. I have already said that I know the Report very well and we have examined it. It is a very good report. I wish to compliment the producers of

this Report and the Government of Bihar for the excellent Report they have produced. They have thrashed out the whole question of the production of lac very thoroughly and that has been the basis of our action. So, we have paid adequate attention to the recommendations here and he will probably find that most of them are in the process of being implemented.....

DR. P. C. MITRA: In the whole of India there are 485 factories and out of that 405 are in Bihar.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I am coming to that. Had my friend given an amendment, it would probably have been possible to increase the representation from one to two. I have every sympathy for the point he has raised, but unfortunately neither I nor anybody else has given

DR. R. P. DUBE: But there is no harm. Even at this stage you can do it.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: No, it may raise complications.

DR. R. P. DUBE: There are only two firms that are really manufacturing firms and both are foreign firms and the others are all indigenous firms. The indigenous people should be given the seat.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I shall see. So far as the smaller manufacturers are concerned, I have my sympathies for them and, if possible, we will see if we can raise their representation at a later date.

There was the question of continuing the use of *churis* and bangles. I do not think we will be able to persuade our womenfolk very much to continue with the old practice. They are fast being substituted with plastics etc., but I think on the whole the consumption of lac for these bangles cannot be very large and if our educated womenfolk prefer the lighter and the unbreakable bangles to those which

[Dr. P. S. Deshmukh.] are breakable and so on, I do not think we can blame them. And yet I would like to say to Mr. Saksena and Dr. Mitra and my other friends that if they can exercise any influence on the womenfolk to continue their use and thus contribute to the utilisation of lac for this purpose, I would be very glad. But for the time being the situation is not unsatisfactory both from the point of view of production as well as prices. I hope this will be maintained. In any case, I will try to attend to all the problems as much as possible and see that the gross profits are increased and the smaller manufacturers also are looked after.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Lac Cess Act, 1930, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill. There are no amendments.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3—Amendment of section 4

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Sir, I move:

"That at page 2, for lines 3 to 5 the following be substituted, namely:-

'(iv) four members representing the shellac manufacturing industry to be nominated by the Central Government;."

"That at page 2, lines 16 to 18 'be deleted."

"That at page 2, line 31, the words 'or clause (viii)' be deleted."

These amendments are merely of a drafting nature. It is merely to remove the sub-clause (viii) of sub-section (4), and to include that number in clause (iv). It must not change so far as the structure is concerned.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may make it two and two. There are four representatives. You can give two for the indigenous manufacturers.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: If you will permit the amendment, I will move.....

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: At the discretion of the Minister, out of the four members, three can be from the indigenous manufacturers. We can leave the discretion to the Minister.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may leave it at four. While nominating you can consider the representation, whether it should be 1:3, or 2:2 or 3:1. Your present amendment makes it four. It removes clause (viii) and clause (iv) is amended, making the number from three to four. So, that will meet the other argument. I think that is all. So, I will put the amendments. That will satisfy your objection.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That at page 2, for lines 3 to 5, the following be substituted, namely:—

'(iv) four members representing the shellac manufacturing industry to be nominated by the Central Government;."

"That at page 2, lines 16 to 18 be deleted."

"That at page 2, line 31, the words 'or clause (viii)' be deleted."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 4 and 5 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1—Short title and commencement

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Sir, I move:

"That at page 1, line 4, for the figure '1955', the figure '1956' be substituted."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That at page 1, line 4, for the figure '1955', the figure '1956', be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula DR. P. S.

DESHMUKH: Sir, I move:

"That at page 1, line 1, for the words 'Sixth Year', the words; 'Seventh Year' be substituted."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The-question is:

"That at page 1, line 1, for the words 'Sixth Year', the words. 'Seventh Year' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The-question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Title was added to the Bill'.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Sir, I move

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no further business. The House stands adjourned till 11 A. M. on Monday.

The House then adjourned. at four of the clock till eleven, of the clock on Monday, the: 20th February 1956.