

[श्री बृजराज सिंह]

always endeavour to solve disputes peacefully."

एप्रैशन जो ८ सितम्बर से पहले हमारे ऊपर हुआ उसे हम पीसफुली सोल्व करने की कोशिश करते रहे। दुबारा चीन ने ८ सितम्बर को फिर हम पर हमला किया और दुबारा हमें धोखा हुआ और इसके बाद भी वह ८ सितम्बर की लाइन के लिए हमारी सरकार ने कोलम्बो प्रोजेक्ट्स के रूप में फिर से मान लिया और आज भी हम यह दावा करते हैं कि अब भी हम चीन को पीसफुली पीछे हटा देंगे? कहां तक यह हो सकेगा मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We have to take up non-official business now. The hon. Member may continue on Monday.

14.30 hrs.

HINDU MARRIAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of section 13)
by Shri D. C. Sharma

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955."

The motion was adopted.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I introduce the Bill.

YOUNG PERSONS (HARMFUL PUBLICATIONS) AMENDMENT BILL

(Amendment of section 2)
by Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya (Raiganj): I beg to move for leave to introduce

a Bill to amend the Young Persons (Harmful Publications) Act, 1956.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Young Persons (Harmful Publications) Act, 1956."

The motion was adopted.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: I introduce the Bill.

WORKING JOURNALISTS (CONDITIONS OF SERVICE) AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Insertion of new Section 7A)
by Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya (Raiganj): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955."

The motion was adopted.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: I introduce the Bill.

14.32 hrs.

CENTRAL SILK BOARD (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of sections 4 and 6)
by Shri Sham Lal Saraf

Shri Sham Lal Saraf (Jammu and Kashmir): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Silk Board

Act, 1948 be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following 30 members, namely, Shri Joachim Alva, Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad, Shri Bhakt Darshan, His Highness Maharaja Pratap Keshari Deo, Shri R. Dharmalingam, Shri J. N. Hazarika, Shri Harish Chandra Heda, Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath, Shri Nityanand Kanungo, Shri Lalit Sen, Shri Harish Chandra Mathur, Shri Gopal Dutt Mengi, Shri David Munzni, Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafir, Shri S. K. Paramasivan, Shri Man Singh P. Patel, Shri Rajeshwar Patel, Shri Raghunath Singh, Shrimati Renuka Ray, Shri Bishan Chander Seth, Shri M. Shankaraiya, Shri Vidya Charan Shukla, Shri S. Siddananjappa, Shri S. M. Siddiah, Shri Sivamurthi Swami, Shri G. G. Swell, Shri U. M. Trivedi, Shri Ravindra Varma, Shrimati V. Vinla Devi and Shri Sham Lal Saraf, with instructions to report by the first day of the next Session.

Sir, originally I had the intention to move a Bill for amending two or three sections of the Act. But in last June for the first time after being elected as a member on the Central Silk Board by this august House I felt that this Board that was constituted in 1948 by an Act known as the Central Silk Board Act had done wonderful work all these years but the magnitude of the work was so much now that its constitution required to be changed. In the first instance I felt that steps should be taken to enable the Board to meet more often than it used to meet up till now. The Board comprising of thirty-eight members or so meets twice a year, in spite of the fact that this industry is rapidly growing—about which I shall be speaking in some detail. I felt that a Board constituted of so many interests and numbering thirty-eight and meeting only twice a year may not be able to do justice to the cause of this industry

which is spreading, and has spread, all over the country. Keeping that in view I first wanted, by introducing this Bill, to lessen the number of members on the Board and, secondly, to give a little democratic shape to its constitutional formation and then to see what might happen later.

After this Bill was introduced in August last, a number of my hon. colleagues, both from my own party and from the opposition, who talked to me on this subject have felt increasingly interested to know a little more about this industry and how better and better attention could be given to this industry in order to give benefit to the people as a whole.

In 1948 when this Act was passed and in 1949 when this Board was constituted under this Act and it began to work, I must say that at that time the entire industry was disjointed. That is the first point. The second point is that in the different States where this industry has its different operations, there was very little common thinking or common action on the part of those who were engaged in this industry. But as a result of the formation of this Board—I speak from personal experience, because I have been associated in some way with the working of the Board for some time and I can safely say that it has created the feeling all over the country that only if the people, the technicians, the people in charge, those who are engaged in this industry all over the country have a common thinking and a common approach, that alone will save this industry and give the persons engaged therein the full benefit of its potential.

What has been achieved so far is marvellous, and I must commend it and pay my compliments to the Government who have formulated the scheme and to its experts who have worked on the Board and who have

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helped in the working of the industry. But fifteen years have passed. The body has grown so much, the magnitude of the work is so much that the cover over it is too small firstly in its working, in the approach and also in dovetailing the efforts that are put in by the different States in the country.

If you permit me, I would like to explain that in this industry we have two categories, firstly the mulberry silk and, secondly, the non-mulberry silk. In regard to mulberry silk at the moment there are eleven States where this industry is well established and is making increasing progress, and also in three Centrally-administered areas namely Himachal Pradesh, Manipur and Tripura. As regards non-mulberry silk the States concerned are Andhra, Assam, Bihar, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Orissa and West Bengal, and this industry has been there for ages. I wish to draw the attention of the House to the condition of this important industry in the country. I find—it is not due to anybody's fault—that while more attention has been possible on the part of this Board, the Government, the States or on the part of the industry so far as mulberry silk is concerned, but as regards non-mulberry silk the attention that it ought to get is not possible unless the Board is thoroughly reorganised and reconstituted giving it a new shape and form. Then only will it be possible that the whole industry can be looked after and the whole industry can be given all the assistance which is necessary and which should certainly be given to it.

Please permit me, Sir, to explain—because there might be some misunderstandings in some quarters and therefore I would like to clear them up—that my moving this Bill never means that I would like in any way that the representation of the other States should be cut down and, secondly, it is not that because I come from a particular State, therefore it

should get more representation. That is far from my mind. What I really wanted was this, as I said, while I started my speech, that having attended only the first meeting of this Board after having been elected from this House, I had certain feelings. Keeping that in view I have just moved the amendment of two or three sections of this Act which is already on the statute book. But during these few months—I had introduced the Bill in August last—during the last four or five months I found by contact with other friends that they all want something more to be done in this matter. Therefore, I am taking this opportunity of explaining my mind, my feelings and also the feelings of my friends with whom I have come in contact during the last few months, and I am placing them before the House in order to know what is there in the mind of Government in regard to these matters

Keeping that in view, I would like to submit that in regard to pure mulberry silks, we have silks developed on univoltine races, silks developed on bivoltine races, and silks developed on multivoltine races. It is silk which is produced out of the univoltine races which is supposed to be the best in quality, in fibre and everything else, and then only the other silks come. Today, Jammu and Kashmir State from where I happen to come to this House is the only State in the country where univoltine races have been bred for the last few centuries. There was a time when this industry had made so much progress that the filatures existing at that time in Jammu and Kashmir, up to the early twenties, was one of the largest units in the whole world, but due to negligence, and due to apathy on the part of the Central Government then, this industry, instead of making further progress, had deteriorated so much that even today it is not half of what it used to be forty or forty-five or fifty years back. It

might be of some little surprise to those friends who are interested in the sericulture industry to know that Panjab comes next as far as the rearing of univoltine races is concerned. But I may ask my hon. friends from Punjab whether they themselves know about it; perhaps one or two only may know something about it. But taking them as a whole, they will not know much about it. I feel very much elated that I have got this opportunity of bringing home to a few friends here and to the Members of this House the position of this industry in the country. When I explain the economic potential and the employment of potential of this industry, the entire House will agree with me that the attention of Government is immediately called for in order to look to certain aspects of this industry. That would help the people who are working in this industry, and also help the country as a whole.

As far as mulberry silk is concerned, as I have said, univoltine races are being reared in Kashmir, Punjab, West Bengal, Mysore and a small part of Madras. As far as bivoltine and multivoltine races are concerned, much of it is being produced in Mysore, and there is no doubt about it. But what happens over and above that?

As far as non-mulberry silk is concerned, it can be divided into three categories, namely Tasar, Eri and Muga silks. The States where these are mostly produced are Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Orissa and West Bengal. And lately, these silks are produced by the peasants and others in these States, and they utilise them for local and common use. But very lately, as a result of the efforts on the part of our Central Government, and particularly of the Department of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, a very good market has developed in the foreign countries, for Tasar, and for the other varieties known as pure mulberry silks.

In view of this, it becomes necessary that certain aspects of this industry should be looked into in the proper manner. Today, we have a Central Silk Board, and as I have said already, they have done their job. They have done it wonderfully, no doubt. But today, the board is located in Bombay far away from those areas where we have central operations so far as non-mulberry silk is concerned. I must again pay my compliments to the chairmen who have served from time to time on this board, because I happen to know four or five of them including the present gentleman who is holding the present job. They have all done their job well. They have also been functioning as Textile Commissioners, and over and above that job, they are given the additional job of working as chairmen of this board. My feeling is that the time has now come when Government should set up an independent board with an independent policy and also enable it to function independently so that they can coordinate the efforts of all the States in the country. It is true that some coordination has been there, but that has mostly been in an advisory capacity. Today, the Central Silk Board or any authority in the Centre cannot say 'No' to anything anywhere, as far as this industry is concerned. They cannot stop anybody going wrong anywhere, because it is left to the States themselves to do what they like.

Therefore, I would say with all the emphasis at my command, because I have been associated with this industry for nearly nine or ten years now, that the Central Government must give shape and form now to the central agency which will control this industry in such a manner that they will have the authority to say how this industry should run, how it should be manned, and how it should be looked after. Several measures are needed before this whole industry can really compete in the world market.

Japan started long after us, but Japan has captured the whole world.

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Why? This is because they have looked to certain basic things. Firstly, they have looked to better organisation of the industry at all levels. Secondly, from the very beginning, they have been very particular about having a protective tariff for protecting their industry from competition from outside. Thirdly, they have taken very great care about research at all levels of this very important industry. But what have we done in our country in this regard?

It is obvious that whatever has been possible has been done. Considering the manner in which the board is constituted today, I would say that they have done their job well, but that is not enough, and that cannot be enough, and that will not serve our purpose. Again, expert advice should be available to the country. From the day this board was constituted, Government certainly could lay hands on one or two experts, only, who have been working in this board. One of them has been a vice-chairman of this board, and he is certainly one of the topmost experts in the country, and the other has been the secretary of this board for a number of years, and he has now retired; I am very happy to learn that Uttar Pradesh Government have now employed him as their adviser as far as this industry is concerned. But that is all. Once, I happened to have a talk with the Minister of Industry, Shri Kanungo, about manning even the present board in the proper manner. Unless and until we follow the pattern of Japan, which has now come up to the top as far as the entire sericulture industry in the world is concerned, we may not succeed, and we may not be able to achieve the objective that is before us and that should be before us.

Therefore, I would submit that we should make it possible for expert advice to be available all over the country, which is not available today.

With your permission, I would say that I happen to know the position of this industry in most of the States, and I happen to know most of the gentlemen who are in charge of this industry in the States, and I can say safely that there are very few experts left in the country today, and the few that are there are already saddled with this work in their respective States. Therefore, the time has come when Government should take immediate steps to see that experts are available at all levels, in all the branches of the board, and in all the States, so that the States can be properly guided and properly disciplined by the central agency.

When I am on the silk industry, and I am emphasising the importance of it, it does not take away from my eyes the importance of another industry which is also important. After agriculture, the second important cottage industry in this country is the handloom industry, but next to that comes the sericulture industry.

The sericulture industry involves a four-tier process. Firstly, there is the part of agricultural activity like mulberry culture in the Mulberry tree and bush plantations and so on. Then comes the production of the silkworm seed, which is a very important part of the industry, which I should say is an industry within an industry. Then, thirdly, there is cocoon rearing; then fourthly, there is reeling, and fifthly, there is weaving etc.

As regards the employment potential of this industry, I would say this. We have heard a number of times in this House about unemployment. We have heard reports on providing employment to Adivasis, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. They would certainly be benefited by this industry. I would submit in all humility that sericulture can be one of the best means for giving employment to the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes in particular.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should try to conclude now.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: I would require at least another ten minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The time allotted is only 1½ hours, and there are some hon. Members who want to speak on this.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: I would require at least half an hour to put forward the whole case before the Government and I would like to know what Government have to say in regard to it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are some other hon. Members also who want to speak.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: Certainly, they can speak. I would take another ten minutes at least. Otherwise, I would not be in a position to place the entire case before you. I would not go into the details, but I would just submit the points only.

My submission is that if the mulberry silk and non-mulberry silk activities are geared properly, I can assure this House that it will provide a good opportunity of giving employment to the Adibasis, and to the Scheduled Castes and other Scheduled Tribes who are far behind the rest of the population. They can easily take to mulberry plantations, mulberry nurseries, seed production, cocoon rearing, silk reeling and weaving and so on.

Then, as far as the end-production of this industry is concerned, it starts with weaving. Before we enter the stage of weaving, we have the reeling industry. We manufacture most of the yarn within the country. I can assure you that the apparel made out of silk, both mulberry and non-mulberry, is utilised by people right from the poorest class to the richest class. If I explain before you the economy of this industry in one State like Mysore, you will find that hundreds of thousands of men and women wear cloth manufactured out of the cheaper varieties of charka

silks. In these mulberry silks, there are other varieties. We have the filature silk, the cottage-based silk and charka silk. As far as the better quality of silk is concerned, we make very beautiful fabrics which the richer population consumes, which are sold all over the country and are also being exported. Export of silk was taking place in the past also for many many centuries.

Keeping this in view, we must recognise that it can satisfy the demand of more of our population at all levels within the country, if this industry is given a proper shape and proper form and is properly handled. If opportunities are provided, better and more acceptable fabrics can be manufactured for the foreign markets. If this is done, I am sure we will be able to develop our foreign trade in this commodity in a pretty good manner.

Since we started exporting these fabrics along with other things, we have seen that year after year our export has been increasing, both quantity-wise and also in money value. My purpose in moving this Motion and explaining all these points is to draw the attention of Government to the importance of getting this industry reorganised as a whole. Today if our sericulture industry is alive, it is mainly because of the high tariff walls that we have raised against the import of better silks from Japan, China and other countries which are exporting silk of that quality. Keeping that in mind, if the present position continues as it is, if it is not improved properly, how long can we have these tariff walls? How long will it be possible for us to compete with other countries in the foreign markets? From that angle also, the time has come—it is ripe now—for Government to give very close and immediate attention to this aspect of the question also. Then alone it may be possible for us to save this industry for the benefit of the people as a whole.

I come from Jammu and Kashmir. What is the potential of this industry

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in that State? As you know, if we look into the topography of my State, we will find that only a part of it is a contiguous to the Punjab plains. The rest are the Outer Shivaliks, the Inner Shivaliks, sub-mountainous and mountainous areas. Therefore, it is very difficult, it is not yet possible, with the modern concept of industrialisation of a country or State, to develop industries as speedily as possible there. But an industry like sericulture has been introduced in all the climes. I may tell you that in that small State we have got all the climates found in the country. The mulberry tree has been introduced in all the climates and altitudes where there is human habitation. It has begun to provide employment to our men and women in all those areas. When this experiment has succeeded there, why not elsewhere in the country?

Therefore, my submission is that the potential that this industry has, needs to be galvanised, the sooner the better, because then alone we will be able to save this industry. I know other hon. Members are keen to speak, but before concluding I would again state that the purpose of moving this motion is to draw the attention of the Government to the state of this industry and to let hon. Members of this House know what its representatives can do and should do when it elects them on Board like the Central Silk Board. I attended the meetings once and then a second time. I need not say here now what we have done there. I can assure you that the two of us, myself and Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad who, incidentally, is not here in the House just now, have done our best. It is as a result of our being there and knowing the state of affairs that I have been able to move this motion. I hope Government and the House will give consideration to the submissions I have made.

श्री कश्यप (देवास): उपाध्यक्ष जी, सदन में कोरम नहीं है।

Shrimati Renuka Ray (Malda): I wish to speak. I come from a State which is concerned with the sericulture industry.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Quorum has been challenged. The bell may be rung—Now there is quorum.

Motion moved:

“That the Bill further to amend the Central Silk Board Act, 1948 be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following 30 members, namely, Shri Joachim Alva, Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad, Shri Bhakt Darshan, His Highness Maharaja Pratap Keshari Deo, Shri R. Dharmalingam, Shri J. N. Hazarika, Shri Harish Chandra Heda, Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath, Shri Nityanand Kanungo, Shri Lalit Sen, Shri Harish Chandra Mathur, Shri Gopal Dutt Mengi, Shri David Munzni, Shri Gurmukh Singh Musafir, Shri S. K. Paramasivan, Shri Man Singh P. Patel, Shri Rajeshwar Patel, Shri Raghunath Singh, Shrimati Renuka Ray, Shri Bishanchander Seth, Shri M. Shankaraiya, Shri Vidya Charan Shukla, Shri H. Siddanajappa, Shri S. M. Siddiah, Shri Sivamurthi Swami, Shri G. G. Swell, Shri U. M. Trivedi, Shri Ravindra Varma, Shrimati V. Vimla Devi and Shri Sham Lal Saraf, with instruction to report by the first day of the next Session”.

Shrimati Renuka Ray rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: She is a Member of the Committee.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: I have not asked to be on the Committee. I have something to say. I am also on the Central Silk Board.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will allow her to speak as a special case.

Shri Bade (Khargone): I had given notice of an amendment. Could it be moved now or afterwards?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it in time?

Shri Bade: Yes, I gave notice yesterday. It is to the effect that instead of two, it should be one.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is only a motion for reference to a Select Committee. His amendment is to a clause. If the motion is accepted, it will be passed on to the Select Committee.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri D. C. Sharma.

Shrimati Renuka Ray rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will give you a chance after Shri D. C. Sharma.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): It is very difficult to fight with a woman.

An Hon. Member: A lady.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Yes.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: I prefer the word 'woman' to 'lady'.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I welcome this Bill, but I do not know what is there in it that should be referred to a Select Committee. This Bill has only three clauses and I do not see any reason why 30 wise Members of this House should be asked to amend these clauses. Though I welcome the spirit of the Bill, I think it would be a sheer waste of time to refer to it a Select Committee.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: Has he heard me fully?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes. He was sitting here all through his speech.

Shri D. C. Sharma: There is hardly any necessity for 30 Members to come and sit for so many days and have so many sittings in order to sit in judgment on this Bill. The whole thing is so obvious, because I do not think it introduces any revolutionary changes, any far-reaching changes. Only the set-up of the Board has been changed.

15 hrs.

First of all, I would say that I have taken down copious notes from the speech which my hon. friend made, and I think I can refer to them.

When I went to Japan in 1939, and visited some silk factories there, I was told that the condition of civilisation in a country could be judged and should be judged by the number of yards of silk that were used *per capita* in that country. That was one of the measuring rods of civilisation that was given to us when I visited that country, and I think there is some truth in it.

Silk is something very ancient, and it has been a very noble, lordly and expensive wear throughout the ages. It has been the badge of aristocracy sometimes. It has been the symbol of privilege sometimes. It has also been a badge of renunciation some times.

Dr. M. S. Aney (Nagpur): Sanctity and purity also.

Shri D. C. Sharma: It has also had some ritual significance because at the time of rituals Hindus make use of silk cloth and robes. All these things are there, and I think that as a nation our countrymen are silk-minded. They love silk, and they want to make use of silk as much as they can.

In some countries they make use of silk for paintings and other things like curtains. There are some countries where beautiful paintings are done on silk. I think in our country also things are done in that way, but they are not done generally on such a big scale. We do not have painters and artists in this country who can paint beautiful pictures on silk. So, silk can be put to many uses, and I think it is necessary that we should attend to this industry as much as we can. We should pay more heed to this industry now than we have been doing before.

I do not want to go into the question of the constitution of the Board. Of

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course, the hon. Mover has said that he has made the Board more workable. I take him at his word. It may be more workable as devised by him, but I find that some States have been omitted from reference in this Bill. He said there was a type of silk which was very popular in my State, but I do not find any mention of that State here. There are some Union Territories where the silk industry is kept going. There is no mention of them. I feel this Board should be made as representative of the different States and Union Territories of India as possible, so that all those who are engaged in the industry can have a say in the matter, so that all the different kinds of experiences can be pooled for the benefit of this country.

We have the Indian Tea Board and the Indian Coffee Board. It has been said by the hon. Member that this Board has only an advisory capacity. I do not know what else the Board can do, but I can say one thing, that this Board should enlarge its functions to serve the purpose of salesmanship. The Tea and Coffee Boards serve as good salesmen of tea and coffee respectively. This Board should also serve as a good salesman of silk, and if it is already doing it, it should do it on a bigger scale, so that it does not remain only a kind of paper organisation, making certain observations, but becomes a healthy organ of marketing not only in this country but also abroad.

We are doing everything to promote the sale of tea and coffee in other parts of the world. We have spent a lot of money on propaganda for tea and coffee in some countries of the world. We are trying to make at least the U.S.A. tea-minded. I do not know how far we have succeeded, but we are making some attempts in that direction. In the same way, I think we should promote the sale of silk.

The hon. Member said that Japan has captured the silk market. I think

it is a very competitive market, and it requires a lot of skill and training, hereditary skill and all that kind of thing. I think the market should be captured by us also.

The Silk Board should not only be interested in the marketing of silk, but it should also be interested in giving training to those who want to go in for this kind of thing. After all, this thing has been going on for ages, and most of the skill is acquired. There are some training institutions here and there, but they do not serve the people in general. So, this Board should also give training to people.

I know there is a Sericulture Research Institute in my constituency, and I think it is doing good work, but my difficulty is this, that the research which is done by that centre does not percolate to the persons engaged in the industry. It remains only a kind of scientific investigation or scientific research. It does not promote better production of silk, better rearing of silk worms, better plantation of mulberry trees. It does not promote that kind of thing, and therefore what is needed is that this Board should undertake these duties on a much bigger scale.

I find that in our new scheme of higher secondary education we are emphasizing the need of the study of some craft. There are some who do not want that we should take to spinning and weaving. I remember sitting at a meeting where an officer of the Education Department of the State said that people looked down upon spinning and weaving. I felt very annoyed when he made that statement. I think he had to withdraw it. There are all kinds of crafts which are being studied at school for the purpose of passing the higher secondary school examination. I feel that in some States where this industry has made some strides, this craft should be made a part of the education of students who are going up for the higher secondary school examination. I think this craft should be taught from the

very beginning to the end of the higher secondary school. I think it is very important, and I believe that this can be done by the Central Silk Board.

The Silk Board can also be a very effective organ of publicity. We have so many exhibitions now going on all over the country, and they are doing some good to us. We take exhibitions out of this country and we show people whatever handicrafts and other things there are. I think this board should also organise things of that kind.

I read some days back in the papers that the Planning Minister was thinking of having planning boards for every State. I welcome this idea. Similarly, there should be State silk boards one for each State so that every State can look after its interest with greater care and through the Central board they can pool their experience together and make use of the knowledge they have got.

So far as the constitution of the board is concerned, there are certain omissions; the number has been reduced in some cases. By clause 2(1) something has been done to give representation to the technicians of the silk industry. It is a welcome feature.

I think the Minister should give us an assurance that he will try to put into effect all the suggestions that have been given, and that there should be no need to appoint a Select Committee.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Mr. Deputy-Speaker.....

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): Sir, I represent a constituency where 80 per cent of the silk is consumed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am calling her as a special case.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Sir, I shall not take long time. I fully agree with the *Statement of Objects and Reasons* of this Bill and also with the speech

of the hon. Member about the changes required in the Central Silk Board, of which I am a member representing the district which has the biggest amount of sericulture in West Bengal. But I fail to see how in this Bill, things mentioned in the *Statement of Objects and Reasons* or in the illuminating speech made by the hon. Member, are reflected in the clauses. The hon. Member wants certain changes in the constitution of the Central Silk Board. I do not see it reflected in the Bill except that the representatives from Parliament have been reduced from six to four and representation for West Bengal has been reduced and representation for Jammu and Kashmir increased correspondingly... (interruptions) Section 6(1) of the Act refers to election of a Vice-Chairman from among the members of the board whereas clause 3 says that the board shall elect a Vice-Chairman. The difference is that instead of electing a member as Vice-Chairman, anybody can now be elected. I do not see how this Bill in any manner meets the requirements that are necessitated by the development of the silk industry in the country. I agree with the hon. Member that since 1948 when the board came into existence, it has done good work; we should congratulate it for that. Present conditions make it necessary to change certain things. I would, therefore, ask the hon. Minister not to accept the Select Committee as suggested by the hon. Member but take note of all that has been said.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: All the same, the Hon. Member gave her consent to serve on the Select Committee.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: But I had not seen the Bill then; I was told only about the *Statement of Objects and Reasons*, and I am all in favour of that even now. I would request the hon. Minister to take note of the discussions here and of the need for changes in the constitution of the Silk Board as it is today not only in regard to the membership or representation on the Board... (Interruptions.) As Shri Sharma pointed out,

[Shrimati Penuka Ray]

the Silk Board, like the Coffee Board and the Tea Board should lay emphasis on the export needs. I do not say that the Silk Board has no such intention or no work is now done to improve quality or for enforcing quality control. But steps in this direction have not been as adequate as in the case of Coffee Board and Tea Board. Therefore, my request to the hon. Member is to take note of everything that has been said here and bring a more comprehensive Bill which will not only go into the matter of present representation but will try to give proper attention to the silk-growing areas, the places where silk-weaving takes place and also the other areas which may have potentialities for silk industry. Because, if due encouragement is given, it will help increasing the employment potential in the country and earn us foreign exchange. With these words, I request the hon. Minister to bring a comprehensive Bill.

श्री बड़े माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य, श्री श्यामलाल सराफ, ने जो बिल इस सदन के सामने रखा है मैं उसका समर्थन करता हूँ। मैं उसका समर्थन इसलिए करता हूँ कि उन्होंने एक बड़े महत्वपूर्ण विषय की ओर इस सदन और शासन का ध्यान आकर्षित किया है।

मैं देखता हूँ कि इस बिल को सदन के सामने रखते हुए माननीय सदस्य ने अपने भाषण में इस बिल के जो उद्देश्य प्रकट किये, उनमें और इस बिल के स्टेटमेंट आफ आबजेक्ट्स एंड रीजन्स में बहुत फर्क है। स्टेटमेंट आफ आबजेक्ट्स एंड रीजन्स में उन उद्देश्यों और उन बातों का कोई उल्लेख नहीं है, जो कि उन्होंने अपने भाषण में कही हैं। उनके भाषण से ऐसा मालूम होता है कि एक अलग सिल्क बोर्ड बनाने की जरूरत है। शासन को तो पहले ही ऐसे बोर्ड का निर्माण करना चाहिए था, लेकिन मैं देखता हूँ कि इस

बिल में उसके बारे में कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। हमारे मध्य प्रदेश में एक बड़ा सेरीकल्चर फार्म है, जहाँ पर सिल्क उद्योग की तरफ काफी ध्यान दिया जा रहा है। मध्य प्रदेश में कोशा सिल्क की इंडस्ट्री बहुत अच्छी तरह से चल रही है और बहुत से लोगों की रोजी-रोटी उस पर निर्भर है।

जैसा कि मैंने अभी कहा है, कि माननीय सदस्य ने अपने भाषण में जिन उद्देश्यों की चर्चा की है, उनकी पूर्ति इस बिल के द्वारा नहीं हो सकती है। शासन को इस सम्बन्ध में एक काम्प्रिहेंसिव बिल लाना चाहिए। अगर इस बिल को सिलेक्ट कमेटी में भेजा जाए और वहाँ पर एक पूर्ण और काम्प्रिहेंसिव बिल तैयार किया जाये, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि प्रस्तावक महोदय के उद्देश्यों की पूर्ति हो जायगी।

इस बिल में सैंट्रल सिल्क बोर्ड एक्ट १९४८ के जो एक्सट्रैक्ट दिये हुए हैं, उनको पढ़ने से तो इतना ही मालूम पड़ता है और साथ ही साथ जो उन्होंने एमेंडमेंट दिये हैं, उनको पढ़ने से इतना ही मालूम पड़ता है कि वह मैम्बरशिप में थोड़ी सी घटा-बढ़ी करना चाहते हैं। थोड़ी सी इसमें प्राविशलिज्म दिखाई देती है। शायद उनका उद्देश्य वैसा नहीं होगा। लेकिन जम्मू और काश्मीर के एक के बजाय दो मैम्बर रखने की तजवीज उन्होंने पेश की है। इस तरह की आशंका तब होना स्वाभाविक है। उन्होंने अपने प्रारम्भिक भाषण में कहा है कि वैसी कोई बात नहीं है। लेकिन एक के बजाय दो मैम्बर जम्मू और काश्मीर के होने चाहियें, ऐसा उन्होंने कहा है।

तीस मैम्बर उन्होंने क्यों लिये हैं, इसके बारे में उन्होंने अपने प्रारम्भिक भाषण में कुछ नहीं कहा है। तीस मैम्बरों की कोई जरूरत महसूस नहीं देती है।

मैं केवल इतनी ही अपील करना चाहता हूँ कि शासन को एक बिल लाना चाहिये। अपने प्रारम्भिक भाषण में उन्होंने कहा है कि एक सेंट्रल सिल्क बोर्ड अलग होना चाहिये। साथ ही साथ जापान से जो कम्पीटीशन का हम को सामना करना पड़ रहा है, उसको भी ध्यान में रखना है और विक्रय करने की कोशिश करनी है। हमारे माल के एक्सपोर्ट को उत्तेजन मिलना चाहिये। ये जो बातें उन्होंने कही हैं, इनकी पूर्ति तो इस बिल से नहीं होती है। इसलिए मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस बिल को सिलैक्ट कमेटी के पास भेज दिया जाए। यदि ऐसा किया गया तो इसमें इतनी एमेंडमेंट करनी पड़ेंगी कि एमेंडमेंट जो होंगी वे बिल के वजाय अधिक होंगी। जो बिल के प्रस्तुतकर्ता का उद्देश्य है, वह इस बिल से पूरा नहीं होने वाला है, मंत्रों की घटबढ़ करने से ही उनका उद्देश्य पूरा नहीं हो जाता है। इसवास्ते मेरी शासन से प्रार्थना है कि एक कम्प्रीहेंसिव बिल वह लायें और आश्वान दें कि ऐसा बिल वे लायेंगे और यदि ऐसा होता है तो इस बिल को सिलैक्ट कमेटी के पास भेजने की कोई जरूरत नहीं है और अगर ऐसा आशवासन नहीं मिलता है तो जरूर इसको सिलैक्ट कमेटी के पास भेज दिया जाना चाहिये।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Shankaraiya is also a Member of the Select Committee.

Shri Shankaraiya (Mysore): Yes; but otherwise I may not have a chance to speak as a representative of Mysore, and Mysore is the pioneer in this respect.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right; I permit him.

Shri Shankaraiya: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support this Bill and in supporting the Bill, I wish to say that Mysore has been the pioneer in

this industry, and it has been suffering in respect of this industry. The whole silk industry is now at a stage that the matter has to be reviewed and careful attention has to be paid in view of the fact that the filatures are at a stand-still and facing the risk of being closed.

The whole industry depends upon the production of silk. Now, no doubt the Central Silk Board has been doing very good work. Even though the Silk Board has been there since 1943 and the industry has been very, very old, still, we have not been able to stabilise the industry. It is only for the last three or four years, or, let us say, five years, after the second year, of the second Plan, that efforts have been made by the Board to give adequate financial assistance, formulate schemes, do research work and give some aid to the filature centres so as to see that the industry is put on a stable basis. Some system of co-ordination and systematic work have been there only since the last two or three years, but in spite of it, the progress has been very slow.

The bottlenecks have been two-fold. One is that of finance and the other is the lack of co-ordination. These are the two bottlenecks that have been persisting and hindering the progress and stabilisation of this industry. Mysore has been producing nearly 70 to 80 per cent of mulberry silk in the whole country. The rest of the quantity is produced by Kashmir, and all the other States put together will not be able to produce even five per cent of mulberry silk. Of course, much silk is being produced under the charkha basis, but for industrial development and for the silk that is needed for defence purposes, the silk can be produced only by filatures. Now, the filature centres are situated only in Mysore and nowhere else. One filature centre is situated in Kashmir and is run by the Jammu and Kashmir Government. It is already running a great risk and at a loss also, with great difficulty. So:

[Shri Shankaraiya]

far as Mysore filatures are concerned, they are now at a stage of closing down. There has been a heavy loss. The cost of production is high. Many of the basins there are very old and the industry has come to a crisis. When I happened to be on the Board this matter was brought before the Board and they appointed a committee known as the Dey Committee. That committee went into the entire working of the filatures and gave several suggestions to the Board, but the Board has not been able to implement them on account of the lack of finance, lack of co-ordination and lack of initiative. If there had been a Central Silk Board with executive powers with an independent Chairman who could put these things right and take immediate action, the difficulties could have been avoided. Even now the Mysore Government have made several representations to the Silk Board and to the Central Government to see that immediate help is given to the filatures. Otherwise the filatures will have to starve. They are running at a heavy loss. Unless financial aid, equipment and subsidies are given, the filatures will have to be closed and the whole silk industry will have to come to a standstill. The charkhas may continue, but that is an inferior variety of silk. But superior variety of silk is required for the purposes of exporting and for the purposes of defence, such as the manufacture of parachutes. So, the filature industry must be kept running; if they are closed the industry will come to a standstill, and that is why I request the Government to see that a proper Board is constituted, which can implement the measures, study things and pass on the research work that is being made so that the industry is put on a firm basis. The plea of the Mysore Government has to be considered immediately so as to see that the filatures are helped.

So far as the charkha industry is concerned, they have got their own problem. A new basin system has

been introduced and it has not been popularised. The main bottleneck is one of finance. When the Silk Board meets, while framing the budget and passing it, the main difficulty that would face them will be, how to appropriate the small amount that has been given to the Board, as between the several States, when big States are lagging behind and suffering. The smaller States are also coming up and they also require to be financed, and in the end the Silk Board is finding itself helpless and in a mess.

A study group has been appointed and they have also given a report, and made several recommendations for the stabilisation of this industry both with regard to weaving and sericulture, and particularly about sericulture. Many of these recommendations have not been implemented. The report has been in the hands of the Central Silk Board and the Government for the last three years. Not even five per cent of the recommendations have been implemented. They have toured all over the country, have seen the sericulture industry and have reviewed it and pointed out all the problems and again there is the Dey Committee's report also with regard to the Mysore and Jammu and Kashmir filatures, and unless something is done in a concrete way, unless financial assistance is given, the whole industry will be at a standstill, and the Government will have to spend even five times more than what it need spend by taking timely action and providing more funds. I hope the Government will see that the Central Silk Board is properly constituted with effective powers given to them to implement the schemes and carry on research work.

I would like to make one other point and that is with regard to the location of the Silk Board office. The office is located in Bombay. Bombay is not a centre of sericulture industry; it is only a business centre, and the head office of the Textile Commissioner is there. There is no reason

for the Silk Board office to be situated at Bombay. It must be located either in Jammu and Kashmir or in Mysore which happens to produce nearly 70 to 80 per cent of silk in the country. If it is located at Bangalore, the sericulturists, the weavers and others might make use of it. The implementation of the schemes could be easier. Formerly, the office was located at Bangalore, but subsequently, I do not know for what reasons, it was shifted to Bombay. Both the Mysore and Jammu and Kashmir Governments have been agitating and urging that the office of the Board must be situated at Bangalore or in Jammu and Kashmir. The point is, the Textile Commissioner happens to be the Chairman of the Board now. No doubt the previous two Textile Commissioners were very much interested in this and they have been taking a good deal of personal interest also. But never the less because they happen to be Textile Commissioners, with so much of work that enjoins on them, they cannot pay full attention to this important industry. Therefore, I would suggest that a Board, just like the Tea Board, Coffee Board or the Cotton Committee or the Spices Committee—an independent Board with a non-official chairman, with executive powers—be formed for this industry. If there is such a board, it can see to it that all these things are implemented and the silk industry is stabilised.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह (वाराणसी) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं श्री अनूयोग जी को इसके लिए धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि वह हमारे क्षेत्र की समस्याओं को जानते हैं, और उनके कारण हमारे क्षेत्र की सिल्क की बहुत सी समस्याएँ हल हुई हैं। लेकिन मैं दूसरी तरफ यह भी ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान में करीब १३ लाख किलोग्राम सिल्क का धागा बनता है, उसमें से बनारस सिर्फ साढ़े तीन लाख पाउंड सिल्क के धागे का प्रयोग कर सकता है। बाकी करीब दो करोड़ रुपए

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का सिल्क बाहर से इम्पोर्ट करना पड़ता है जो कि जापान से आता है।

१३ लाख किलोग्राम सिल्क का धागा जो देश में होता है उसमें से ६ लाख पाउंड मैसूर में तैयार होता है और बाई लाख पाउंड काश्मीर में तैयार होता है। मैसूर के सिल्क में से काशी केवल डेढ़ लाख पाउंड सिल्क का प्रयोग कर सकता है। जो साढ़े तीन लाख पाउंड से ज्यादा सिल्क आवश्यक होता है वह बाहर से आता है। हमें यह कोशिश करनी है कि यह जो बाहर से सिल्क का इम्पोर्ट होता है यह अब बन्द होना चाहिये कारण इससे हिन्दुस्तान का दो करोड़ रुपया फ़ारेन एक्सचेंज के रूप में बाहर जाता है। इस वक्त हम करीब ६४ हजार किलोग्राम सिल्क बाहर से इम्पोर्ट करते हैं और जहाँ तक एक्सपोर्ट का सवाल है हिन्दुस्तान से ८६ लाख रुपए का सिल्क का सामान हर साल बाहर जाता है। लेकिन एक्सपोर्ट की इतनी ज्यादा डिमांड है कि हम उसको पूरा नहीं कर पाते। जब कि बाहर हमारे माल के लिये मार्केट है तो उसको हमें कैप्चर करना चाहिए।

हमारे वेदों में और शास्त्रों में सिल्क का जिक्र आता है। उसको हमारे यहाँ चिनांशुक कहते थे। हमारे चीनी भाई कहते हैं कि हमने सिल्क को यह नाम दिया है। लेकिन ऐसा नहीं है। संस्कृत में चिनांशुक सिल्क को कहते हैं और चूँकि वह पहले चीन से आता था इसलिये उस देश का नाम चीन पड़ गया। तो चीन को यह नाम हिन्दुस्तान का दिया हुआ है।

श्री बड़ै : इसी तरह दाल चीनी को भी नाम दिया गया है ?

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : राम चन्द्र जी के विवाह में काशी का सिल्क गया था। यह बहुत पवित्र माना जाता है। लेकिन यह

[श्री रघुनाथ सिंह]

सब होते हुए भी हम एक छटांक सिल्क काशी में पैदा नहीं करते। हम जो सिल्क काम में लाते हैं वह या तो बंगलौर से आता है, या काश्मीर से आता है या जापान से आता है। पांच करोड़ रुपये का सिल्क हम बनारस में खरीदते हैं। देश में ही यह काम में नहीं आता बल्कि इका अमरीका आदि को भी एक्सपोर्ट किया जाता है। हमारे मित्र ने इस विधेयक को पेश करके सरकार का ध्यान इस उद्योग की ओर आकर्षित किया है। यह उद्योग जो कि रामायण काल से काशी में चला आ रहा है इसकी उन्नति होनी चाहिये। इन विधेयक का केवल ही उद्देश्य है कि हमारे सिल्क बोर्ड के संगठन में संशोधन किया जाए।

कानूनगो साहब का जहाँ तक संबंध है, वह टेक्सटाइल एनक्वारी कमेटी के चैयरमैन रहे हैं और उनको इस का ज्ञान है। हिन्दुस्तान के सिल्क के घ.गे का काम प्रॉटेक्शन के कारण चल रहा है। अगर यह प्रॉटेक्शन हटा लिया जाए तो हिन्दुस्तान का यह उद्योग फल हो सकता है फारिन सिल्क उद्योग के समाने। हमारी यह बड़ी विचित्र समस्याएँ हैं। इनका हल अवश्य होना चाहिये। मैं कानूनगो साहब से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि वे बनारस में ज्यादा से ज्यादा सिल्क दें। बनारस कम से कम १५ करोड़ रुपये के सिल्क का माल तैयार कर सकता है और इस प्रकार आज १५ करोड़ रुपये का माल बाहर भेजा जा सकता है। हमें मैसूर का ढेड़ लाख पाउंड मे से कुछ सिल्क मिलता है। काश्मीर का ढाई लाख पाउंड सिल्क होता है। वह बनारस के टेंडर देने पर भी जितना हम चाहते हैं नहीं मिलता। होता यह है कि हमको जापान के सिल्क पर निर्भर होना पड़ता है। इस लिये मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि सिल्क बोर्ड को सुसंगठित किया जाए ताकि इस उद्योग की उन्नति हो सके।

हम दो करोड़ रुपये का सिल्क इम्पोर्ट करते हैं। उस सिल्क का भाव ३८ रुपये पाउंड है पर वह बम्बई के ब्लैक मार्केट में ६० रुपये पाउंड पर बिकता है। इसका कारण यह है कि हमारे यहाँ सिल्क की कमी है। इस कमी को दूर करने के लिये शिष्टा-तिशीघ्र हमें ठोस कदम उठाना चाहिये। हमारे देश में सिल्क का उत्पादन इतना बढ़ा जाय कि हमको जापान से सिल्क न मंगाना पड़े। और हम बाजार में १५ करोड़ का सिल्क का सामान बनाकर बाहर भेज सकें।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस विधेयक के इस अंश का स्वागत करता हूँ कि सिल्क बोर्ड को सुसंगठित किया जाए और बढ़ाया जाए।

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, my task has been made much easier by the remarks of the various Members who have taken part in the debate and also by the very illuminating speech of the mover. I will start from the bottom-end of the debate and take up the points made by my hon. friend, Shri Raghunath Singh. It is a fact that Banaras has got a reputation for silk fabrics for many thousands of years and not only for centuries, and that reputation still persists. The quality is still maintained. The craftsmen of Banaras are superb. There have been attempts to induce them to go elsewhere out of India. Thanks to their patriotic sense, they have not succumbed to those temptations. The result is that the long tradition of craftsmanship is maintained there.

I am very grateful for the compliment which Shri Raghunath Singh paid me. I know it very well that the Banaras craftsman can work only on the best of materials. If you do not provide him with the best of materials, he cannot maintain the quality

of his work. Here is the conundrum. We produce a certain quantity of silk which is not adequate for our demands. The cost of production of silk is very high and the quality by and large is poor. Naturally, the Silk Board from its very inception has applied its mind with concentration to the objective of improving the quality of silk in India and reducing the cost of production as far as possible. It is not so easy.

The production of silk, as my hon. friend, Shri Saraf has already indicated, is a very complicated process. It is based on agriculture. Unless you have enough of mulberry and the best of mulberry, you cannot have silk. Then, you must have the skill of filature. Otherwise, the silk produced by the worm is wasted, which is happening in India. If the best quality of yarn is available, then only the best weaving skill can be shown.

Shri Saraf has been in charge of the silk industry in one of the premier States of India—the State of Jammu and Kashmir—which has the unique natural advantage and climatic advantage of breeding the best variety of silk worm seeds. India, especially, is grateful to the State of Jammu and Kashmir and its Government, particularly to Shri Saraf during whose tenure an improved variety of strains of silk worm seeds were acclimatized and brought up with remarkably good results in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

But the quantum is too little. In fact, though we ourselves would like to have a rapid increase of production of silk from that origin and the Government of Jammu and Kashmir is also anxious about it, we cannot afford to import adequate quantity of the best material, the best strains of seeds that is required. Therefore, there is bound to be some delay.

As has been brought out by various hon. Members who have taken part in this debate, the basic

problem is the production of larger quantities of silk of a good quality. Quality is the most important thing. The hon. Member from Mysore has rightly complained about non-implementation of certain recommendations of a certain sub-committee of the Silk Board. All I can plead is that the Silk Board has not a free hand in it. The Government has got to find out how much outlay would result in how much benefit to the national exchequer and not to any section of it.

There are, now, as I have tried to explain, two diametrically opposed interests. One is the silk producer. Mysore tops the list in the matter of quantum of production. Second comes Bengal and then Kashmir.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: Bengal has 10,000 pounds of filature silk.

Shri Kanungo: I have not got the figures here; they are in the annual reports. But Kashmir has got better quality of silk. But all the qualities of silk are high priced. That means the cost of production is higher compared to the price of the imported stuff. As I said earlier, if I had the choice left to me alone, then I would have certainly gone in for importing as much of the silk of the best variety as possible from all over the world and fabricating them at Banaras or elsewhere and marketing them. But I should not do it in the interest of the silk producers in this country. After all, no industry can be based upon imported raw material.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): Is it necessary that you should necessarily come in the way of our silk producers?

Shri Kanungo: That is what I am saying. I said: "If I had the sole choice". I have to temper my own attitude because, after all, the national interest requires that our own source of supply should be stimulated and our quality should be such that we would not need to import silk.

[Shri Kanungo]

Again, I am reminded of my dear friend, Shri D. C. Sharma, when he was in Japan in 1939. Those were the early days when possibly the prosperity of a nation could be judged by the consumption of silk. The world has changed very much now. Now there are other standards. But as far as silk is concerned danger today is the competition from man-made fibres, what they call artificial silk. The competition has been so stiff, particularly in the pricing scale, that even the prosperous filatures in Japan find it difficult to market their silk.

All that I want to submit is that the problem is very complicated indeed, and that the problem cannot be solved merely by changing the composition of the Silk Board as Shri Saraf himself has stated. Shri Saraf is a member of the Silk Board and I have noted the interest of the House in the silk industry which it has evinced. Certainly, between the Board and the Government we ought to find out ways and means of accelerating the progress that has been made so far.

I beg to mention, Sir, that from scratch, in the course of ten years—when the annual report of the Board will be available to hon. Members they will be able to judge—that Board has done good work for which it has got to be congratulated. The research organisation has been set up though it is not fully equipped yet. Again, you must remember that research institutes for silk do not work in isolation. They are connected with the fundamental research in agronomy, in chemistry, in biology, in zoology and various other sciences. The research institute for silk industry has got to depend on them. We are making a great deal of progress in various branches of fundamental research. The results of international research are also available to us, and I believe the scientists who have been working in the recently established institutes will

take interest in their work and will prove their worth by the results of their research in the world as well as in India. All that will be available to the industry. But I must say that it is not a type of work where you can expect results in three years or five years. It will take decades, because we had lost interest in this work for hundreds of years and the empirical knowledge that was there was lost to us. Now we have to recover that knowledge scientifically and that is what we are attempting to do.

Shri Saraf also mentioned another significant factor about the improvement of non-mulberry silk in the current world demands. He is correct when he says that enough basic knowledge about non-mulberry silk is not available. I am familiar with the problem because I come from a State—Orissa and Madhya Pradesh—where a large quantity of non-mulberry silk is reared. But our basic knowledge of the breeding process, the feeding process and the multiplication process of silk worms is very elementary. I agree with Shri Saraf that all these things should be attended to. But here I would humbly submit to the House, specially to Shri Saraf, that it must be remembered that the actual working can be done only by the State Governments. Forget, for the time being, the limitations of the Constitution, the Schedules and all that, and the other legal aspects. Even assuming that there is no such bar, even then the Central Silk Board can do precious little in this matter. It can be done only by the States. So, all along, the policy of the Central Government and the Central Silk Board has been to stimulate the interest of the State Governments. They give grants-in-aid to State schemes because the schemes are to be worked out by the States. The executive organisation will also be that of the State. Therefore, I would not agree to the suggestion that the Silk Board should be something like an organisation

which will have the responsibility and duty of overriding the actions of the States. It will not work in such a vast country as ours. Therefore, while I have full sympathy with the objectives which the hon. Member has mentioned and others have supported, I cannot agree with his suggestion.

Dr. M. S. Aney: Are the silk research institutes under the control of the States?

Shri Kanungo: No, for research purposes they are under the management of the Board.

These objectives cannot be achieved by merely changing the composition of the Board, where the balancing of the various interests and various States has been very carefully done. If anything is necessary in the light of the present developments about non-mulberry silk, it can be done differently. That is a matter which we can discuss. In fact, I would welcome a discussion with the mover and other Members who are interested in the problem as to how the constitution of the Board can be re-modelled to give effect to most of the ideas which have been expressed in the House. I would request the hon. Member not to press his motion because it will raise a hornet's nest. How can we agree to cut West Bengal which is one of the largest producers of mulberry silk out of the Board? We cannot do that. Punjab is represented there by one of the Joint Directors of Industry. So, the composition has been very carefully done. The eight seats to be nominated by the Central Government used merely to balance the various interests.

Then, I think there is enough justification of the headquarters of the Board being in Bombay. Bombay is, by and large, the commercial capital of India. Further, the largest consumer of silk is Gujerat. Then silk is one of the fibres along with many

textile fibres which will compete with each other. So, in my opinion, it is only proper that the Textile Commissioner should be the focus where the different and conflicting claims of the different fibres can be co-ordinated. That is my personal view. I again offer to the hon. Member the suggestion that I will discuss it with him. So, I would request him not to press his motion.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: I have heard with rapt attention the detailed speech delivered by the hon. Minister. I very much appreciate the sentiments expressed by him, particularly what he has said about my humble self. But I have to offer one or two comments before I seek the permission of the House to withdraw my Bill.

I did not make my suggestion for helping the industry for the simple reason that we are manufacturing the fabrics at Banaras or elsewhere. I have explained in my opening speech in detail why this is necessary in order to develop sericulture.

The hon. Minister referred also to the research work. My submission is that the activities of this industry at all levels have to be co-ordinated. My idea was that the Central Silk Board should function as a policeman so that it can whip every State to function efficiently and that it should co-ordinate every effort in this direction. After all, no State in this country can by itself stand and succeed and survive, so far as sericulture is concerned, unless and until the Centre is in a position to help it. Therefore, my submission is not that the Central Silk Board or any other authority should be delegated with adequate powers so that it may supplement the working of the State. What I meant was co-ordinated effort in making the sericulture industry a success. That is possible only if the Centre moves in the matter and creates an agency. Anyway, I will not go into the details at this stage.

[Shri Sham Lal Saraf]

I am thankful to the hon. Minister. He is very alive to the immediate needs of this industry and he is in a position and in a mood to take some of us who are interested in this industry and who come from sericultural States into confidence so that we can discuss threadbare as to how the working of this agency can be co-ordinated.

As I said at the beginning, I never meant any interference by the Board into the activities of the States. I only wanted to have a probe made into this industry so that the attention of this Government and this august House can be drawn to this industry. Now I very much appreciate the views expressed by the Minister, especially his assurance. With these words, I would request that I may be permitted to withdraw the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has the hon. Member the leave of the House to withdraw the Bill?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

The Bill was, by leave, withdrawn.

15.57 hrs.

LENGTH OF CINEMATOGRAPH FILMS (CEILING) BILL

Shri Rameshwar Tantia (Sikar): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the fixation of ceiling on the length of cinematograph films produced in the country be taken into consideration."

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज हमारे देश में देशी भाषाओं में जो फिल्में तैयार होती हैं, वे बहुत लम्बी होती हैं और उनकी लम्बाई आम तौर पर चौदह पंद्रह हजार फीट होती है। वे फिल्में और तत्सम्बन्धी अन्य सामान—फिल्म धागे के मसाले, कैमरे और दूसरी

चीजें — विदेशों से आती हैं। एक तरफ तो हमें बहुत जरूरी चीजों के लिए भी फ़रेन एक्सचेंज नहीं मिलता है और दूसरी तरफ हम फिल्मों के लिए इतनी ज्यादा फ़रेन एक्सचेंज ज़रूरी करते हैं। अगर लम्बी फिल्में देश के लिये जरूरी हों, अगर उन से देखने वालों और इस देश का कुछ फ़ायदा हो, तो यह बात समझ में आ सकती है कि हम उन के लिए फ़रेन एक्सचेंज खर्च करें, परन्तु जहाँ तक मेरा अनुभव है — मैं बहुत फिल्मों तो नहीं देखता, महीने में एक दो बार जाता हूँ — फिल्मों को लम्बा बनाने के लिये उन में उल-जलूल दृश्य फिल्म निर्माताओं को रखने पड़ते हैं, जिस से देखने वालों को सिर-दर्द हो जाता है और वे यह नहीं समझ पाते कि क्या हो रहा है।

श्री दी० चं० शर्मा (गुरदासपुर) :

क्या माननीय सदस्य बतावेंगे कि क्या वह सिर-दर्द के लिये महीने में एक दो दफ़ा फिल्में देखने जाते हैं ?

श्री रामेश्वर टांटिया : मुझे कहना पड़ता है कि मैं हिन्दी फिल्मों नहीं देखता या कम देखता हूँ, क्योंकि उनमें घूम फिर कर वही दृश्य, वही बातें और "चल चल रे नाँजवान" जैसे वही गाने होते हैं। मैं अंग्रेज़ी या बंगला फिल्मों देखता हूँ। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जिन फिल्मों को प्रैज़िडेंट्स एवार्ड मिला है और जो हिन्दुस्तान का अच्छी फिल्मों साबित हुई हैं, वे छोटी फिल्में ही हैं लम्बी फिल्में नहीं। मैं कहना चाहूँगा कि पायरे पांचाली, बिन्दूर खेले, छोटी बहन जैसी फिल्में हैं जिन को इनाम मिले हैं। जहाँ तक छोटी फिल्मों का सम्बन्ध है देशी भाषाओं में बंगला भाषा ही ऐसी है जिस में छोटी फिल्मों का निर्माण होता है। बंगला हम से बहुत आगे है। उस में छोटी फिल्में बनने लगी हैं। जहाँ तक अन्य भाषाओं का सम्बन्ध है, लम्बी लम्बी फिल्में बनाने की होड़ सी लगी हुई है। लेखकों से कहा जाता है कि तुम दो