

[Dr. Karan Singh]

Shri Virbhadra Singh mentioned one or two points. As I said, I am, in fact, sorry that Kulu has not been taken up so far. The land has been acquired. There was some dispute. If I remember correct, with regard to the land—its acquisition, its location and so on. Some problem is there. I am myself hoping to visit Kulu this summer and I will look into the matter myself and see what can be done.

उन्होंने कहा कि वह पहाड़ के रहने वाले हैं और पहाड़ में उन्नति होनी चाहिए। आप जानते हैं, अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं स्वयं पहाड़ का रहने वाला हूँ, जितना उनको प्रेम है पहाड़ से उससे ज्यादा मुझे पहाड़ से प्रेम होगा। इसलिए हो सके तो मैं मैदान से लेकर उन्नति पहाड़ में करवाने का यत्न करूंगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

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

The motion was adopted.

16.52 hrs.

MARINE PRODUCTS EXPORT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BILL

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : I beg to move* :

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an Authority for the development of the marine products industry under the control of the Union and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

The marine products industry is one of the few industries which have maintained a steady but heartening rate of growth in export earnings over the last few years. From a meagre export of Rs. 4 crores during 1961-62, it rose to Rs. 17.37 crores during 1966-67, the year of devaluation, and it was of the order of Rs. 35 crores in 1970-71. This year we are hopeful of attaining, and even going beyond, the target, and it is estimated that this year our exports will be to the tune of Rs. 39 crores.

Even though India has come up from a

low position in the world shrimp market to occupy the second place in the list of exporting nations recently, yet it has touched only a fringe of the vast potentialities available for the industry. Shrimp, at present, constitutes the principal item of export, i.e., about 85 per cent, from India in frozen, canned and dried forms followed distantly by frozen lobsters. Besides effecting an increase in the volume and value of exports of shrimps and lobsters, there is a considerable scope for exporting other varieties of fish and fish products like tuna, sardines, pomfret, Bombay duck, bream, carabs and eels, etc.

Seafoods have assumed great importance as an export-oriented industry on account of the increasing overseas demand. According to a survey conducted by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade in 1969-70, it was estimated that our exports of marine products could be increased to about Rs. 61 crores by 1973-74 and to about Rs. 118 crores by 1978-79. For this, certain positive steps are to be taken. The achievement of this level of export performance would necessitate the development of this industry on a sound footing at a much faster rate than hitherto realised. It is also essential to strengthen the supply base by mobilising and intensifying efforts in the area of deep sea and off-shore fishing and effecting improvements in the processing methods and marketing mechanism.

The marine products industry is at present not subject to any discipline or regulation. This has resulted in an uneven and unhealthy development of fish processing sectors thus affecting adversely its economic operation and better realisation of the unit value of export products. Such an unregulated growth has also led to problems connected with inadequate facilities on shore relating to fresh water, power and timely internal transport and shipping arrangements.

The Estimates Committee of the Lok Sabha in its Forty-third Report on Fisheries Development (April 1968) has referred to the adverse effects of the indiscriminate growth of the industry on the trade as well as in the foreign markets and to the fact that under these circumstances this industry

* Moved with the recommendation of the President.

cannot have any higher standards nor any stability and this situation will tell upon foreign markets. The Committee also felt, necessary that a very good check has to be exercised on the indiscriminate growth of exporters by even fixing certain minimum standards for technical competency, financial backing and hygienic and sanitary standards.

The problems faced by the marine products industry in the country call for a strategy for regulating, organising and developing marine products on economic lines by a central agency vested with adequate authority and necessary organisation directly involved in the co-ordinated development of the industry in relation to raw material supply, processing, storage, transport and export marketing.

The detailed study undertaken by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade has indicated the necessity for setting up of such a central agency. After careful consideration, the Government of India has come to the conclusion that a statutory authority to be known as The Marine Products Export Development Authority should be set up under the control of the Union.

The Authority is proposed to be constituted, among others, with representatives of the Governments of States having sea coast, interests of owners of fishing vessels, processing plants, storage premises, interests of dealers, and persons employed in the marine products industry and also interests of research institutions engaged in connection with the marine products industry. The functions of the Marine Products Export Promotion Council will be taken over by this Authority.

The Authority will be responsible for laying down specifications and standards for items of equipment for handling, refrigeration and processing, to ensure quality of the products, to assess the standards of quality of the processing equipment and recommend measures for improvement, to prescribe and enforce lay out of the processing plants and equipment, to prescribe and enforce norms and standards for in-

plant inspection from the time the product is landed, till export, to encourage introduction of mechanisation for diversification of various processes and to undertake product diversification of the industry.

Power has also been taken by the Central Government to prohibit and control the imports and exports of marine products.

It is proposed to vest the authority with adequate powers to undertake suitable measures for the development of the marine products industry, such as, promoting exports, undertaking market promotion, market intelligence and other activities, with a view to increase the exports of marine products and for organization, co-ordination, regulation and growth of marine products export industry with special emphasis on the quality of the raw materials, including those from coastal, off shore and deep sea fishing, processing and packaging, storage and transport, shipment, inspection, marketing and attendant investigations. It is proposed to levy a cess at a rate not exceeding 3 per cent *ad valorem* on all marine products exported, but it is proposed to levy only one percent in the beginning. The Bill gives power to the Central Government to make rules to carry out the purposes of the Bill.

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The Authority will work in close association with the State Governments and appoint agents to discharge on its behalf and of its functions, wherever possible and whenever feasible and operate some of its functions through such governmental agencies of the Central or the States concerned, as the Authority feels.

The marine products industry has been identified in the Export Policy Resolution as one of the few industries having immense export potential, if proper incentive and care is given to the industry. This industry is at present not subject to any discipline and regulation. Absence of regulated and organised growth of marine products industry has resulted in uneven and unhealthy development of the fish processing sector adversely affecting its economic operations

[Shri A.C. George]

and better realisation of the unit value of export products. It is, therefore, proposed to enact a legislation for the establishment of Marine Products Export Development Authority as a corporate body.

I, therefore recommend the Marine Products Export Development Authority Bill for consideration of the house.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to provide for establishment of an authority for the development of the marine products under the Control of the union and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

There is amendment No. 1 by Shri Shivnath Singh.

SHRI SHIVNATH SINGH (Jhunjhunu): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an Authority for the development of the marine products industry under the control of the Union and for matters connected therewith, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of all members, namely: (11) Shri Chhuttental, Shri Hiralal Doda, Shri Indrajit Gupta, Shri Nathuram Mirdha, Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra, Shri Amrit Nahata, Shri Birender Singh Rao, Dr. H. P. Sharma, Shri Ram Deo Singh, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, and Shri Ram Chandra Vikal with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next session." (1)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The amendment is also before the House. Shri Madhuryya Haldar.

*SHRI MADHURYYA HALDAR (Mathurapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has introduced the Bill to regulate the export of marine products and to earn foreign exchange thereby. This is a welcome step as the foreign exchange earned through this source can be profitably utilised for various purposes in the country.

We find that this Bill is export oriented and adequate attention has not been paid to our starving internal market. During the past few years the price of fish has soared high steeply inside the country and particularly in West Bengal from where I come. Even though some fisheries have been set up to grow more fish, yet the prices have not come down. The fish produced in our rivers, canals, ponds etc., are wholly inadequate to meet the internal demand. Sir, to quote an example, in the North Avenue, South Avenue, Vithalbhai Patel House etc., where we stay while in Delhi, there is no supply of fish. Therefore, I will say that the internal market should not be neglected when we endeavour to augment our exports.

Sir, in Bengal during the regime of late Dr. B. C. Roy, an attempt was made to augment the fish production and some fishing trawlers etc. were imported from Japan for the purpose. But we have a sad experience that all these were handed over to a particular favourite of Dr. Roy who collected fish at a very cheap rate of Re. 1.00 a sear and supplied that stuff to the market at an exorbitant rate of Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 a sear thereby pocketing a huge personal profit. The smaller fishermen were not actually benefited. I will sound a note of caution to the Government that they should ensure that the large number of small fishermen in Sunderbans etc., are not deprived of their legitimate profits by the large fish magnets who act through their agents. The 'catch' of these smaller fishermen are normally purchased by the agents of these fish magnets at a very low price and later on sold by them in the big market at a very high price. In this way they earn huge profits at the cost of the small fishermen. This sort of exploitation should be checked.

I also find, Sir, that the Bill envisages an administrative body which comprise of large number of officials. My apprehension is that like all other Government organisations, the members of this agency also will be wasting much of their time and Government money on tours, meetings etc. and no worthwhile purpose will be served by appointing such a top-heavy bureaucratic set up. This should be guarded against

*The original speech was delivered in Bengali.

and Government money should be fruitfully utilised. What is really needed is that the Government should devote itself sincerely to raise the production of fish, both for internal and export needs and see that the exploitation of the small fishermen who actually toil and sweat to raise the produce is checked. With these words Sir, I conclude my speech.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvattupuzha): I rise to support this motion. This Bill is a very well-intentioned Bill, seeking to meet an urgent need with respect to the development of the fisheries industry in our country.

I was listening with rapt attention to the introductory remarks made by the hon. Minister. He was heard to say that as a result of the passage of this Bill and with such powers as are sought to be vested in the Authority, the lacunae in the picture of the development efforts for fishing will be filled. Although I am supporting the motion for consideration, still I have many doubts when I go through the Bill.

Although professedly this Bill is for the purpose of introducing control and giving powers for development and the concerned clauses really invest power on the authority, I shall presently show that unless clause 9 is properly amended, the powers will not be adequately vested in the Authority.

As far as the problem of fishing is concerned, it is not that the fishing industry is not developed. Development has taken place because of the initiative and measures and activities of the fishing community. The real problem, if I may say so, is not lack of development or lack of control either but the real problem is that the projects and proposals which have been adumbrated in the Five Year Plans are not being implemented properly and the targets are not being met. I have been going through the Planning Commission's Mid Term Appraisal of the Fourth Plan. There you find paragraph by paragraph observations that we are falling short of the target. As regards improvement and development, rate of growth targeted was 6.40 per cent, but taking into account the last three years the compound rate of growth has been only 5.6 per cent per annum.

In regard to inland fisheries, the assessment is that although quite a sizeable proportion of the fish catch and the fishing industry has got to be done by inland fisheries, in that sphere we are not making any headway at all.

"For the development of inland fisheries, there are a number of inter-connected programmes in the State Plan sector..... It will be seen that the progress during the first two years is not quite satisfactory, specially in regard to the programme of fish production."

"In Kerala and West Bengal, a programme for brackish water fish farming in reclaimed swamps is also envisaged in the Plan..... Evidently, much remains to be done in this direction."

The progress has been far from satisfactory.

In regard to mechanisation of fishing also, we are far behind the target. The target for the Fourth Plan is the introduction of 5100 mechanised boats.

"The progress during the first two years of the Plan is inadequate as only 1529 boats have been mechanised.....It will be observed that except for Mysore, all other maritime States are quite behind the schedule, and at this rate, these States may not be able to achieve the target earmarked for the Fourth Plan."

As for deep sea fishing the same remark is given in the Appraisal :

"In the marine sector, offshore and deep-sea fishing has so far failed to receive adequate attention in view of the non-availability of requisite number of fishing trawlers, insufficient facilities....."

About trawlers, the difficulty is not that persons are not prepared to put in money to buy them. Quite a number of proposals

[Shri C.M. Stephen]

are there; persons are coming forward to buy and the potentiality is immense. But unfortunately, certain Ministries of the Government India have taken the stand that if they import one trawler from abroad they will have to buy one indigenously-made. It is an unfortunate fact that the indigenous product is mere junk. Some such trawlers are there on the coast of Goa; they are not able to do anything at all. While purchase of foreign trawlers helps us to bring foreign exchange by being able to catch more fish and export it, this compulsion to buy an indigenously-made trawler acts as an inhibiting factor. Yesterday or the day before, I saw a statement by Shri Shinde that a relaxation has been sanctioned in this, but even that relaxation is only this that if two trawlers are to be taken from overseas, one will have to be purchased indigenously. That means, he has to put in additional money to buy a mere junk. That has impeded the development of deep sea fishing. Money there is to be invested in buying foreign trawlers, persons are prepared to invest, fish there are to be tapped in the deep sea which will definitely bring us foreign exchange, but because of this absurd idea of import substitution knowing full well that the indigenously-made trawler is more junk for this purpose, deep sea fishing has also faltered. Now the mistake is being realised a little bit by easing the condition but the easing does not help to the extent required.

In regard to fishing harbours there is the same story. A few major ports have been sanctioned but work is not being proceeded with.

"For the development of major ports, against an allocation of Rs. 1350 lakhs, only a sum of Rs. 29 lakhs is reported to have been utilised by the end of 1970-71. This presents a rather disquieting picture. The major port of Madras, which was sanctioned in 1968, has yet to make adequate progress."

Although the development of Bombay port was sanctioned in 1969, the work has only just begun, while in the case of Cochin, as usual, the sanction is still to issue. For Cochin, if the sanction is issued, they

will take it up, but there, the sanction is still to issue. With respect to the other thing, sanction has been issued but the work has not been taken up. Anyway with regard to the major fishing ports, that is the position.

With regard to the minor ports, it is stated that some progress has been made; there is some progress in the marketing process and storage; but progress has still got to be made. Refrigeration facilities have got to be developed. Ice-producing plants have still got to be developed. In everyone of these items, according to the appraisal given in the Planning Commission's report, we are behind the target. That is the present position.

Then again, about the Central Research Institute. The fourth five Year Plan provided an outlay of Rs. 320 lakhs against which a sum of Rs. 29 lakhs only has been utilised during the first two years of the Plan. That is the picture. It says that, "there are seven all-India co-ordinated research projects included in the fourth Plan based on multi-disciplinary approach for effective utilisation of available resources to tackle the various important problems facing the fishing industry." They go on to say that these objectives are not likely to be achieved, and the progress on the schemes is more or less not nil. That is the observation they have to make.

17.16 Hrs.

[SHRI R. D. BHANDARE *in the Chair*]

The purpose of my reading these extracts from the midterm appraisal is to pinpoint the real problem in the fishing industry. We have got our ideas about the development and our schemes for development. Money has been sanctioned in the fourth five year Plan, and the appropriate authorities are functioning in the different areas. Nevertheless, in an area where foreign exchange without much of capital investment can just be collected from the sea, we are not able to make any headway. That is the real problem. That is the problem that has to be solved today.

The question is, how this marine authority that we are now establishing through this Bill will be able to meet this problem. There

are different sectors with different schemes. They are not proceeding further. What has got to be done? Unless we invest this marine authority with proper power for the co-ordination of these schemes which have been sanctioned by the Government, whether it is the Central sector or the State sector, and for the evaluation of the progress that is being made and have the power to go ahead and to fill up the gap so that where there is a bottleneck, that bottleneck can be removed, and the work is proceeded with, unless this marine authority is vested with those powers, unless we do that, the problem in the industry will not be solved and we will still remain stuck up somewhere and we will not be making any progress.

As far as I am concerned, that is the touchstone of the adequacy of the powers and the adequacy of the way the Bill has been framed. If this is the touchstone, I would just like to invite your attention to the provisions given in clause 9 of this Bill. What do we find there? We find:

"It shall be the duty of the Authority to promote, by such measures as it thinks fit, the development under the control of the Central Government of the marine products industry with special reference to exports."

I find in this Bill in several clauses, you are emphasising two phrases: "Under the control of the Central Government" or "under the authority of the Central Government." They give us the impression that the Government are nervous as if somebody else will come into the picture. That is very funny, because, again, sub-clause (3) of clause 9 says:

"The Authority shall perform its functions under this section in accordance with and subject to such rules as may be made by the Central Government."

They have definitely stated it, earlier, but they are not satisfied with it. In clause after clause, you say, "under the authority of the Central Government" or "under the control of the Central Government." I do not know for what purpose these repetitions are made.

Of course, fishery is a State subject under our Constitution. It is a Central subject only if fisheries and fishing are taking place beyond the territorial waters of India. Fisheries is not a Central subject, but by this Act it has been made a Central subject, by making a declaration as in clause 2 of the Bill which says:

"It is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that the Union should take under its control the marine products industry."

We are going to deal with it, which under the Constitution has been reserved for the State Governments. All right. If we are going to do it, we have got effectively to operate it in formulating the measures. Otherwise, there is no justification. I do not know whether this was the feeling that compelled the Government to reiterate in every clause of the Bill that it is "under the authority of the Central Government" and so on. I am only saying that it is redundant and makes the Bill appear unseemly and unwholesome wherever it is unnecessary, it should be dropped. This is a passing reference that wanted to make.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons they say that the marine products industry is at present not subject to any discipline or regulation. Is it a question of advancement and development or discipline and regulation? In clause 9, they say that it shall be the duty of the Authority to promote the development of the marine products industry. That is a general section. We come to specific provisions. What are the powers? Registration of vessels, fixation of standards and specifications, regulating the export of marine products and improving the marketing of marine products outside India - whatever it may mean - registering of exporters, collection of statistics, etc., carrying out of inspection. If you really mean to develop the industry and see that the projects that are approved by the Government and the Planning Commission are implemented properly and pull up those who are not implementing them, the authority given under clause 9 is far from adequate. Specific authority has to be given. You may by notification and rules be able to give some power but the enumeration section should be dovetailed with the

[Shri C. M. Stephen]

Statement of Objects and Reasons so that we may know: here is an Authority which has full powers, with full awareness of its responsibilities and it will see that this is implemented. That is a lacuna.

In the matter of the constitution of the authority there is the same old bureaucratic, bourgeois approach. We have got in India a fishing community, which was fishing in our country for very long time. Mechanisation has now come in. Has anybody thought of that community? Some of them have even mechanised boats. I come from a fishing area. In Quilon it is done on a big scale and it is one of the premier ports of Kerala. The fishing community there are still economically backward and are toiling and are being exploited; they have no housing and live under extreme hardships. Certain persons who had nothing to do with fishing had come forward and taken to fishing and they had become millionaires; they have pumped money in mechanised boats and all. In this Bill they have been given representation. Representation is given to dealers, middlemen, owners of boats, and conveyances, and storage houses and processing apparatus; there is some small representation for employees, whatever it may mean. But that section of the people who are doing fishing, some of them with mechanised boats given by the Government but not owning them, not being employed by anybody and so not earning wages in that sense but still contributing considerably to the development of the fishing industry, have no representation. Middlemen and men who make money by exploiting others are there in the picture, as also dealers who earn crores by manipulating foreign exchange but the toiling people are not there. Hereafter let us change the old standard. Formerly whenever there was some authority constituted, you equated the producer with the man who puts money but you never equated the producer with the man who put his sweat into the affairs. The same pattern is still there. I raise my voice of protest against such sort of constitution of authority. I submit that the different classes of interests who are engaged in fishing must be there. If at all anybody must be rated last, it must be the owner of the vessel. I do not say he must not be there,

There is no danger even if he is avoided. What is the purpose of the Bill? It is regulation, control, registration, licensing, export marketing regulation etc. There, the persons who are interested in getting those licences, if I may say so, must not be on the authority, so that they may not be their own judges that should not be the pattern.

Then again, in the constitution of the Authority different Ministries come in. Agriculture is there because fishing is part of agriculture. Finance is there, because they must give you money. Foreign Trade is there, I can understand that. I do not really understand why Industry should be there. I really do not know why Shipping and Transport should be there. But why is not the Ministry of Labour and Employment represented, because the measures that have to be taken are measures which would affect labour. Therefore, if different Ministries ought to be represented, I think that the Ministry of Labour and Employment also must be represented in this Board. I have given notice of an amendment, I do not know whether, it is coming up. Anyway, that is one of the suggestions that I have put forward. More powers have got to be invested in this authority, and the constitution of the authority must also certainly change. Otherwise, the picture will be very different. I have given notice of certain amendments. They were given only today. Therefore, I am not entitled to say that they must be considered. But I would definitely request the Minister to go through the amendments and give consideration to them if they are not absolutely foolish, if there are certain things which are fairly presentable in them. They were given with the *bona fide* purpose of giving this Authority proper effectiveness.

The Marine Authority is being established. Very good. It has a great function to perform, and I hope that under the banner of that Marine Authority, the fishing industry will develop and the targets fixed by the Planning Commission will be achieved. In that connection, I submit a word on behalf of the State to which I belong. This is one of the industries to which Kerala can make a claim, because from the statistic you will find that Kerala is the foremost in the fishing industry. The total expendi-

ture that is contemplated in the Fourth Plan is Rs. 4,870 lakhs, of which Rs. 1,170 lakhs is set apart for Kerala because that is the main fishing industrial sector. In mechanisation of boats, out of 5,100 Kerala has got to give 1,600—a little over one-third. In fish catch also, the picture is that Kerala is to catch more than one-fourth of the fish to be caught in respect of the targets also, we are doing more than our share. When the question of the location of the headquarters of the Authority is considered, the claim of Kerala has got to be taken into account, because if fishing is to develop, and if that is what you mean, researches have to be taken up in a major way. Harbour development has to be taken up in a major way. At the very centre of the fishing activity, this Authority must have its headquarters. Next to Kerala, comes Tamil Nadu. These are the two areas in the forefront as far as fishing is concerned. Harbour development should be given the highest priority but that has not been sanctioned.

It is for the minister to reply to the proposal to refer the Bill to a Select Committee. As far as I am concerned, it is a very urgent measure. We are lagging far behind the target. Therefore, this Authority has got to be set up immediately and it should start functioning very early. Conceding there are some defects in the Bill, the defects could be cured at this stage itself without referring it to a Select Committee. Immediate discussion should take place and Bill should be passed, so that the Authority starts functioning very early and the valuable fish catch may not be wasted.

With these words, subject to the amendments which I have tabled, I support the Bill.

राधाबतार शास्त्री (पटना) : सभापति महोदय, सामुद्रिक उत्पाद निर्यात विकास प्राधिकार विधेयक 1972 का मैं समर्थन करता हूँ इस विधेयक का समर्थन करते हुए मैं दो-तीन बातों के सम्बन्ध में निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ।

इस विधेयक में यह बात बताई गई है कि मछली और समुद्र से उत्पन्न होने

वाली कुछ दूसरी चीजों का निर्यात बढ़ाया जाना चाहिये ताकि हमें ज्यादा से ज्यादा विदेशी मुद्रा का फायदा हो। जहाँ तक उद्देश्यों की बात है, मैंने प्रारम्भ में ही कहा है कि इसका समर्थन हर कोई करेगा और हर आदमी यह चाहेगा कि हमारे देश से समुद्र से उत्पन्न होने वाली मछली और दूसरी चीजों को अन्य देशों में भेजा जाय और वहाँ से ज्यादा से ज्यादा आमदनी प्राप्त करें। इनके विकास के लिये इस विधेयक में और भी बहुत सी बातें की गई हैं, जैसे किस तरह से भण्डार का प्रबंध करेंगे, किस तरह से उन को सुखायेंगे, किस तरह से नमक डालेंगे, बहुत सी विधियाँ बतलाई गई हैं। उन विधियों को कार्यान्वित करने के लिये आप प्राधिकारी यानी अथॉरिटी का गठन करना चाहते हैं। लेकिन जैसा स्टीफन साहब ने भी कहा—आप ने प्राधिकारी का गठन तो किया, इस की सूची भी बहुत लम्बी हो गई है, लेकिन इस में मछुओं या उन की यूनियनों के प्रतिनिधियों को आपने नहीं रखा, जिस की वजह से उनके स्वार्थों की रक्षा नहीं हो सकेगी और जैसा कि बतलाया गया है कि जो इसमें मुनाफ़ा कमाते हैं एक तरह की इजारेदारी मछली के व्यापार में होती जा रही है उन को ही इससे फायदा होगा। मैं चाहता हूँ कि मछुओं या उनकी यूनियनों को भी इसमें रखा जाय ताकि वे भी अपनी राय बतला सकें कि इस उद्योग का कैसे विकास किया जा सकता है।

इसके साथ-साथ मछली की कीमत भी नहीं बढ़नी चाहिये। दोनों बातें हों—एक तरफ मछली का निर्यात भी बढ़े, दूसरी तरफ उसका असर हमारे घर में भी न पड़े, हमारे देश में बिकने वाली मछली का भाव न बढ़े।

सभापति महोदय, आप जानते हैं, हमारे देश में मछली की कीमत और चीजों के साथ-साथ बढ़ती जा रही है। मछली गरीब से गरीब लोग भी खाते हैं और

[श्री रामावतार शास्त्री]
 घनी भी खाते हैं। आज दिल्ली में मछली की कीमत 8 ६० किलो है और जिस मछली का निर्यात आप करने जा रहे हैं, जिसे लौबस्टर कहते हैं, हिन्दी में झींगा मछली कहते हैं, जो बहुत ही स्वादिष्ट मछली होती है, हमारे देश में उस मछली की कीमत क्या है, क्या आप को मालूम है? दिल्ली में वह मछली 14 ६० किलो बिक रही है। जब कि दूसरी मछलियाँ 8 ६० किलो बिक रही हैं इसलिये जहाँ मछलियों का निर्यात बढ़े, वहाँ यह भी देखना होगा कि कैसे उसका उत्पादन ज्यादा से ज्यादा बढ़े। ऐसा न हो कि एक तरफ आप निर्यात बढ़ायें, दूसरी तरफ उससे दाम बढ़ने शुरू हो जाएं। इसमें कोई सन्देह नहीं कि निर्यात से आप को पैसा मिलेगा, लेकिन जिस जनता का नाम हम लोग प्रतिदिन उठ कर लेते हैं और शाम तक उस का नाम लेते रहते हैं, उस को वह मिले ही नहीं। इस के लिये आप को उपाय करना चाहिये। इसका एक उपाय यह है कि जहाँ हम समुद्री मछली का उत्पादन बढ़ायें, वहाँ देश के कोने-कोने में मछली का जो उत्पादन होता है उसकी वृद्धि हो ताकि समुद्र से मिलनेवाली मछली हम कम खायें, ज्यादा से ज्यादा इसको बाहर भेजें और अपने देश की पूर्ति देश के अन्दर पैदा होनेवाली मछली से करें। हर सूबे के अन्दर पोखर हैं, नदियाँ हैं, तालाब हैं, जहाँ से इन मछलियों को निकाला जाता है, वहाँ हम इन को विकसित करें। आज इन की हालत अच्छी नहीं है। कहने के लिये "जीरा" उत्पादन के नाम पर आप बहुत से उपाय करते हैं, राज्य सरकारों की भी मदद करते हैं, लेकिन उसका ठीक से प्रयोग नहीं होता है। देश में मछली के उत्पादन को सही ढंग से विकसित नहीं किया जाता है, जिसका असर निर्यात पर भी पड़ सकता है, क्योंकि फिर समुद्र की मछली घर के बाजारों

में आ कर बिकने लगेगी। इसलिये आप समुद्री मछली के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के साथ-साथ घर की मछली के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के लिये भी विशेष प्रयत्न करें ताकि उसका इस्तेमाल जनता कर सके तथा उसकी कीमत पर नियन्त्रण रखने की भी व्यवस्था की जाए ताकि हमसे हमारे देश को फायदा हो।

17 35 Hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TEWARY in the Chair]

हमें ऐसा मालूम हुआ है कि आप ने मछली के आयात के सिलसिले में बंगला देश से कोई समझौता किया है या करने का विचार रखते हैं। अगर आप ने कोई समझौता किया है तो वह क्या है किन-किन मवालों पर आप ने क्या फौमला किया है? अगर समझौता करने वाले हैं तो आप की योजना क्या है—यह भी हम को मालूम होना चाहिये ताकि यह अन्दाजा लग सके कि आप कौन-सी कार्यवाही करने जा रहे हैं।

समुद्र से मछली के अतिरिक्त और भी बहुत सी चीजें निकलती हैं, जैसे घोघा, शंख मिनुहा, आदि। इन के निर्यात की तरफ भी आप का ध्यान जाना चाहिये। इस प्राधिकार का गठन समुद्र से निकलनेवाली सभी चीजों के विकास के लिये हो रहा है, जिन का आप निर्यात करेंगे और विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित करेंगे, लेकिन अभी यहाँ पर ज्यादातर मछली का ही उल्लेख किया गया है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि शंख, शेल्ल आदि के निर्यात की तरफ भी आप का ध्यान जाना चाहिये। बाहर के लोग इन चीजों को बहुत पसन्द करते हैं, जो भी विदेशी पर्यटक यहाँ आते हैं, वे काफ़ी मात्रा में इन चीजों को खरीद कर ले जाते हैं, इस लिये इन चीजों के निर्यात से भी हम को काफ़ी लाभ हो सकता है।

आखिर में, मैं फिर निवेदन करना चाहता

हूँ कि आप ने इस प्राधिकार के सदस्यों की काफ़ी लम्बी सूची बनाई है, इस को काफ़ी विस्तृत कर दिया है, लेकिन मछुओं का प्रतिनिधि नहीं रखा है और न उनकी यूनियन के प्रतिनिधि को लिया है।

लेबर डिपार्टमेंट के प्रतिनिधि को भी प्राधिकारी का सदस्य होना चाहिये। इस संबंध में मैं स्टीफन साहब के प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूँ। स्टीफन साहब ने ठीक ही कहा है कि लेबर और रिहैबिलिटेशन (दोनों एक ही डिपार्टमेंट हैं) डिपार्टमेंट को भी इसमें रखा जाना चाहिये ताकि लाखों की संख्या में जो मछुए हैं उन के हकों को देखने वाला, हिफाजत करने वाला कोई तो हो जो यह देखे कि उन के हक पर कुठाराघात तो नहीं हो रहा है, मछली के जो इजारेदार हैं, व्यापारी है वे गोलमाल तो नही कर रहे हैं, आप के अफसर तो उन्हें नही मता रहे हैं और नौकरशाही तो उन्हें तंग नही कर रही है, इन तमाम बातों को देखने के लिए जरूरी है कि लेबर और रिहैबिलिटेशन मंत्रालय के प्रतिनिधि को भी इसमें रखा जाना चाहिये। तभी यह ज्यादा काम का होगा।

बहुत मारी बातें जो इस उद्योग से संबंधित हैं मैं उनका बहुत ज्यादा जानकारी नहीं हूँ। स्टीफन साहब ने बहुत मारी बातें यहापर कही हैं। तो इन तमाम बातों पर विचार कर के इस विधेयक में सुधार किया जाना चाहिये। इन सुझावों के साथ मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूँ।

DR. HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam) :
Sir, our nation is passing through a period of euphoria, thanks to the magnificent achievements of the green revolution. But I have always maintained that this growth or achievement will not be conducive to our allround growth unless parallel growths are registered in related fields as well.

My hon. friends have been highlighting

the importance of the sea foods with respect to the export potential or possibilities but my concern primarily is to view this problem of the development of fisheries in its relation to providing our people with a balanced diet. A nation cannot be satisfied with the mere production of foodgrains. Food-grains' production has necessarily to be supplemented by proteinaceous food. If only we exploit the wealth of the deep, we can have this achievement.

When we talk of the green revolution, the logical corollary of it should be that we should think in terms of a blue revolution, a revolution that would bring forth so many favourable consequences. Marine biologists say that one of the main fish breeding centres namely, wadger bank, lie very near the coast of Kerala. This was discovered as early as nineteenth century, but even till today we have not been able to exploit the tremendous potentiality of this wadger bank. Marine biologists would further say that if that wadger bank alone is exploited, we will be able to give proteinaceous food almost to all the countries in south and south-east Asia. When such abundant potential is available to us, it is very depressing to see that this facet of our economic development has not been attended to. Although late, I congratulate the Ministry for coming forward with the proposal to create a statutory central authority to give proper direction to this vital sector of our economy.

Out of no income at all, from fifties when there was no export of sea food at all, today we have come up to about Rs. 38 crores from sea food export alone. Concurrently, we have been able to supply this proteinaceous food—some informed people say that fish is much better than even meat of various kinds— to increasingly large number of our people who have been largely dependent upon starch foods. Our main concern should be to make our food structure based on a balanced diet; and fish can provide the protein component of the balanced diet that we should provide for our non-vegetarian population.

So, both from the point of view of export and from the standpoint of our concern for providing proteinaceous food to our

[Dr. Henry Austin]

people this effort now being undertaken by the Ministry of Foreign Trade should be praised. Now, coming to this industry, I should say, that this industry has had a very lop-sided growth. I have been the President of the Indian Trawlers' Association for a number of years. My main concern in accepting the Presidentship was to make my own humble contribution in igniting the "blue revolution." Prof. Gerhedson of Norway, one of the leading marine biologists of the world who headed the Indo-Norwegian Project in Neendakara adjoining my constituency, told me that they had succeeded in locating a shrimp belt extending from off-coast of Mangalore right upto southern part of Kerala. He told me that if this belt is exploited even by surface exploitation, we will be able to provide adequate fish both for internal consumption and for massive export. So inspired by this vision of a great scientist, I had been able to organise some unions and enthuse so many people to go into this field.

Today, in Kerala alone, we have about 2,800 mechanised fishing boats. You will be surprised to know that on any day many of these mechanised boats will be lying idle merely because of mechanical troubles and lack of workshop facilities and spare parts. There are no proper workshop facilities. Most of the mechanised boats are lying idle for want of spare-parts, may be for want of one nut or one bolt. The net result is that lakhs and lakhs of rupees and valuable foreign exchange earnings are lost because of inability to use the already existing facilities. So, I suggest that immediate steps are taken to create a network of workshops. That is one suggestion.

Another suggestion is this. As my hon. friend, Shri Stephen said, the poor fisherman does not seem to benefit from this revolution. The people who have no vital involvement in the industry have recently entered into this field with the aim of making easy money and the net result is that the poor fishermen segment of our society has become a hot-bed for exploitation. So, I appeal to the hon. Minister to see that adequate representation is given to the *bona fide* fishermen who sacrifice even their lives to extract the wealth of the depth. When the poor fisherman goes into the sea

with all sorts of hazards braving the waves and the cyclones, his wife and children do not know whether he will come back. The people involved in such hazardous jobs should get their due. They should not be allowed to be exploited. These are the people who enrich our coffers also. So, I would request the hon. Minister to see that adequate representation is given, to the real working and toiling class of the segment in this Authority.

One healthy development in this industry has been the emergence of profit sharing. I think, this is perhaps the largest profit-sharing industry in India. Even with a lopsided growth and without any proper direction, the fisherman gets 30 to 40 per cent of the net catch of a privately owned mechanised vessel. However, this industry is running at a loss. Because of lack of direction and organisation, this industry has been receiving serious setbacks recently. That has been evidenced by the reports of several banks which advance money for mechanised boats or for other things. The people involved in this industry have given a proposal of granting oil subsidy. This has been with the Ministry for such a long time and the oil subsidy has not been granted. This oil subsidy is one of the means by which the industry can be saved.

In this context, I would suggest that in order to organise the industry and to give it proper direction, I would suggest, that no boat should be given to any individual. Such of the mechanised boats that are available should be entrusted to genuine *bona fide* cooperative societies of fishermen. I say that the whole industry should be nationalised. Then, these cooperative societies alone should be given licence to export shrimp and other sea foods. No individual should be allowed to export shrimp. What is happening is that the fishermen are exploited and they are actually becoming a pawn in the hands of the middle-men who are exporters. Who are these middle-men? As my hon. friend pointed out, they are the people with no stake in the welfare of the fishermen. That is the situation as I see it.

Therefore, it is very important that we should have a Central Statutory Authority

to give direction to the development of this industry which could play a similar role as the revolution on the agricultural front. With these observations, I would welcome the creation of a Central Authority in order to give a proper direction to the fishing industry whose potentialities are tremendous. As I pointed out, the exploitation of the fishery wealth has yet touched only the fringes, even today we are exporting mostly only shrimp, there are a tremendous possibilities of exporting tuna, Bombay duck, sardines and other varieties of fish which have a good markets in foreign countries. In the United States, when I was a student, I had to pay almost the equivalent of Rs 25 for a shrimp dinner, about three or four shrimps, whereas at the same time in my constituency, before the Indo-Norwegian project was started shrimp used to be taken and thrown into the sea by the fishermen. It was not considered to be a fish worth eating. Such are the developments in this field. Therefore, I am glad that the Ministry has moved into the matter, and I hope that, through the constitution of the Central Authority, we will be able to contribute significantly not only to the promotion of export but also to provide proteinous food to the people of our country, certain kind of fish could be earmarked for internal consumption rather than for export. In Bengal, Kerala and many other states statistics show that a considerable percentage of our population like eating fish while there is a general aversion to eating meat. This aspect of the situation could also be taken advantage of in the development of the fishing industry.

Some amendments have been moved and I would suggest that they may be considered. The proposal of sending it to the Select Committee may not be good because it is a matter in which expeditious decision has to be taken.

Ultimately, when the question of location of the headquarters of the Authority comes up, I would suggest that the States which really have a vital stake in the matter should be considered, and as my hon friend pointed out, Kerala State may be considered, I should not be parochial, but from the point of view of actual involvement, Kerala State deserves special consideration.

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी (शाजापुर) : सभापति महोदय, देरी से क्यों न हो, केन्द्र का ध्यान सागर की ओर गया। इसका मैं स्वागत करता हूँ।

भारत का सागरी किनारा बहुत विस्तृत और बड़ा है, लगभग चार हजार मील का। पुराण काल से हम जानते हैं कि सागर रत्नों का भण्डार रहा है। देव और दानवों ने कई चीजें सागर से पैदा की थीं। आज भी सागर खाद्य की दृष्टि से खनिज की दृष्टि से औषधि की दृष्टि से जितना विस्तृत और व्यापक पैमाने में इसका संशोधन होना आवश्यक है उतना नहीं हुआ है। इस-लिए लगता यह है कि....

श्री शशिशूषण (दक्षिण दिल्ली) : मंथन से क्या क्या निकला यह बताइये।

श्री जगन्नाथराव जोशी : हां बताता हूँ। लगता यह है कि जैसे-जैसे सामुद्रिक उत्पादन का निर्यात बढ़कर विदेशी मुद्रा का अर्जन होने लगता है, उसकी वजह से केन्द्र का इसकी ओर ध्यान गया होगा। क्योंकि जहाँ-जहाँ सागर तटवर्ती प्रदेश है उनका एक एक अपना स्वयं का फिशरीज डिपार्टमेंट तो है ही। एक मंत्री महोदय स्वयं मुझ को भी मिले थे जो इसी दृष्टि से यूरोप का दौरा कर रहे थे हमारे मैसूर के मंत्री महोदय। तो आज केन्द्र और प्रदेश ये दोनों मिलकर वास्तव में यदि बहा डिस्प्लेन जो चाहिए, आर्गनाइजेशन जो चाहिए इसकी दृष्टि से जो साधनों की कमी है उसको पूरा करके यदि तीनों दृष्टि से सागर का मंथन करें तो आज उसकी आवश्यकता है। जैसे अपने सागरी तट है वैसे ही द्वीप है— अडमान निकोबार है, लक्षदीव है जहाँ बढिया सोना नाम का फिश मिलता है। वास्तव में वहाँ केन्द्र ध्यान देकर वहाँ की पैदावार बढ़ाकर उसका उत्पादन बढ़ाने की सुविधिसित योजना बनाये, इसकी बहुत आवश्यकता है।

[श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी]

दूसरी बात यह है कि हम कई बार कहते हैं कि अंडर सी वर्ल्ड यह इतना समृद्ध है कि खाद्यान्न की दृष्टि से कल जाकर—अन्न उत्पादन भले ही कम हो, किन्तु सागर के नीचे से, जलान्तर्गत जो भी वनस्पति उत्पादन होती है उसमें हम खाद्यान्न की पूर्ति कर सकते हैं। मागरीन्तर्गत, जलान्तर्गत उसकी दृष्टि से जो भी संशोधन आवश्यक है और इनके लिये जो राशि रखी गई है दो लाख की वह किस हिमाब से रखी, समझ में नहीं आया। A paltry sum of Rs. 2 lakhs and a recurring expenditure also of only Rs. 12 lakhs. यानी भारत जैसा बड़ा देश, सागर जैसा विस्तृत किनारा और आज इतनी सारी टेकनालाजी बढ़ गई है, उसके आधार पर, वहां से केवल फिश उसमें से निकले यह कोई जरूरी नहीं, फिश के साथ सागरीय उत्पाद है उसका संशोधन होना है, उसको बाहर निकालना है, जैसे अभी मेरे मित्र रामावतार शास्त्री ने कहा कि जो शंभू होता है उसका भी निर्यात किया जा सकता है। हम मागरी तट पर जाकर देखेंगे कि वहां जो विदेशी यात्री आते हैं वह क्या क्या चीजे खरीदते हैं एक एक रुपया देकर वह खरीदते हैं। उसका मार्केटिंग हो सकता है। इसका भी जग अध्ययन करके जहां भी ज्यादा उसका उपयोग हो, इस दृष्टि से केन्द्र और प्रदेश ये दोनों मिलकर माथ-माथ मंथन करें, देव और दानव जैसे सागर का मंथन करके खाद्यान्न, औषधि और खनिज इन तीनो बानो पर ध्यान दें।

एक बात मैं मान लेता हूँ कि इस क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले जो मछुवे हैं उनको यहां प्रतिनिधित्व मिलेगा इस अधिारटी में ? इसमें जिनके पास बैसल है मैकनिकली प्रोपेल्ड, उनका प्रतिनिधित्व है, उसमें हमारे जो साधारण मछुवे हैं उनके पास यह नहीं है, क्या वह इसमें इनक्लूड हो जाते हैं। आखिर यह कम्युनिटी जो है वह छोटी नहीं

है, बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर है, पूर्वी तट पर है, पश्चिमी तट पर है तो आखिर इनका प्रतिनिधित्व करने की जो बात आपने लिखी है, उसमें यह कम्युनिटी अ. जाएगी ?

“Such other persons or class of persons who, in the opinion of the Central Government, ought to be represented on the Authority”.

क्या इसमें वह सम्मिलित हो जाएगी ? नहीं मैं समझता हूँ कि वास्तव में जो जिम्मेदार हैं उनके प्रतिनिधि वहां नहीं रहेंगे तो एक बड़ी भारी असंतुलित स्थिति हो जायेगी। सुबह से लेकर शाम तक जो बेचाग परिश्रम करता है, किन्तु कभी कभी देखने को मिलता है कि बम्बई में जैसे माहिम से रास्ते पर मछुवारे मछली मुखाने के लिए रास्ते में फेक देते हैं क्योंकि मछली मुखाने की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है, स्टोरेज को फर्मिलिटी नहीं है, बड़े पैमाने पर मछली पकड़ने के बाद जो उसको आमदनी होनी चाहिये वह नष्ट होती है। इसकी व्यवस्था शासन करे यह मैं चाहता हूँ। नहीं तो बड़े पैमाने पर जब केन्द्र सरकार जैसा अभी मेरे भाई ने कहा 'ह्लाई नाट नेशनलाइज ? यदि यह ट्रेड रहा तो टेकमटाइल इन्डस्ट्री खड़ी होकर जैसे हमारा बुनकर मर गया, वैसा ही कल जाकर यह इन्डस्ट्री खड़ी होकर निर्यात भी बढ़ेगा, सरकार की आमदनी भी बढ़ेगी किन्तु कम्युनिटी एट लार्ज जो है वह बिल्कुल खत्म हो जाएगी। तो मैं सरकार से आग्रह करना चाहता हूँ कि यह सागर उद्योग बढ़ाते समय भी उद्योग में जो बाप-दादः भे, जो शताब्दियों से प्रत्यक्ष काम करते आये हैं, मेहनत करके, पसीना बहाकर सुबह से लेकर शाम तक सागर की लहरों में खेलते रहते हैं, जूमते रहते हैं, ऐसे लोगों की स्थिति सुधरे, उनकी हालत सुधरे और नई व्यवस्था के अन्तर्गत जिम्मेदारी के साथ उनका बिटावा जाए, यह देखना बहुत आवश्यक है। बरना बीच वाला भाग घुसेगा और वह सारा मुनाफा के रूप में नवनीत जायेगा। हम और भी ध्यान दिया जाय।

*SHRI RAMACHANDRAN KADANNAPPALLI (Kasargod) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I congratulate the hon Minister for bringing forward this, the Marine Products Export Development Authority Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member may continue tomorrow.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, March 29, 1972/Chaitra 9, 1894 (Saka)

*The original speech was delivered in Malayalam.