MR .CHAIRMAN : That is a different matter. He can raise it when the Bill is being discussed.

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL : When the matter is being dealt with so exhaustively, all the important recommendations ought to have been incorporated in it so as to obviate the necessity of bringing forward amending Bills year after year.

On these grounds, I am opposing the introduction of this Bill.

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा (मधुबनी) : सभापति महोदय, आप जानते हैं कि नमक का हमारे लिए क्या महत्व है । नमक पर ड्यूटी लगाने की बात को ले कर भारत में नमक सत्याग्रह हुआ । आजादी के बाद 1947 से नमक पर की ड्यूटी हटा दी गयी । लेकिन यह विधेयक फिर नमक पर ड्यूटी लगाने जा रहा है । इस विधेयक में अनुसूची 2 में तीसरे नम्बर पर जो सब्स्टीट्यूट कर रहे हैं उसमें कहते हैं :

> "There shall be levied and collected in such manner as may be prescribed a duty on salt......"

अब संविधान के मुताबिक यूनियन लिस्ट 58 में कहा गया है कि :

> "Manufacture, supply and distribution of salt by Union agencies ; regulation and control of manufacture, supply and distribution of salt by other agencies."

इसमें ड्यूटी की बात नहीं है । गांधी जी के मुताबिक यह ऐतिहासिक तथ्य है कि नमक पर से ड्यूटी हटनी चाहिए । जो चीज संविधान में मना की गई है उसी बात को दोहराने जा रहे हैं जिस के खिलाफ़ अंग्रेजों के जमाने में हम ने आन्दोलन किया । इसलिए मैं इसकी मुख़ालिफ़त करता हूं । अनुसूची 2 में तीसरे नम्बर पर ऐक्साइज ड्यूटी लगाने जा रहे हैं । इस से आप जनता का जीवन स्तर नीचा होता जा रहा है । जैसे किरोसिन पर, शुगर पर और चाय पर, जो कि एक कौमन पेय हो गया है, उस पर यदि सरकार एक्साइज ड्यूटी बढ़ाती है, उससे देश के अन्दर तो कनज़म्शन कम होगा ही, साथ ही ऐक्सपोर्ट को भी धक्का लगेगा । इन दोनों बातों से मैं इसका विरोध करता हूँ ।

SHRI P. C. SETHI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as you have observed from the remarks made by the hon. Members, Shri Goyal and Shri Shiv Chandra Jha, they have mostly mentioned about the merits of the Bill. With regard to the legislative competence, the President's recommendation and other constitutional provisions that are required for the introduction of the Bill, that have all been complied with. As far as Section 41 to which the hon. Member referred is concerned, this notification, whenever it is made, will be laid on the Table of the House. Therefore, the hon. Member would have an opportunity to go into the merits of the particular clause. This is only the introduction stage of the Bill. Besides that, we are sending the Bill to the Select Committee and, therefore, the hon. Members will have ample time to go into the details and the merits of the Bill. From constitutional and legal points of view, the Bill is quite in order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

> "That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Central duties of excise."

The motion was adopted

SHRI P. C. SETHI : I introduce† the Bill.

14.47 hrs.

RE : CRISIS IN JUTE INDUSTRY

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up further consideration of the

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†Introduced with the recommendation of the Vice-President acting as President.

[Mr. Chairman]

Banking Companies Amendment Bill. We are on clause 12 now.

SOME HON. MEMBERS *rose*—

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore) : Sir, I have written to you earlier in the morning that I want to raise an urgent matter concerning strike in jute industry. I may be given just one minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Kundu, you will agree with me that if I allow you one minute, then I will have to allow several other Members also.

SHRI S. KUNDU : I will not take more than one minute. It is a very important matter. Two lakh workers are involved.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar) : It is a very important matter, Sir. There is a loss of Rs. 1 crore per day. Two lakh workers are involved. The Minister concerned should make a statement. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order ; one at a time. So many Members are on their legs. Shri Kundu.

SHRI S. KUNDU : You know, the other day Mr. Bhagat said that he will use his good offices to bring about a settlement. He went to Calcutta and we read in the newspapers that the negotiations have failed. Two lakh workers are on strike in 70 jute mills. It is also learnt from the press reports that the management is not prepared to grant them even an interim relief. According to the Wage Board recommendations, the minimum wage should be given to them. It is a national problem. You will agree that the House would like to know what other steps the Government have taken in the matter. I would request you to ask the Minister to make a statement.

Another thing that I want to point out is that the Labour Minister has not played any effective role in the entire negotiations. I think, this is a serious lacuna in holding negotiations. I want both the Labour Minister and the Foreign Trade Minister, Shri Bhagat, to make a statement on such a serious situation. I would request you to kindly direct them to make a statement in the House.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : You remember, we raised this question last week and we asked Mr. Bhagat to go to Calcutta. It is good that Mr. Bhagat went there. But then there was the same demand of the Indian Jute Mills Association. They do not want to give anything to the workers unless the export duty is abolished. Mr. Bhagat has come back from Calcutta unsuccessfully. The Labour Minister has not issued any statement. Two lakhs of people are involved in this. The IJMA people, instead of giving money to workers, have demanded police protection to protect the black-legs and quislings. I would request you to ask the Minister to make a statement immediately.

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त : सभापति महोदय, जो मांग श्री बनर्जी ने की है मैं उसका समर्थन करता हूं। मैं समझता हूँ कि जब रोज 1 करोड़ रुपये का नुक्सान हो रहा है तो सरकार को इस के लिए ज्यादा कोशिश करनी चाहिए। अगर ड्यूटी कम करने की जरूरत पड़े तो उस को भी सरकार को करना चाहिए।

एक और बात कह कर मैं समाप्त कर दूंगा। जो जूट मिल ओनर्स हैं उन्हें पुलिस का प्रोटेक्शन बंगाल गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से नहीं है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि वह बंगाल गवर्नमेंट से कहें फैक्ट्री वालों को पूर्ण पुलिस प्रोटेक्शन मिलना चाहिए और सरकार को मजदूरों को जायज मांगें भी माननी चाहिए।

श्री देवेन सेन (आसनसोल) : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जो नैगोशिएशन्स फेल हुए वह किस कारण से......

MR. CHAIRMAN : Everybody agrees that it is an important matter and that is the reason why this was again and again raised in the House—we had a half-an-hour discussion and also a Short Notice Question or a call-attention. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, I think, has already taken note of what was expressed by the hon. members and I hope, he will convey

the same to the Ministers concerned. I hope, the Minister of Commerce & Foreign Trade who had visited Calcutta will take an early opportunity to inform the members of what transpired in West Bengal ; I hope, he will make that report to the House.

14.53 hrs.

BANKING COMPANIES (ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF UNDER-TAKINGS) BILL—*Contd.*

Clause 12—*Contd.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we take up further clause-by-clause consideration of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Bill.

Mr. Limaye was on his legs.

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंगेर) : सभापति महोदय, मुझे इस पर एक सुझाव देना है। जैसे आप सरकार को इजाजत दे रहे हैं हर रोज नये-नये अमेंडमेंट मूव करने के लिए, मेहरबानी कर के मुझको भी इजाजत दें क्योंकि मेरा एक अमेंडमेंट बहुत जरूरी है।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes.

श्री मधु लिमये : दूसरी बात यह है कि शायद हम लोग खंड 12 के ऊपर विचार कर रहे थे जब श्री गोविन्द मेनन ने कहा था...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can read out your amendment.

श्री मधु लिमये : मेरा अमेंडमेंट यह था कि जो एडवाइजरी बोर्ड हैं उन पर बैंक कर्मचारियों, मजदूरों, कारीगरों और किसानों के प्रतिनिधि हों। साथ ही साथ श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज और श्री पाटोडिया का अमेंडमेंट था कि डिपाजिटर्स के, खोतेदारों के प्रतिनिधि भी होने चाहिएं। मुझ को लगता है कि यह अच्छी बात है और उस को मंत्री महोदय कबूल कर रहे हैं। दोनों अमेंडमेंट्स को मिलाने के लिए हम श्री गोविन्द मेनन को इजाजत दें कि वह उसका रि-ड्राफ्ट कर आयें।

SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA (Motihari): I have got may amendment, Amendment No. 369, which reads as follows :—

Page 6, line 20.—

after 'Advisory Board' *insert*—

"having persons representing the various interests, particularly agricultrists, small industrialists, bank employees and small depositors."

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you speaking on your Amendment ?

SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA : Yes.

क्लाज 12 जो इस तरह है :

There shall be an Advisory Board to aid and advise the Custodian in the discharge of his duries.

उस में मेरा यह अमेंडमेंट है कि :

"having persons representing the various interests, particularly agriculturists, small industrialists, bank employees and small depositors."

एडवाजरी बोर्ड में हर एक तरह के इन्टरेस्ट का रिप्रेजेन्टेशन इस तरह से हो जाता है और इस सुधार को मान लेना चाहिए ताकि एडवाइजरी बोर्ड में हर तरह के इन्टरेस्ट आ जायें।

जो आपका एडवाइजरी बोर्ड है और यहां काम करेगा उसमें हर तरह के आदमियों का इंटरेस्ट है। आज बैंकों में जो रुपया जमा है उसमें से अधिकतर रुपया किसानों का है। पहले किसान उन रुपयों को सोना और चांदी में रखता था, लेकिन चोरियों और डकैतियों के बढ़ने से तथा कुछ दूसरी जरूरी बातों की वजह से किसान घरों में नोटों को नहीं रख सकते हैं। कहीं उसको चूहे खा जाते हैं और कहीं खराब