

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

Maybe because the Members are exercised, you please make an inquiry about the helicopter and give information to the Members after a few days.

14.25 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE
LEGISLATION

TENTH REPORT

कुमारी मणिबेन पटेल दत्तममाई पटेल :
(मेहुआना) : मैं अधीनस्थ विधान सम्बन्धी
समिति का दमवां प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत करती
हूँ ।

COCONUT DEVELOPMENT BOARD
BILL*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now the Minister, Mr. Barnala.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Cannanore): There is a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Ravi has given it earlier.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): I am raising an objection to it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Wait; that will come later. Now Mr. Chandrappan.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: My point of order is under rule 67. It says:

"When a Bill is pending before the House, notice of an identical Bill, whether received before or after the introduction of the pending Bill, shall be removed from or not entered in, the list of pending notices, as the case may be, unless the Speaker otherwise directs."

Here, my point is that not only is there a non-official bill given by me, which is very comprehensive, dealing with the problems of the coconut plantations, and the economy of coconut

in the coconut-growing States; there are also very practical suggestions made, as to how finances should be raised for the improvement and development of the coconut industry. But here, the Bill which the Minister is trying to introduce is written in such a fashion that the interests of the coconut-growing States are hardly taken into account. (*Interruptions*). Mostly members of the bureaucracy will sit in the Board.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: My point of order is, therefore, that the Board which is visualized, does not take into account the interests of the coconut cultivators. There is hardly any representation for Kerala which produce 80 per cent (*Interruptions*) of coconut. 90 per cent of the milling copra is produced in Kerala. The Minister is introducing 2 Bills which hardly take into account the interests of Kerala, and the interests of the small cultivators. This Bill should not be allowed to be introduced in this House, when there is a comprehensive Bill from me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have understood your point of order; but, unfortunately, in what you have said, you yourself have made it amply clear that the two bills are not identical; and, therefore, the point of order does not stand. Now, Mr. Barnala.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: My objection is this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It will come later.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the development under the control of the Union of the coconut industry and for matters connected therewith.

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, section 2, dated 25-7-78.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the development under the control of the Union of the coconut industry and for matters connected therewith."

Now Mr. Vayalar Ravi, are you opposing this?

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Actually, I wished to congratulate the Minister for introducing the Bill; but I have to object, because the content of the Bill which is circulated, is very much objectionable. This Parliament has the privilege to legislate for many Commodity Boards almost for all agricultural commodities; and we expected the Minister to bring the Bill in such a way that it is identical with the other commodity boards. Unfortunately, when we went through the Bill, we found—we have also written a letter to the Minister; and I hope the Minister will be reasonable enough to respond to our request—that the Bill provides only for officers, and that the Board will become a Government department. During the days of the previous Government, the then Minister Mr. Shinde convened a meeting of all Members of Parliament from the coconut-growing areas; and State Governments were also represented in that meeting. We had long discussions in the matter; and in this House myself, Mr. Chandrappan and all of us have been persistently demanding a legislation to set up a Coconut Board, because coconut is facing a lot of problems—fluctuation in the market, diseases many other things. I appreciate the intention of the Minister in introducing the Bill; and he definitely deserves congratulations; but unfortunately, we have to object to it at the very stage of introduction, both in regard to the Coconut Development Board Bill and the Copra Cess Bill, because the content itself is objection-

able. He has to come up with a comprehensive Bill giving representation to all the States, especially the coconut growing States. Moreover, Members of Parliament have been completely ignored. It is for the first time that Members of Parliament have become untouchable—untouchable to the Coconut Board.

The Konkan area, Maharashtra, Karnataka Andhra Pradesh every State has to get representation.

SHRI GEORGE MATHEW (Muvat-tupuzha): Sir, I rise on a point of order. In every commodity Board, be it for Coffee, Cardamom or Tea, the States which are the growers of that particular commodity have got special representation.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is not a point of order. You can speak on this question when the Bill is taken up for discussion.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): It is a point of suggestion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Has the hon. Minister anything to say with regard to what Shri Ravi has stated?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: He has written to me a letter. He has talked to me also. Perhaps we may be able to satisfy him to a certain extent when the discussion takes place.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the development under the control of the Union of the coconut industry and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: I introduce the Bill.†

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.