

[Sh. Guman Mal Lodha]

SHRI KALPNATH RAI (Ghosi): Which are the two States where cows are slaughtered?

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as per my knowledge, the States are West Bengal and Kerala where slaughter of cow is permitted. If my information is wrong, I am open to correction. There is restriction on cow slaughter in West Bengal, but permission to slaughter cows is given on certain festivals under the notification issued by the State Government. A writ petition was filed against it in the Calcutta High Court which has repealed this right of the Government. However, the West Bengal Government filed an appeal in the Supreme Court which is still pending and a stay order has been granted as a result of which permission is being granted by the State Government for cow slaughter on the festivals which are celebrated by the people who slaughter cows.

That case is still pending in the Supreme Court. Earlier also, the highest court had debated this issue. But the court in its decisions have held that as laid down in the Directive Principles, directive has been given to State Government to ban slaughter of and provide protection to cow and its progeny, so that economic and agricultural development of the country could be ensured. I would like to read out the quotations from the judgement of the Supreme Court before you. The Supreme Court judgement says that no religion in the world permits slaughter of cow. The judgement denies the charge that cow slaughter has been considered essential in Quran or that the slaughter of cow has been approved as a very sacred act. In their decision, the judges have affirmed that no religion in the world approves of cow slaughter, nobody considers it religious, nobody thinks it to be sacred. Thereafter they have referred to the Directive Principles. My submission is that as per the verdict of the Supreme Court, there Directive Principle though it is a directive, sometimes it becomes an deal for the State but it is certainly not such an order or

a directive which could be enforced by the court under Article 226 or 232 of the Constitution.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may continue next time.

17.57 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Debt Relief to Farmers, Artisans and Weavers

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in my Budget speech on 19th March, 1990, I had announced the scheme for providing debt relief to farmers, artisans and weavers who had taken loans up to Rs. 10000/- from various banks.

I had announced that the Central Government will bear the full responsibility of debt relief in respect of loans taken from public sector banks and Regional Rural banks in the Central sector.

In respect of cooperative banks and land development banks in the States' sector, I am happy to announce that in order to assist the State Governments in regard to debt relief scheme on the Central pattern, the Central Government will bear fifty per cent of the burden of relief on loans taken from these banks in the State sector.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I wanted some clarifications, but the Finance Minister is going away. What is the point in saying that fifty per cent assistance will be given without giving what will be the guidelines on which it would be formulated? How will you assess and find out the beneficiaries? Nothing has been said. This is insulting that the Minister after having given the statement has gone away.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your point has been recorded. He has to make a statement in the other House.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: It is an insult, I feel.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us understand the procedure followed in this House. After a statement is made by a Minister, we have not been allowing questions to be put to the Minister, and probably he has an arrangement under which after having made this statement, he had to go. Let us be fair to him.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: I agree that there are rules like that. At least they should say on what grounds they will select persons and what is the amount sanctioned for this. It is meaningless to say that 50 per cent will be given.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We do not allow anyone to seek clarification on the *Suo Motu* Statement. You can discuss it in some other form if you so desire.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA (Dhandhuka): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to have some information from the hon. Minister.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Who will give you the information; he has already left.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA: Let there be a discussion on the Finance Minister's Statement.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will do whatever is permissible under the rules.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a good deal of confusion with regard to the announcement made by Shri Dandavate regarding waiving of loans upto Rs. ten thousand. We would like to have a discussion on this issue.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may give notice as per the rules.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to reassemble on Monday at 11.00 A.M.

18.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, May 7, 1990/ Vaisakha 17, 1912 (Saka)