

(b) Any dues of State Electricity Boards or other Government or semi-Government Institutions against supply of goods or services, other than those specified in sub section (2) of section 5.

(c) Arrears of interest on loans and advances.

Category IV -

(a) Revenue, taxes, cesses, rates or other dues to the Central Government, a State Government or any local authority.

(b) Any other dues.

Pre-take-over management period

Category V -

Principal amount of secured loans advanced by -

- (i) the Central Government;
- (ii) a State Government;
- (iii) banks and financial institutions.

Category VI -

Principal amount of unsecured loans advanced by -

- (i) the Central Government;
- (ii) a State Government;
- (iii) banks and financial institutions.

Category VII -

(a) Any credit availed of by the Company for the purpose of carrying on any trading or manufacturing operations.

(b) Any dues of State Electricity Boards or other Government or Semi-Government institutions against supply of goods or services.

(c) Arrears of interest on loans and advances.

(d) Revenue, taxes, cesses, rates or

other dues to Central Government, a State Government or any local authority.

(e) Any other loans or dues." (5)

(SHRI J. VENGALA RAO)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Schedule, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.
Schedule, as amended, was added to the
Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, the Preamble and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

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

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: I beg to move:

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

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

18.32 hrs.

NATIONAL DAIRY DEVELOPMENT
BOARD BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
(DR. G.S. DHILLON): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to declare the institution known as the National Dairy Development Board in the State of Gujarat to be an institution of national importance and to provide for its incorporation and for the vesting in that body corporate of the undertakings of the Indian Dairy Corporation with a view to provide for the administration and the carrying on of the functions to be performed by the body corporate more effectively throughout the country and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto, be taken into consideration".

As Hon. Members are aware National Dairy Development Board Bill, 1987, has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on the 21st August, 1987. I would like to apprise this House of the background and importance of the Bill.

The National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) was set up in 1965 by the Government of India as a registered Society with the primary objective of providing technical services to implementing agencies in building up their Dairy Projects on cooperative lines on the pattern of the Kaira District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union, Anand, popularly known as the 'Anand Pattern'. The NDDDB assists the various States Dairy Cooperative Federations in the preparation of feasibility report and providing technical services in the field of production, procurement, processing and marketing of milk.

The National Dairy Development Board has been progressively playing a vital role together with Indian Dairy Corporation, (IDC), which is a Company formed in 1970 to give supportive assistance in the implementation of the Operation Flood Programme.

Suggestions/recommendations have been made from time to time for the amalgamation of NDDDB and IDC for better services. The Central Government had

appointed a High Power Committee in 1984 headed by Shri L.K. Jha (commonly known as Jha Committee), which recommended the formation of a new statutory body to perform the functions of both these institutions. This body should have full freedom and flexibility in operation not less than what the NDDDB and IDC have enjoyed so far.

To achieve the above objectives it is proposed to declare the National Dairy Development Board as an institution of national importance and incorporate it as a Statutory Body. With the enlargement of functions of the NDDDB over the years it is felt that the functions of both the institutions can henceforth be performed by the corporate body and as such it is proposed to vest the undertaking of IDC in the corporate body and dissolve the Indian Dairy Corporation.

The name of National Dairy Development Board is retained for the corporate body so that there may be continuity in reputation and understanding, both in India and abroad.

The main features of the Bill are as under

- (i) NDDDB will be declared as an institution of national importance and corporate status conferred on it
- (ii) IDC will be dissolved
- (iii) The assets/liabilities etc of the NDDDB and the IDC will become the assets and liabilities of the new Corporate Body which will continue to be called National Dairy Development Board.
- (iv) The Board will be managed by a Board of Directors as spelt out in the Bill.
- (v) The existing full time officers and other employees will continue in the National Dairy Development Board, but the Board can make

such orders as may be necessary for restructuring and streamlining the organisational and functional set up of the Board in order to secure utmost efficiency in its functioning as has already been spelt out in the Bill.

- (vi) The Mother Dairy, Delhi, shall be a subsidiary unit of the NDDDB with separate identity.
- (vii) Apart from enabling it to carry on the existing and enlarged functions, provision is being made to enable the Central Government or any State Government to entrust the NDDDB with any activity it considers necessary.

The note on the clauses attached to the Bill explains in detail the provisions of the Bill. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

In the light of the above, I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to declare the institution known as the National Dairy Development Board in the State of Gujarat to be an institution of national importance and to provide for its incorporation and for the vesting in that body corporate of the undertakings of the Indian Dairy Corporation with a view to provide for the administration and the carrying on of the functions to be performed by the body corporate more effectively, throughout the country and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

Mr. Raghuma Reddy, May now speak.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I support

the merger of these two organisations, viz. NDDDB and IDC. But I have to point it out here that this is a very long pending act. The merger of these two organisations has been recommended as far back as 1976 by the Committee on Public Undertakings. The Jha Committee also recommended the same, though the recommendation of the Jha Committee happened to be the other way. The Committee recommended that the NDDDB should be dissolved and it should be merged with the IDC. But now, the IDC is merged into the NDDDB. Whatever may be the case, I welcome the merger.

But, Sir, I have some doubt about certain provisions. But before going into the details of the provisions of the Bill, I would like to mention certain things about functioning and production aspects. I find that the data on these aspects vary from agency to agency. Even the Public Undertakings Committee, the EEC, the World Bank's team and the Jha Committee have expressed their doubts very clearly in their reports. They dairy people claimed 25 million tonnes, while the others' data put the figure at only 20 million tonnes. There is a difference of 5 million tonnes. There have also been adverse comments on the poor production. Operation Flood Phase I and Phase II also could not meet the actual requirements of the public. It may also be pointed out here that dairy development programmes based on the 'Anand' pattern could not make much way into the remotest villages of the country. They have chosen only some selected villages which may happen to be on or nearer to national or State highways. What are your plans with regard to the remotest villages? How are you planning to give them transportation and other facilities?

Now I would like to mention about loans. Loans are given only to their members and not to others. What are you going to do about other members?

Secondly, you are investing this NDDDB with more and more powers. You are making it a corporate body. What will be the

[Shri M. Raghuma Reddy]

exact functions of the Board? As far as the powers of the Board are concerned, I feel that there is some sort of an encroachment into other fields. I have gone through the Bill very carefully and I find that the Board has powers with regard to horticulture, agriculture, fisheries, etc. activities. This is a sort of encroachment into departments. Now you are making it as a national importance. What about the States? What about the participation of the universities? What about the Dairy Development Boards? You have proposed only Six Directors. One Director will be from the Government of India. I have a doubt whether that Director will be an officer of the Central Government. By introducing this Bill, you are degrading your Dairy and the Veterinary Science. Now, they are functioning under your ICAR Division or may be under the control of the Ministry of Agriculture. After the introduction of this Bill, I think there will be no need to have an Animal Husbandry Department or the Dairy Development Department. By introducing this Bill, you are not going to strengthen your Department.

In spite of your Jha Committee's recommendation, you have not upgraded the posts of Additional Secretary or the Additional Commissioners. Subject to correction, still you have kept three posts vacant. They are lying vacant since 1978. One post each of Deputy Commissioner and the Assistant Commissioner is still lying vacant. Why? Why are you not strengthening your Research as well as your Administrative Department? Are you giving your powers to the NDDC? Why are you getting yourself weakened by doing so? This is my feeling. So, first you have to strengthen yourself. Here I suggest that instead of having one Director from the Government, you should have two Directors. One Director should be for Research Section and the other for the Administrative Section.

I suggest here either the Animal Husbandry Commissioner or the DDG, who is looking after the Animal Husbandry

Research Cell of the ICAR should be included as a Member so that it will have some control.

Regarding the States, you said that only the Chairman of the State Cooperative Federation should be there because you want to maintain the identity. What Cooperative system, do you want? You have not said anything. But the other three Directors should be exclusively from amongst the senior executives. I think this will become a monopoly. You are not nominating the Chairman. That means neither the Central Government nor State Government or for that matter nobody will be having any control over the NDDC and nobody will have any authority to question, except through Members of the Cooperatives.

So I request the hon. Minister, through the Deputy Speaker that instead of having three members you reduce it to one. I don't mind, if you give the membership to other people.

Regarding other people, you have included only one expert from outside. I welcome that. I suggest, instead of having one expert, you can add one more and make it as two experts. Why should you have only one expert? We have got many experts. You include one expert from amongst the farmers. The problems which are faced by the farmers should be represented by a farmer not by others. I request the hon. Minister, through the Deputy Speaker to include one expert from the farmers' side. An expert does not mean that he should be a Ph.D or an expert in milk production. There are many educated farmers. You can include one farmer out of them.

Regarding Terms of Office, under Clause 5, you have mentioned: "The directors nominated under clause (c) of subsection (2) of section 8 shall hold office for such period not exceeding one year at a time as the Central Government may determine." One year is too short a period. In one year, he cannot understand the sub-

ject. So I request the hon. Minister to make it, at least minimum three years.

You have not prescribed any time limit regarding the Chairman. That means, he will be there at the pleasure of the Government of India. If you want him to continue for ten years, he can continue.

So, I request you to kindly prescribe a uniform time limit for the Chairman as well as the Directors. Regarding the age limit you have not mentioned anything. Whether a 70 years old man can also continue as a Director or a Chairman you have not mentioned that. Or you want only 58 years or 60 years old man to continue as a Director or a Chairman. What is the age limit for the employees who are working there? That has not been included.

Now, I will come to the Headquarters. You said that the Headquarter should be situated at Anand only. When you are making it as a national institute; when you are giving it a national importance; and when you are incorporating all these things, why don't you consider having the Headquarter at Delhi? Why should it be in Anand? It should be accessible to all. This is my opinion. (*Interruptions*) Prof. Ranga, if you want to say anything, you can put forth your views... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): We have the Animal Welfare Board at Madras.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: This is my opinion. I know Mr. Makwana hails from Khaira district. I know Anand is in his constituency. (*Interruptions*) It should be in Hyderabad. Sorry for the slip of the tongue. It should be in Delhi.

Now about encroachment. When you are making it a national body, what will be the role of the State Governments, and the State Milk Development Boards? Are you including them as general body members

like in ICAR; are you including some of the Members of Parliament there? Nothing has been mentioned. You are connected with all the dairy development programmes. Yearly for a week, the Director of Animal Husbandry, the M.D. or Chairman whoever may be the Chairman of the Dairy Development Board, should also be involved in this activity. They should also know the programme of this Board. They should also be the participants in this Board. I request the Minister that there should be a yearly General Body Meeting. The members, of the General Body will be the Chairmen of the DDB of all the States, and the Directors of Animal Husbandry—they should also be invited the General Body Meeting like in our ICAR.

Then we have Research and Horticulture. I do not want this encroachment. The purpose should only be the development of milk i.e. providing milk to all, and the enhancement of the *per capita* consumption of milk. After all, we are giving only 144 grams of milk per day, *per capita*, compared to other countries which give 888 grams or even 1,000 grams. The production is also very less. Our thrust should be on production as well as increase in *per capita* consumption. That should be kept in mind. Instead of encroaching on other subjects, why don't you develop your own subject? This should be given due importance. I request the Minister to consider these things.

Now about officials. What are you going to do with them? You are merging IDC with this Board. There are two types of treatment. It is mentioned here that the officers of IDC are being merged with others. Then what will be their seniority? How are they going to accommodate them? That has not been made clear. No officer should be harmed. He should not be harmed, humiliated, or neglected. The interests of the officers, depending upon their length of service and position should be protected.

Previously, IDC has neglected the breeding aspect as also the health of the animals. Are you going to enhance the

[Shri M. Raghuma Reddy]

importance of these things. and strengthen the breeding units as well as the health side?

I have seen things at Anand. They are concentrating on marketing, and neglecting the breeding aspect. What steps are you going to take to enhance the breeding aspect? Service to interior areas should also be included.

There is a gap between Administration, Reserach and Development. These parts are also to be given importance. Are you going to attach them to NDDB or going to keep them with the Ministry or ICAR? These are the three counterparts. How are you going to maintain them? I request the Minister to amalgamate these things, and make them part of one body. If you want a national body, duplication of work should not be there; you are having the Department of Agriculture, Commissioner of Animal Husbandry, Research and the NDDB. You should be really interested in the production of milk, if you want to reach the milk products to the nook and corner of each village, instead of importing by-products. We are interested in foreign exchange, but not at the cost of the rural people. At their cost you are exporting.

You are making milk products and other things, amuls; you have not included amul here. We are not interested in making ghee and other milk products; we are interested that milk should reach every person, every nook and corner of the country and to all the farmers. So, its per capita consumption should also be increased. It should not be 144 grams per capita consumption it should be increased. Your target was of 165 per capita consumption in 1980. I do not know what will be your target by 1990? It should not go to the minium level. That should be taken care of.

While I support this measure of merger, the points raised by me should be taken into consideration. Regarding its head-quarter at Delhi it is an important measure.

Then the age limit of the members and the constitution of the general body, these are important measures. There should not be any encroachment by the States, universities, consultation by the Agriculture University, who are involved in the production of milk. All these points should be carefully studied.

There are some adverse comments in the Audit Report. I am not going to touch them here.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: There is no comment. If there is any comment, you read it out and I will reply to that.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: There is some comment and I want that it should be attended to.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: All the points are complied with. When there are comments in the Audit Report, all the comments are complied with. If it is not complied with, I will do it; I will reply to you.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: I will pass on that to you. Anyhow, I support this Bill. Whatever points I have raised, the Minister should study them and try to reply them also.

SHRI D. P. YADAVA (Monghyr): I congratulate the Minister for bringing this comprehensive Bill where NDDB and IDC are going to be merged and having statutory powers. Many things have been said about the functioning of the NDDB IDC and the operation flood. But I am happy to bring it on record of the House. The Jha Committee which went in deep details about the working of the NDDB IDC and the operation flood scheme, at one place, they write as follows:

"By any standard operation flood II has been a successful programme implemented with competence and dedication for which the credit should go to NDDB and IDC."

This means the working of the NDDB IDC

and that of the operation milk flood is definitely commendable; and the one man, who is the leader of the whole comprehensive idea, whole movement is Dr. V. Kurien, who should be complimented this day for his best service to the country.

In the last four decades of the Indian Agriculture and the Dairy, two persons who should be complimented for which the country should be proud and the Parliament should pay its best compliments, are Dr. V. Kurien and Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, who have been awarded the world's biggest award, an award of Rs. 26 lakhs according to Indian rupees. So, we are proud of this day that we are felicitating these two persons also through this Bill and the deliberations which are going on in this House on this Bill.

The more earlier it is passed, the better it would be. Dairy should be recognised as one of the best implements for the betterment of our people who are socially and economically down-trodden. After agriculture, dairy is one of the best occupations where the largest number of people are engaged; that is why we should pay the maximum attention to the development of dairy. After agriculture it is animal wealth which gives wealth to the country. So this is an opportunity where I must thank Dr. Dhillon Sahib and our hon. Minister of State for Agriculture, Shri Makwanaji, both of whom have been doing their best to bring India on the map of world's dairy scene.

When we go into the records of dairy movement, we find this NDDDB, IDC and the Operation Flood are having today and we also find that this organisation is handling 10 million litres of milk per day. That a registered society sponsored by the Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is handling 10 million litres of milk per day is commendable. Definitely we should give compliments to them and their handling capacity and organising capacity is commendable.

Not only this 49,000 village dairy cooperative societies have been raised; fifteen

lakh families are covered and the board by the dairy business through this agency has given about Rs. 900 crores to the farmers. These are the things we must compliment, we must congratulate the work NDDDB is doing.

There is nothing to be said. All these reports are available. I do not want to go into the date and the figures about the achievements but definitely I would like to bring to the attention of the hon. Minister that while passing this Bill we are giving a statutory power to this Board. The Jha Committee recommended it. We accept it *in toto*. And while making a perspective plan for the future of the dairy development one thing is always to be kept in mind that the intention and the theme of this movement should be not only to produce, distribute and sell milk, but also to prepare a grid in the country for milk production and distribution of it, and to increase the milk yielding capacity of the cattle. Our capacity is 1.5 litres per day per cow, that also not all the 300 days in a year. In Holland, Australia, New Zealand, all these places the milk production is 20 kg. per cattle per day and for about 300 days in a year. Their milk capacity per cattle is definitely ten times or fifteen times, some times more than that of ours and NDDDB should concentrate and enter into a movement for the development of cattle wealth and cattle health so that our milk production per capita, per animal, should be increased. This should be one of the mottos of our programmes.

As regards the productivity of milk, I have said we should not catch up with the production of milk. But the productivity of milk is an essential element in our approach and in our movement. I agree with my friend who has very categorically said that the NDDDB should not undertake so many other jobs. It should not mix vegetables with milk; it should not mix oil with milks and let milk be separate, vegetable be separate and oil be separate. Otherwise the NDDDB while acting in this noble movement will be frustrated. So, it should not unnecessarily be burdened with other

[Shri D.P. Yadava]

things. We should have a separate board like the Indian Fruit Development Board, or Vegetable Development Board and Wild Life Development Board. Everything should not be clubbed together and put in this.

One more important item just to be kept in mind while formulating the plan of action should be the cattle feed. The development of fodder, both green and dry is important. Urea molasses cake is important. There is a drought condition in the country. There are floods. We must have concentrated food stuffs for the animals also. The NDBB should organise in such a way that not only in an emergency even in normal food programme urea molasses cake should be one of the main items of our programme in the near future. My friend has very rightly pointed out that it is not only the health programme, but also the breeding programme. The production of good bulls, frozen semen, all medical care digest, that is called the feeding programme of the cattle - all this should be scientifically processed. It should not be processed in an old manner or in a lazy manner or you can say, hapazard manner. It should be scientifically organised. It should be as organised as that which was organised during green revolution. For white revolution, these are the major elements which should be considered

Sir, as regards Cow dung, if we accumulate and scientifically process the cow dung, it can meet the energy requirements of this country to a great extent. It can produce not only gas, but, it produces one of the best mineralised fertiliser also, that is organic fertiliser. Cow dung is processed through bio-gas process. This is one of the best way of taking the maximum utility of the cow dung. So, there should be a national movement for production of energy through cow dung and for production of organic mineral fertilisers through the cow dung source, mixing with other

elements. There should be close collaboration between the Non-conventional Energy Source Department and that of your Department while formulating and chalking out the programme.

Then, you must formulate the Energy Table.

These are the few things which I had in mind. I commend this Bill and say that we pass it at the earliest and give a statutory power to go ahead with further vigour and energy.

*SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I extend my general support to this Bill and while supporting it, I would like to say a few things. Sir, the National Dairy Development Board was constituted in 1965 and the Indian Dairy Corporation was formed in 1970. Thereafter for nearly 20 years these two institutions had been working in the field of Dairy Development in our country. It has been possible to successfully implement the projects 'operation flood one, operation flood two and operation flood three primarily due to the leadership of these two institutions. Today, the hon. Minister has brought forth this Bill in the House for the merger of these two institutions. This matter was pending with the Govt. for a long time. Why was it pending for such a long time has not been stated by the hon. Minister in the Statement of Objects and reasons of this Bill. In April 1976, during the fifth Lok Sabha, the Committee on Public Undertakings in its 83rd report had recommended the amalgamation of these two institutions. After that some more Committees also clearly recommended their merger. This Bill has finally come now after a long time to achieve that purpose. Though belated, it is a welcome Bill and I support it.

The National Dairy Development Board has been constituted on the pattern of the 'Cooperative Milk producers Union Ltd., of the Kaira district in Gujarat, which is

*The speech was originally delivered in Bengali

popularly known as the 'Anand pattern'. I feel that it would have been better if the National Dairy Development Board was also constituted on the cooperative lines, and if the Board of Directors was formed with the elected representatives of the various Societies elected at their annual general meeting I do not know how effectively they would be able to function with a set of nominated directors. I have my doubts on it.

My previous speakers mentioned about the functioning of the Board. The Board should look after milk marketing Scientific breeding and proper health care of the cattle etc. I agree with them. But I will like to add a few things *viz.* the cattle can't be in good health unless we are watchful about the quality of fodder which they get. In our country there is a shortage of nutritious fodder for the cattle. The poor people cannot provide adequate fodder for their cattle due to their poverty. This aspect has to be looked into. Moreover, facilities for proper medical treatment of the cattle must be provided. I have visited some villages in the Kaira district also. There too I found that proper treatment facilities for the cattle are not readily available

19.05 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

The veterinary doctors from Kaira district headquarters visit various villages once or twice a week only. Their services are not available at all times, as a result of which the people face difficulties. This I have noticed in several villages in the Kaira district. The Govt. should realise the importance of ready availability of treatment facilities for the cattle in all the villages in a country like ours. I hope that the new Board will attend to this problem and discharge their responsibilities in this respect effectively.

Along with this some points regarding production of milk naturally arise. There are no dependable facts available regarding the actual quantity of milk being pro-

duced in the country. We do not have any scientific method even to assess the quantity of milk we produce. Therefore, whatever facts and figures are presented regarding milk production, a lingering doubt remains in our minds about its correctness and authenticity. It is being said that a person needs 220 grams of milk per day to maintain his health. This norm has been accepted by the scientists of our country. But our plan is to produce 165 grs. of milk per head per day by 1990 under the Operation flood-III project. According to the figures available, in the year 1984-85 we have produced only 144 grms. of milk per head per day. As I have said these figures are not much reliable, but even according to them we are producing 144gr of milk per head against the minimum requirement of 220 gr. Hence there remain a big shortfall in milk production. I hope the hon. Minister or the new Board will carefully consider how to make up this big shortfall in our milk production. Whatever little we produce, cannot be utilised by the poor people for their nutritional needs due to abject poverty. This is a major problem of our country. In the rural areas if somebody is seen purchasing milk, another will ask him whether anybody in his home has become sick. What I mean is, in the villages nobody purchases milk due to poverty unless somebody is sick at home. This is the general impression. In our country 50% people live below the poverty line, they do not get even two meals a day how can they buy milk for better nutrition? I do not know whether the Govt has any schemes in this respect.

In the end I want to stress that there is need to take up a countrywise project to supply milk to all the poor people at a cheap rate and even at a subsidised rate so that their nutritional needs may be met. I hope that the 'Board' which is going to take birth as an institution of national importance, will duly look after this aspect.

One more thing Sir The head quarter of this National Dairy Development Board is going to be set up in Gujarat. I do not think

[Shri Satyagopal Mishra]

that there is anything objectionable in that. An infrastructure already exists there and we will be able to utilise that infrastructure fruitfully. But my submission is that when this institution of national importance is set up in Anand, we should ensure that Baroda is better connected with other parts of the country, so that people from other parts may be able to go there easily. Communication system must be improved. I hope due attention will be paid to this. With that Sir, I once more express my support to this Bill and conclude my speech.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have only very few things to say. First of all, I wish to congratulate my hon. friends both the Ministers for having this very fine opportunity of introducing this Bill. It should have come much earlier, but let us now make haste in getting it passed. Secondly, I wish to congratulate my friend Mr. Raghuma Reddy for having made a detailed study of this Bill. I only wish that he and the Ministers had got together a little earlier so that they could exchange thoughts and then given some shape to such of those amendments as could be accepted by the Government. That is the usual way by which we can possibly have a kind of a consensus. It is now too late but I hope some of the suggestions that he has made for increasing the numbers of representatives that are needed here would be seriously considered for future action. I am certainly not in favour of shifting the headquarters from Anand. There is history behind it and we are proud of the developments and of the manner in which the *kisans* all round cooperated with those great scientists of ours, of whom we are so very proud - Mr. Kurien and his colleagues - for having developed this thing. In 1946 we went abroad and saw the manner in which the dairy industry was developed by Holland and Denmark and other countries. We came back again, made our suggestions to the then Agriculture Minister as well as to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, and it stands to the credit of our nation that in these forty years - now we

are celebrating our fortieth year of Independence - we have been able to make such a tremendous progress and create such a constructive organisation. Where there is no quarrel, there is no scope for shifting from this side to that side. That is one of the reasons why I do not want any elections to be brought inside here, I do not want any representatives from the States and from various classes of people and then being to quarrel among themselves and create trouble. Let there be a kind of solidity and stability in the leadership that is to be provided to this organisation, with the help of which they have achieved all this. I am in favour of the suggestions made by our friends in regard to fodder and the health of the animals and earlier, in fact, cattle breeding and all the rest of it. Now it is because of that that horticulture is also introduced. There is no harm if three or more possibilities are provided here for further expansion. We do not expect it to be static. We want the Government to place more and more funds at their disposal. Therefore, I have no quarrel over it at all. Now finally, I want to thank the Government not only for introducing this Bill, for having accepted the kind of organisation that has to be brought into existence, it must be over that; there must have been lot of discussions and so much of calculations - why not all this kind of things. In the end they have come to it and that must be one of the reasons why this Bill has taken place even after the Jha Commission has made recommendations. Therefore, I am not prepared to find fault with the Government but at the same time I want quite a number of constructive suggestions made by the Opposition to be given proper consideration so that if not by mere statutory provision now at least by administrative adjustments they would be able to provide representation for various sections of people who would be interested in it.

Thank you.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): I welcome the Bill whole-heartedly. I had an occasion to visit Anand recently. Therefore, I had an occasion to see its

functioning. It is, undoubtedly, an institution of excellence. Well, some of us, as you know, are not very happy with so many things in our country life. But we cannot be cynical by turning a blind eye to certain institutions which have very bright record. Although I welcome the Bill and although I believe it is legally necessary to endow the institution with the status of a Corporation, I have my own nagging doubts - institutions of excellence flourish only in a climate of freedom and in an atmosphere of liberty. The moment we form Government Boards, though we speak liberally about the autonomy to be bestowed on them, in actual practice, autonomy is denied to all the Government Corporations. One of the important reasons why most of the public sector undertakings fail to function to their optimum level of efficiency is this constant interference by our own bureaucrats in the affairs of those institutions. I would like to alert the Minister against this creeping danger. It may engulf this institution as well. Our bureaucracy can certainly level up when things are down. But if there are peaks of excellence, our bureaucracy is also good enough or good at levelling down these peaks of excellence. Therefore, my word of caution on this point should be taken somewhat seriously.

We are all inspired by what is called Anand pattern. Why did Anand pattern succeed in the manner it did? What was the secret of its success? In my view the secret lay in the participation of farmers in the movement that took place and the control the farmers gained over the institution. If we talk of extending these pattern every nook and corner of the country, then you must also be able to disseminate the spirit to all parts of the country, then you must also be able to disseminate the spirit to all parts of the country. This is a pattern which can not be transplanted on every kind of soil, unless the soil is adequately and properly prepared. For this, the most essential condition is the strengthening of the cooperative movement among farmers. But

when we look at the cooperative scene of our country, we cannot be much impressed. There is hardly an element of cooperation in all that. (*Interruptions*).

Sir, there is a need to revitalize, the cooperative movement of farmers throughout the country, that is *sine quo non* for the success of Anand pattern in this part of the country. Towards that end, there is a need to amend the Cooperative Societies Act. Unless that is radically amended, I think, Sir, it will not be possible for us to give fillip to this movement. Recently, a Committee as recommended many measures for mending the Cooperative Law with a view to democratising the movement and with a view to professionalising the management of these cooperatives. Sir, the bureaucrats or the managers who adorn important positions in these cooperative institutions must be at the back and call of the leadership of the cooperative society. They cannot be allowed to become a part and parcel of that burgeoning great section, the salariat of the country. They must be rendered responsible to the farmers to the cooperatives and to their managing committee.

Sir, I understand that the Prime Minister has written a letter recently to all the Chief Ministers to see that radical changes are introduced in the cooperative law. I request the Minister to follow up the matter with the State Governments.

Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the House to one disturbing development. Sir, in the House and outside, we keep hearing lectures of the global designs of de-stabilisation of Indian polity, Indian economy and what have you? (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: Now, what have you? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir even when I support them, they feel provoked. (*Interruptions*) Sir, as we all know in the modern world, the de-stabilisation is initiated in the area of economic activity. Even this dairy activity, harmless, innocent and innocu-

[Shri S. Jaipal Reddy]

ous as it is, has not been spared from this kind of offensive.

There is one institution or organisation called India Committee in the Netherlands. I think that our Government is aware of the existence of this organisation. I am not able to identify the dramatist personal behind this organisations. They have been producing a lot of literature to plead against assistance to India by the European Economic Community. As we know, our schemes of Operation Flood were rendered possible, without investment by the Government of India, because of the assistance from E.E.C. and other international organisations. If there is an organisation in that part to plead against assistance to India, then our Embassy, our Government must take serious note of this thing. I would like the Minister to throw light on this aspect. I have with me a copy of the pamphlet produced by this great "India Committee" in Netherlands. The headline is "Stop EEC dairy aid to India" This is supposed to be a voluntary organisation (non-fund raising) in solidarity with the oppressed India. So, these unknown friends of India in Netherlands are so much "concerned" about the poor in India. What are their slogans? "EEC milk out of India. Phase out dairy aid to India, within two years". In other words, they do not want assistance to be given to India for Operation Flood-III. What is more? They are pleading against exotic cross-breeding in India. This is rather a strange organisation. Well, it may be difficult for us to find out as to who the real moving fingers and driving spirit behind this organisation but in one of its campaign manifestoes, the advertisement support has been provided to it by Hindustan Lever, which is a part of a giant multi-national, Uni-Levers. It is an Anglo-Dutch company. They have their own vested interest in the area of dairy products in our country. I would like to know as to what action has been taken by the Government. This organisation has been organising seminars and inviting its friends from India at its cost through free air ticket and free hotel accommodation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): Please name the persons who went there.

[*English*]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Some of them might have gone in good faith. I am not condemning all those who might have gone. My limited purpose was to draw the attention of the Government to this issue. I hope the Government will take serious notice of it. This organisation has not only been able to launch campaign in Europe, and in World Bank quarters and elsewhere in the Western world but also right in our own country. They have been able to inspire an orchestrated campaign in our own country.

I do not ordinarily admire individuals. Dr. Kurien is one of those few persons in our country who made a pioneering contribution and campaigns have been unleashed against him too and the Government should not capitulate to this kind of motivated campaigns.

As for the structure of this organisation, I do not want to say much. Other friends have commented on it but to provide flexibility and freedom, I do not think the Board should be top-heavy. What is important is at the State-level and in various States, this Board must be able to motivate the cooperative movement among dairy producers. The dairy producer should be able to fix his own price. As it is, the price for the milk is fixed by various State Governments and the State Governments take the blame for it. In fact, their candle is burnt from both the ends that is from the end of the producer and from the end of the consumer. If you leave this process to a well-organised cooperative structure, the State Governments will have been emancipated from this kind of pincer pressure.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to see that a proper cooperative

movement at least among dairy farmers is encouraged and strengthened

With these words I welcome the Bill.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH (Guna): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the National Dairy Development Bill. The NDDDB was set up in 1965 on the pattern of Ariand and the aim was to develop dairy farming as an industry through cooperative societies and provide them technical training and fertilizers and research and procurement facilities. The Indian Dairy Corporation was set up with the main objective of implementing the 'operation flood' programme. The Corporation was set up in 1970 with the help of commodities which we got under the World Food Programme to help the State Cooperative Federations and to develop the dairy industry. Both the organisations did good work and consequently our commercial imports of milk powder have come down to zero whereas it was as high as 53,000 tonnes in the sixties. Now there are no commercial imports. Since 1976, we are getting 25,000 tonnes of milk powder in the form of gift and this is being used for the dairy development in various States. Previously, we used to import, butter, milk powder and consumer milk etc. Even now our neighbouring countries do import these goods. But in our country NDDDB and IDC have done commendable work, as a result of which our commercial imports have completely stopped. The Jha Committee has very clearly brought it out in the report and I quote.

[*English*]

'For producers Cooperatives to own and operate such a vast network of complex operations which ensure good income to the producers of milk ann reliable supply of unadulterated pasteurised milk to the consumers is truly creditable.

The profits which the middlemen used to get, now accrue to the milk producers themselves and a good proportion of whom are poverty-stricken.

As the National Commission on Agriculture pointed out, the programme has a vast potential for tackling the problems of rural poverty..."

[*Translation*]

If anybody is to be given credit for this work, it is Dr. Kurien about whom other hon. Members have also spoken in this House. I too congratulate him for the good work that he has done in this country.

Shri Jaipal Reddy made a mention of India Committee of Netherlands. I too have gone through the pamphlets brought out by this organisation and I support their demands. This is one of the substantive evidence to prove that there are global designs to create instability in this country and to weaken our economy. Some of the foreign churches have thought of utilising their money through Christian missionaries to blackmail us and to utilise it for conversion of people to their religion. That is why they want that the aid from the European Community should stop and that is why they have hatched this conspiracy. Among the people who support them in India is Dr. Doodani who is a retired officer of ICAR. Both the hon. Minister should bring this to the notice of the Prime Minister. We shall have to remain vigilant about this foreign hand because there are traitors in this country who support them. Both the agencies are doing very good work and it has been appreciated by all the parties and MPs. This is a good programme but unfortunately people are trying to malign Dr Kurien who has done such a commendable work. Allegations are being levelled against him. I would demand that an enquiry should be conducted against Dr. Doodani and his friends. He is a retired officer.

[*English*]

He was almost terminated.

[Shri Mahendra Singh]

[*Translation*]

Government should stop pension of all such persons who are involved in these activities

There is one thing more that I want to say. NDDDB and IDC, both had one Chairman, one Chief executive and one board. As per the recommendation of Jha Committee, you have made it a statutory corporation and I congratulate you for this. The work of both these bodies is complementary to each other. Therefore, there was no need to keep separate identify for IDC. NDDDB was primarily set up to replicate the Anand pattern, but now its scope and functions too have been enlarged. I congratulate the Government for setting up this institute of national importance and for giving it a corporate status. I would urge both the Ministers to implement the Jha Committee recommendations, which include suggestions for enhancement of grants. The Committee has suggested among other things re-scheduling of loans so far as State cooperatives are concerned. That should also be implemented. There is no provision for working capital. In this connection, the Centre should come to the assistance of State cooperatives. Suggestions have also been made about accumulated losses and preoperative losses as also about transport subsidy. Due thought should be given to these suggestions so that the financial position of the State cooperatives improves and the federations of other States work as satisfactorily as the federatur at Anand is working. The Jha Committee has clearly stated:

[*English*]

"IDC should examine indepth the problem of working capital which many federations face and often result in delay in making payment to the producers. At the same time, the problem of accumulated losses inherited by some of the federations should be examined by the concerned State Government "

[*Translation*]

The State Governments have transferred the dairy losses to the farmers bodies, which is very bad. You should impress upon the State Governments not to transfer the old dairy losses to those bodies. Besides, the State Governments should faithfully implement the centre's policy in this regard, so that the State dairy cooperatives could be helped. I can give two instances where the Central Government's policies have been totally violated. I had raised this issue through supplementary question yesterday. It related to M/s Jiwan Milk and Allied Specialities of Punjab. They have been given a licence by the Centre to produce baby food and milk powder in violation of all the rules, and despite strong opposition from Punjab Government. Secondly, the State Government in connivance with the Centre has issued a letter of intent to the National Food Specialities for increasing production capacity in respect of baby food.

[*English*]

From the existing capacity of 10,000 tonnes to 15,300 tonnes...

[*Translation*]

While doing so, all the rules have been violated. I level this allegation and I want that an enquiry should be conducted into it and those who are held responsible should be punished. It should also be ensured that no such violation takes place in future. I want the State cooperatives to succeed as Anand did. As at present, the State Cooperatives are not running in Profit. You want to replicate Anand but it should be remembered that Anand had received support from the State Government i.e. the Gujarat Government and, therefore, if history has to be repeated the Centre and the State Governments should support the State Cooperative federations. Particularly, the State Governments are not helping to meet the initial losses or in providing input and extension services. Beside giving transport subsidy on the cost of procurement, the

preoperative expenses of the State Cooperative federations should also be met. There is no provision for margin money of working capital. How can the State Cooperative federations function without margin money? The payment of loans should also be re-scheduled, and for this the Planning Commission should be consulted if necessary because no cooperative society is in a position to repay the loan in time. The condition of the State Cooperatives cannot improve unless all these facilities are provided.

One thing more. Creation of 10 per cent fixed assets have been banned by the Government in the operation flood area under the poverty alleviation programmes of the DRDA. I do not know whether the orders to this effect have been issued by the Centre or by the State Government. Consequently, if we get a milk chilling Centre recommended from the Collector, even that is rejected on the plea that no funding is done in the operation flood area. The State Governments should therefore, be directed to lift this ban because as Shri Raghuma Reddy also pointed out the remote areas are not covered under operation flood. Even under DRDA programme, only roadside areas are covered and the entire district is not covered. Therefore, I feel that the ban on operation flood area should be lifted.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the operation flood programme was started in 1970. There were 168 milk sheds under it and 50 lakh farmer families were benefited. 49,000 rural people are the member of the society. The most important thing is the composition of the society which shows that 21 per cent are landless and 26 per cent are small and marginal farmers. Of the total membership, 70 per cent are those who have less than two animals. In 1985-86 Rs. 836 crores were paid to 44 lakh families as price of the milk procured. At some places the payments are made daily and at other places it is done on weekly basis. We have to promote dairy farming and cattle rearing

because the population is increasing at a fast pace, whereas our land resource is limited and it cannot be increased. If the cooperative units are not viable, how will the people carry on with dairy farming? There is no other alternative for us. If you do not provide financial help to the State Cooperatives, the entire programme will go haywire. Therefore, I request you to pay special attention to it.

We had imported 63,000 tonnes of milk powder in 1970, but today the commercial import of milk has been totally banned. About 2 lakh litres of milk is daily sent to the cities. Had the Indian Dairy Corporation and NDDDB not been there, all these cooperatives would not have existed and the result would have been pollution in cities.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are facing drought these days. We do have buffer stock of food for human beings but there is acute scarcity of fodder. It is not only one State that has been hit by drought. Had it been so it would have been a different story. Seven or eight States of north India are severely hit by drought. We should realise the importance of cattle feed plant. Our Dairy Cooperative Federation has a cattle feed plant but is not working to full capacity. The State Government should provide molasses and raw material to it. The State Government should also be instructed to provide working capital to it.

Today, dairy farming has become very popular, and has importance of its own. The State cooperatives have a complete cattle feed plant. The farmers will be benefited by this plant as they would be able to feed their cattle well. It should be provided assistance so that it could be put into operation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there have been rampant irregularities in the distribution of buffaloes under the IRDP. A buffalo worth Rs. three thousand was sold to the farmers at a price of Rs. five thousand. Not only this, those buffaloes were old and weak and the farmer cannot get any return from them. The entire programme went haywire

[Shri Mahendra Singh]
because of the corruption among the Government employees I would like the State Dairy Federations to be involved in it. Cow should be financed under the IRDP. If cow is financed, at least the dairy can procure milk at reasonable price. This would enhance their repaying capacity. The repayment of loans granted to harijans and Adivasis should also be guaranteed. The dairy will purchase milk, farmers will get money and the loans will be easily repaid. The IRDP will serve the purpose in true sense of the term only when the State dairy cooperatives will be involved in the eradication of poverty. I wanted to say many things, but due to paucity of time, I conclude with these words and support the Bill.

[English]

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad): Sir, I rise to welcome the Bill which was long overdue. And for a change we have the support of the opposition stalwarts like our friends Shri Jaipal Reddy and others. In fact, this was overdue for the last 11 years. As early as in 1976, the Committee on Public Undertakings had recommended that there should be a merger. Ultimately, it has materialise now. It is now being implemented by a statute. I do not know whether the Govt would like to say as to why this 11 years delay should not have been avoided in adopting such a good measure. If this measure is as good as to be adopted, then 11 years delay in achieving this should be condemned as avoidable delay.

Sir, I have seen the functioning of the NDDB in Anand district. I am sure, if my friends from the opposition had once taken the trouble to visit Anand, they would also have agreed that the headquarters of the Corporation should very well be in Anand, in order to properly streamline the functioning of the working of NDDB, I will point out that the activities of the NDDB have reached even the remotest corner of the kheda district unlike it may be only on the sides of Highways. In kheda district remote villages are also covered by NDDB.

Sir, one important achievement of NDDB is that small farmers have been covered in this scheme. Let us see the distribution of the benefit of the scheme. That out of the farmer's families covered under Operation. Flood Scheme, 21% are landless farmers and another 56% small and marginal farmers owning less than four hectares of land and over 70% of the farmers have only two milk-fetching animals while 10% families have more than 4 milk-fetching animals. So, along with the concept of growth in the matter of milk production, processing and distribution the NDDB has already taken care to ensure the distribution part of it. The growth with distribution for which our late Prime Minister Madam Indira Gandhi always rightly insisted has been implemented in practice by NDDB and IDC. But there is still something more which can be done in this direction.

My good friend, the Minister of State for Agriculture would be knowing how these backward classes are exploited by various agencies having the control over the society—the economic control and social control. This statutory Corporation should be approached with a request to emphasise the distribution part by covering more and more Harijan and tribal families under this scheme. I find that many areas are still left uncovered so far as backward classes are concerned. Most of the milk producing societies are controlled by so-called forward classes, advanced classes who have been traditionally controlling the society. They are also controlling the milk producing societies. Therefore, more things are required to be done in order to ensure that benefit reaches the Harijans and Adivasis. Milk producing societies are of course controlled by Adivasis in tribal areas. But Scheduled Castes and Harijans still require that benefit should reach them by appropriate care on the distribution aspect of this activity. The Bill is quite all right in so far as its purpose is concerned. The object is to replicate the Anand pattern all over India. I am sure, even our friends from West Bengal know that the NDDB tried to

streamline the dairy milk production in Bengal.

Of course, we still have to cover some ground which is not covered. The actual per capita requirement of milk, according to the nutritional experts of our medical research organisation is 220 gms. per day. At the end of the Operation Flood, III we would only reach 165 gms. per day. That is a little low. We should be able to reach the target of 220 gms. that is considered desirable by the nutritional experts. There also it is well known that the per capita availability is a very deceptive concept because per capita does not mean that everybody gets that much. Per capita means only the average. As I submitted before the House, average is not always reflecting the correct situation. The higher-up, the urban elite take most of the milk produced and processed by the NDDB and IDC. The average milk intake in rural areas has been less. The milk distribution in urban areas by NDDB and IDC has been mostly at the cost of rural consumers.

The hon. Minister and the Minister of State are very well aware as to how the weaker sections of the society are still not getting the desired quantity of milk intake which they should. On the contrary, the monstrous elite of the urban society is carrying away with most of the benefits—even in the matter of Operation Flood benefits—at the cost of weaker sections.

Therefore, I would like to emphasize that the Government should cater to the needs of the weaker sections, especially the children and the pregnant women. One of the objects of NDDB also provides for this. But nothing remarkable has been done in this field. At least in so far as pregnant women are concerned, something should be done by way of subsidising the price of milk which will serve the interest and the welfare of women.

Many more things can be done by the corporation. For example, the installed

capacity of cattle feed is not utilised fully. The installed capacity of paper packing is also not utilised fully. It is almost 50% only in so far as the utilisation of the installed capacity of cattle feed is concerned. So, the work of the NDDB should be properly geared up by proper financing and whatever necessary.

I am happy that we don't have to import any milk or milk products by way of commercial imports from abroad. But that is not all. I want to see a day when we should also not be required to import any gifted milk product or milk powder. I don't think that India wants to survive on the milk or the milk powder donated or gifted by any foreign country.

In the course of examination of Mr. Kurien before the Public Undertakings Committee, we had been able to get satisfactory reply from him that it is possible to dispense with the import of milk products in whatever form—whether in the form of gifts or in the form of commercial imports.

With these observations, now I want to say a word or two on the provisions of the Bill. Clause-7 may kindly be seen. It provides for saving of legal proceedings. But the Hon. Minister will kindly appreciate that it does not provide for saving of either statutory notices issued or otherwise by or against either of the society or the dissolved company. That will create complications. The notices issued should also be saved. Merely saving the legal proceedings will not be sufficient. You should also make a provision that all notices issued by or against the society or the dissolved company shall be treated as notices issued by or against the proposed statutory Board.

I have to say something about the question of Board of Directors. The Parliament must have representation on the Board of Directors. Some MPs should be effectively appointed to represent the Parliament—the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha—on the Board. Otherwise the Board will not be responsible to the Parliament. I am not

[Shri Haroobhai Mehta]

especially enamoured about the so-called autonomy of the Public Sector. I am for functional autonomy and not for structural autonomy. In a democratic policy the public sector must be fully responsible to the people. If there is any direction given by the Central Government or any assistance given by officers of the Government that need not be always castigated as bureaucratic interference. After all bureaucracy is responsible to Parliament through their Ministers. Therefore, there should be better say of Central Government and Parliament on the Board. While on all other Boards there is always a provision that Central Government shall have power to give directions here I do not find any such provision in this Bill.

Further I would like to say that powers to make re-structuring of the staff may be fatal to the interests of the workers. Ultimately the functioning of the Board is going to be expanded. Board is going to deal with vegetable oils also. We have seen NDDB functioning on the front of vegetable oils and it has been successful. Therefore, there is nothing wrong in expanding the scope of the Board. But when you are expanding the scope of the Board there should be no need to retrench the employees. All the employees working in the dissolved company should continue to be the employees of the Board without having to retrench anyone. No such power to retrench should be given.

Sir, Section 9 defeats the directive principles. Directive principles enjoin on the State to provide opportunities for employment by way of right to work whereas here power is given to retrench. It is directly in contravention of the directive principles. I, therefore, make a sincere plea to the Government that there should be no retrenchment and all the employees should be retained. Of course, there can be rationalisation as a necessary corollary to merger but there should not be any retrenchment of any member of staff. Let there be consolidation of these bodies, without tears. No tears on the part of any employee.

Lastly as commented upon by the Public Undertakings Committee the management of Mother Dairy was hanging in the air. Now this Bill takes care of this, namely, Mother Dairy will be incorporated as a part of this Board. I earnestly hope that Government will take due care of the suggestions made by me and other hon. Members. I join the hon. Minister in commending this Bill for immediate passage so that the Board can start functioning.

Lastly I would like to say that this Board should not waste part of its energy in producing ice creams and other milk products. When the poor man is not getting milk Government would do well to immediately issue and implement the Milk and Milk Products Order so that milk which is a precious commodity is not wasted on manufacture of products which can be afforded only by the rich or few higher middle-class people. With these observations I support the Bill and congratulate the Government for bringing forward this Bill before the House.

MR CHAIRMAN: Now Mr Narayan Choubey.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, where is the time left? How much can I speak? For how long can you make the House sit?

[*English*]

SOME HON. MEMBERS: It is already 8 O' clock. We will pass it tomorrow.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: How can I speak in two minutes.

[*English*]

Sir, we are not having lunch-break. Our suffering is manageable. The staff is coming early in the morning and goes after 8 p.m. It is injustice to the staff.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHIELA DIKSHIT): You have a Choice. Either you sit late today and pass it or you will have to sit up to 11 p.m. tomorrow to pass it.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Why can't you meet on 31st and 1st?

SHRIMATI SHIELA DIKSHIT: What do you mean by 31st and 1st?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: To extend the sitting of the House.

SHRIMATI SHIELA DIKSHIT: I don't think you told me that privately.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I thought I should tell you publicly.

SHRIMATI SHIELA DIKSHIT: I would like to tell the House that we have a problem. We just have to get through these Government Bills. I would appreciate it very much if you could give up half-an-hour or 40 minutes of your valuable time so that we complete this.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk): How is it possible? You are violating the Labour Act.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us sit for half-an-hour and finish it and not waste the time of the House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRIMATI SHIELA DIKSHIT: Sir, I have a proposal to take up this Bill tomorrow as first thing after Zero Hour.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes. We all agree to that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have only to point out that the Business Advisory Committee has decided that the first item will be discussion on price rise.

SHRIMATI SHIELA DIKSHIT: Therefore, we have to overrule that.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: In half-an-hour, we will finish.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the pleasure of the House that tomorrow this will be the first item after Question Hour. It will be completed within half-an-hour thereafter.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, yes.

20.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, August 26, 1987/Bhadra 4, 1909 (Saka)