

SHRI R. D. GATTANI: I introduce† the Bill.

NATURAL CALAMITIES MITIGATION COMMISSIONS BILL*

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Chittoor): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a commission for the purpose of mitigating the natural calamities and to provide relief to the sufferers due to these calamities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a commission for the purpose of mitigating the natural calamities and to provide relief to the sufferers due to these calamities.

The motion was adopted

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL.*

(Amendment of article 19, etc.)

डा० राजजी सिंह (भागलपुर): मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि भारत के संविधान का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाये।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

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

The motion was adopted

डा० राजजी सिंह: मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

COW SLAUGHTER PROHIBITION BILL.*

डा० राजजी सिंह (भागलपुर): मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि गौ हत्या का प्रतिषेध करने का उपबन्ध करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाये।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for prohibition on killing of cows."

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnam): Sir, I rise to oppose the introduction of this Bill prohibiting the slaughter of cows. I do understand that this is a stage where the Bill is being introduced. I would, therefore, be very brief. I will confine myself only to the constitutional invalidity of this Bill as also to the fact that it is not within the legislative competence of this House to enact such a Bill. There are other aspects of this measure which is being proposed. However, all those aspects can be taken into consideration if and when the Bill reaches the later stage of discussion. I will, therefore, be confining myself only to this preliminary objection.

Clause 3 of the Bill says:

"No person shall kill or cause to be killed a cow for any purpose or at any place in India."

There term 'cow' is defined in clause 2(b) as—

"'cow' includes he-calves, she-calves, bullocks and bulls."

We, therefore, find that by including bullocks and bulls in the definition of 'cow' a total and blanket ban is sought to be imposed on the slaughter of bovine population and this, I submit, is in violation of the Constitution.

Sir, I do understand that Article 48 of the Directive Principles has been relied upon by the hon. Member. I quote Article 48:

"The State shall endeavour to organise agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines and shall, in particular, take steps for preserving and improving the breeds, and prohibiting the slaughter, of cows and calves and other milch and draught cattle."

It is, therefore, extremely clear that Article 48 does not envisage any total or blanket ban on the slaughter of any of the species of bovine population.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.