

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :

The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI ERA ANBARASU :

I introduce the Bill.

15.35 hrs.

BLIND PERSONS (EMPLOYMENT) BILL*

SHRI ATAL BEHARI VAJ-PAYEE (New Delhi) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make provision for enabling blind persons to secure employment and for matters incidental to or connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :

The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make provision for enabling blind persons to secure employment and for matters incidental to or connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI ATAL BEHARI VAJ-PAYEE : I introduce the Bill.

15.36 hrs.

PREVENTION OF FOOD ADULTERATION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(AMENDMENT OF SECTION 16 ETC.)

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further

to amend the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954."

The motion was adopted.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : I introduce the Bill.

15.36 hrs.

UNIVERSALISATION OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION BILL*

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for universalisation of elementary education in India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for universalisation of elementary education in India."

The motion was adopted.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : I introduce the Bill.

REGIONAL RURAL BANKS (AMENDMENT) BILL*

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :

The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976."

The motion was adopted.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
I introduce the Bill.

15.37 hrs.

COUNTRY FISHING BOATS
PROTECTION BILL—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :
The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri R. K. Mhalgi on 19th December, 1980, namely :—

"That the Bill to provide for the protection of country fishing boats from the competition of motor boats and trawlers, be taken into consideration."

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli) : Sir, this Bill was allotted only two hours and there are other Bills pending for discussion. Instead of allowing more time, I would suggest that the Minister may reply.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Chitta Basu is already on his legs. Mr. Chitta Basu you will be the last speaker.

15.38 hrs.

[SHRI HARINATH MISRA in the Chair]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : Sir, I was discussing the problem which faces the country's fishermen on the last occasion. Sir, I think you know that according to certain estimates in our country there

are about fifteen lakh self-employed country-boat fishermen in the maritime straits of the country. And according to another estimate taken in 1972 these country boat fishermen possess nearly two lakh country crafts and catch about 75 per cent of the total fish haul all over the country. This constitutes about 80 per cent of the foreign exchange earned from fish export in the whole of our country. This figure I quote only to underline the importance of the country-boat fishermen because they contribute to the 80 per cent of foreign export earning by way of fish export in our country. Therefore, their interests are to be looked after, well protected and the legislation or the Bill which is before us for consideration aims at protecting the interests of these self-employed country-boat fishermen of our country.

Sir, there are certain problems before them. Let us enumerate them. The major problem before this country boat fishermen of our country is that the trawlers or the mechanised boats have started invading their area of operation. There has been constant erosion, rather invasion in their areas.

Sir, as a result of the invasion of the trawlers or mechanised boats, the lion's share of the catch is being taken by those trawlers and mechanised boats, who are naturally owned by the richmen i. e. the rich section or rich traders or those who can afford to have a trawler or mechanised country boat can have more catch of the fish in these coastal areas.

There are certain processes by which these trawlers and mechanized boats operate. Usually, they draw wooden logs or wooden hard-boards or something like them—big ones ; and with them, they plough the entire sea-bed of the shore area. The result is that the fish eggs and larvae are killed and destroyed; and this distorts the very fishing ecology of the area. In technical terms, it is called 'killing of baby