

Title: Need for early review of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984.

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK (KOLHAPUR): In 1984, the Government of India for the first time, enacted a comprehensive Legislation called Multi State Co-operative Societies Act, No. 51 of 1984, which came into force from 16th September, 1985. This Act replaced the then Unit Co-operative Societies Act, 1942. As per the provisions of the Act, all promotional, supervisory and regulatory functions are performed by the Central Registrar of Co-operative Societies. The Ministry of Agriculture has redrafted the necessary amendment in the Multi State Co-operative Societies Act. The draft law truly removes the defects and meets the norms of governance of a democratic autonomous enterprise in the country so deeply committed to democratic values. One of the special features of the amendment proposed Bill provide for simplification of procedure for registration of new co-operative societies.

It gives no power to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies or the Government in the matter of (i) supersession of the Board of Directors, (ii) compulsory amalgamation, (iii) compulsory amendment of byelaws, (iv) veto power and issue of directions. The proposed Bill was likely to be introduced in Parliament long back. The Prime Minister too, has been promising on different occasions for the last two years to frame model co-operative law. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I demand from the Government that the proposed Bill to replace the Multi State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984 be introduced and passed in the current Session of the Parliament.