

driving the carriages. This Bill says that this is an act of cruelty to animals. I will request that such persons may not be treated as offenders under this legislation. A word 'Holka' or 'Dumdet' has been used here in the context of those milk-sellers who use wrongful methods to extract more milk from their cattle. But you have to keep a watch on who is using what method, legitimate or illegitimate and that is a difficult job. It is true that the domestic animals in our country live a difficult life. The reason is that most people rear domestic animals for their livelihood. But their earnings are so poor that they cannot provide proper treatment to these animals. Proper shelter cannot be provided, adequate fodder cannot be provided. The Government should come to their aid by supplying cheap fodder and proper treatment facilities for the sick animals all over the country. This will immensely help the farmers, those who earn their livelihood by driving horse drawn carriages and bullock carts etc. and those who sell meat. This Bill should include these provisions. The Government is going to set up an all India Central Board. If necessary, they can set up State Boards or Zonal Boards also. They should specially attend to supply of cheap fodder and treatment facilities for these domestic animals all over the country.

Sir, India abounds in wild animals also. Some wild animals are consumed by some people as food. The vultures and the crows are to be found all over the country. They are extremely useful birds. They eat away all the rotten, decomposed organic things and keep the environment clean. Without them lot of diseases will spread all over the country and the nation's health will suffer. They in fact act as nation's scavengers. But the Government is totally indifferent to them. I am not aware of any steps taken by the Government to help them set up their nests where they can lay eggs and breed peacefully. I will request the Government to attend to this aspect also. They are not provided a shelter in any sanctuary or in any zoo also.

17.20 hrs.

### RESOLUTION RE: COMMUNAL HARMONY

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Riyan, just a minute. Now the Prime Minister.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): Sir, this is a painful task; but I am glad that all hon. Members opposite have agreed to this Resolution. And, in fact, we have incorporated the suggestions that have been made from the other side. So, without saying anything further, I think I will just read the resolution on it: I beg to move:

"Resolved that this House expressed its deep anguish and concern over the situation recently created in the Punjab and strongly condemns certain calculated acts of sacrilege committed by some miscreants and fanatical elements in Amritsar, aimed at creating disharmony, disorder and misunderstanding among the patriotic and peace-loving people of the State. The House re-affirms its commitment to the national policy of secularism, tolerance and amity among all sections of Indian citizens, and trusts that the people of Punjab will not allow themselves to be swayed by any mischievous and irresponsible actions of a few misguided and anti-national persons. This House reiterates that the law shall take its course to bring the culprits to book speedily and trusts that all communities and every section of public opinion in Punjab will strive to maintain the traditional communal harmony, goodwill and peace, and continue to work together for the greater good of the State and the country."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"Resolved that this House expresses its deep anguish and concern over the situation recently created in the Punjab and strongly condemns certain calculated acts of sacrilege committed by some miscreants and fanatical elements in Amritsar, aimed at creating disharmony, disorder and misunderstanding among the patriotic and peace-loving people of the State. The House re-affirms its commitment to the national

[Smt. Indira Gandhi]

policy of secularism, tolerance and amity among all sections of Indian citizens and trusts that the people of Punjab will not allow themselves to be swayed by any mischievous and irresponsible actions of a few misguided and anti-national persons. This House reiterates that the law shall take its course to bring the culprits to book speedily and trusts that all communities and every section of public opinion in Punjab will strive to maintain the traditional communal harmony, goodwill and peace, and continue to work together for the greater good of the State and the country."

*The Resolution was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER: The Resolution has been adopted unanimously.

17.22 hrs.

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) BILL—*Contd.*

\*SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I was saying, more and better facilities should be provided by the Government for protection of various wild life in the country. India at one time had a large elephant population. But the number has alarmingly dwindled. The main reason for this is that the Government has nowhere provided for food for the elephants. The elephants, for their survival, eat the crop and other things grown by Adivasis through 'Jhoom' or shifting cultivation. They eat the crop grown in small villages and as this is wholly inadequate, they are perishing. The Government should, therefore, come forward and arrange for their food so that their population may be preserved.

Similarly, at one time we had a large number of tigers in our forests. Today they are almost extinct. The reason is the same i.e., want of food for the tigers. In the past there were extensive forests in

the country. The tiger could prey upon a large number of wild animals whom they killed for food. In this way they could survive and increase their number too. Today, their number is negligible. Many States do not have any tigers at all. People have to go to the zoo to know what a tiger is like. I will request the Government to arrange for food for the tigers also so that they may not become extinct.

Sir, many penalty clauses have been provided in this Bill. But who will keep a watch whether these are implemented or not. It has been said that the police will watch it. I have got an amendment in this respect. I suggest that an officer of the Home Ministry may be included. Is the present provision adequate? Sir, in our country murders are taking place every day all over the country. You open any newspaper and you will come across several such cases. The poor people, the weaker sections, the Harijans, Scheduled Caste people are every day being murdered by caste Hindus. Man is killing man. Will the police look after all these or will they watch wild animals are being killed or slaughtered?

Sir, I do not think that increasing the quantum of punishment for killing animals is the only solution. By increasing the term of imprisonment by increasing the amount of penalty only we will not be able to protect the animals. The unnecessary hunting or shooting of animals have to be stopped. Some time back we saw in the papers that the elder brother of the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh was killed by dacoits when he went in the jungle for hunting. But was that hunting legal? There are numerous such instances all over the country where people kill animals indiscriminately just for fun or sport.

I will therefore request that much stress or attention need not be paid on those who kill animals for a livelihood. On the other hand those who have nothing to do with animals but simply kill them for fun or pleasure, should be severely punished. With that Sir, I conclude my speech.