

KGG-NKR/1Y/2.30

**The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-four minutes two of the clock, MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair**

**SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL) 2016-17**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI**

**ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL):** Sir, I lay on the Table, a statement (in English and Hindi) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) 2016-17.

(Ends)

(Followed by KLS/1Z)

KLS/1Z-2.35

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** Now it is Shri Tiruchi Siva's Resolution. How are you getting it again and again? Earlier you had a Bill. It is a good thing. Congratulations. Now you can move the Resolution.

**RESOLUTION RE: AMENDING THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ACT, 1960**

**SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (TAMIL NADU):** Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I move the following Resolution:-

“Having regard to the fact that:-

- (i) from time immemorial, India has been an agrarian economy as the agricultural sector employs 263.1 million Indians, which accounts for 54.6% of the total Indian workforce;
- (ii) agriculture contributed 15.4% of the Gross Value Added in 2015-16;
- (iii) over the years, indigenous breeds of cattle have been the backbone of the agricultural economy as prior to the introduction of modern farm equipments, agriculture would not have been possible without cattle and even today, cattle play an important role in agricultural activities, particularly for the small and medium farmers;
- (iv) bull power is used for ploughing and transportation, which saves electricity and consumption of large volumes of fossil fuel that are harmful to the environment;
- (v) India imported 2.28 lakhs TMT of crude oil and other petroleum products in the year 2015-16, worth Rs. 5.24 lakh crores, 60 lakh tonnes of diesel worth Rs. 4000 crores which can be potentially saved by replacing tractors by cattle for the purposes of ploughing and transportation;
- (vi) cattle manure has been traditionally used in India as fertiliser which helps reduce reliance on chemical fertilisers and pesticides, that have a negative effect on soil quality and harm quality of food crops produced as India consumed 256 lakh tonnes of fertilizers in 2014-15;
- (vii) indiscriminate use of fertilisers and pesticides in agriculture has been linked to spread of diseases through food products but use of dung and urine from cattle has a positive impact on the environment and soil quality, with no negative effects on health;
- (viii) a higher dependence on fossil fuels and chemical based farm inputs significantly raises the cost of farming resulting in higher food prices;

(ix) by increasing reliance on cattle in agriculture, one can reduce cost

of food products and avoid negative effects on environment and health;

(x) cattle used in agriculture are reared with great care, and are fed a high-quality diet, including grass fodder grown exclusively for the cattle and their health is monitored and taken care of on a periodic basis by qualified veterinary doctors;

(xi) native breeds of cattle are gradually being phased out due to the onslaught of modern farm equipments and the import of exotic breeds;

(xii) as per the Livestock Census conducted by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries of the Government of India, the total indigenous cattle population in India has reduced by 8.94% from 1660.15 lakhs in 2007 to 1511.72 lakhs in 2012, which is a small fraction of the total actual requirement for cattle for agricultural practises;

(xiii) the population of exotic breeds of cattle has increased by 20.18% in the same period, from 330.6 lakhs in 2007 to 397.32 lakhs in 2012; (xiv) owing to the decline in the population of the indigenous bulls, artificial insemination is increasingly being relied upon for breeding of cows;

(xv) article 48 of the Constitution of India directs that the State shall endeavour to take steps for preserving and improving breeds of animals; and

(xvi) all possible steps are needed to be taken to preserve, improve and protect the stock of indigenous cattle of the country,

this House urges upon the Government to: —

(a) suitably amend the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 to exempt bulls from the application of provisions that restrict their

utility and training for various purposes by using of various techniques to train them to perform agricultural tasks such as ploughing and transportation;

(b) include the amended Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, in the Ninth Schedule to the Constitution of India; and

(c) take steps to encourage and incentivise the use of indigenous cattle for agricultural purposes and improve their health and stock.”

Sir, it is a very important Resolution which may appear to be very simple, but involves our rich tradition, culture and the native people of this country. From time immemorial India has primarily been an agrarian country. Of course, our nation contributes 15.4 per cent of the GVA, Gross Value Added, in the years 2015-16. It employs 263.1 million Indians which accounts for 54.6 per cent of the total work force. Sir, today India like many other developing countries with a rich agricultural tradition and heritage of their own, the worse improved agriculture forms as a substitute or synonymous with the increasing use of high yielding variety seeds and usage of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and tractors among other modern inputs.

Sir, the spread of modern technology or the modern methods uprooted several traditional agricultural methods like that of crop rotations, use of cattle and inter-cropping patterns which have been an integral part of heritage. However, in the goal of increasing the short-term yield, the long-term impacts of these modern methods have been

severely neglected. Sir, we should not ignore certain facts. Over the years, indigenous cattle have been the backbone of the agriculture of our country rather our economy. Prior to introduction of modern farm equipments, carrying on agricultural activities would not have been possible without the use of cattle. From ploughing to transportation, use of dung and urine as manure and fertilizers, use of cattle for agriculture are many. Even today cattle are an integral and important part of agriculture particularly for the landless, the marginal and the small farmers. Sir, the bulls are used for ploughing and transportation. This not only helps to save consumption of power but also in using volumes of fossil fuels that are harmful to the environment. Fossil fuels are a primary source of energy, no one can deny, but at the cost of what? Sir, the fossil fuels release carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and carbon monoxides among other Green House gases that will severely harm the environment as such. The consequences, in the long run, will be felt. Burning of fossil fuels is one of the primary causes of global warming. It results in the rise of temperature, flooding of low-lying areas in sea levels and submerging of islands. Sir, sulphur dioxide is one of the pollutants released by the fossil fuels, which causes acid rain. Acid rain not only leads to destruction of monuments but also severely affects crops due to acidification. We cannot ignore this very, very important

thing. As of today, fossils fuels are being extracted and mined at an exorbitant cost to meet the current demand and supply. However, it is estimated that fossil fuels would become extinct in the long run since this is a non-renewable energy. It is highly likely that fuel prices will also increase steeply in the future. Sir, in the year 2014-15, the sale of tractors in India was 5.51 lakh. In 2015-16, India imported 2.2 lakh TMT of crude oil and other petroleum products worth Rs. 5.24 lakh crores.

(Contd by 2AA/SSS)

SSS-MCM/2A/2.40

**SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (CONTD.):** It is estimated that 60 lakh tonnes of diesel worth Rs. 4000 crores can be potentially saved by replacing tractors with cattle for the purposes of ploughing and transportation. This would have a huge saving not only economically, but also environmentally. Sir, cattle dung has been traditionally used in India as manure and fertilizers. This tremendously helps to reduce the reliance on chemical fertilizers and pesticides that have a negative effect on the quality of the soil as well as harms the quality of food crops that are produced. Sir, given the serious issue of depleting ground water sources, over utilization of chemical based fertilizers and pesticides is further adding to the problem of non-usability of existing ground water resources. Sir, India consumes 256 lakh tonnes of fertilizers in 2014-15.

Indiscriminate use of pesticides and fertilizers in agriculture has also led to the rampant spread of diseases through food products. Use of such inputs leading to ground water contamination has been linked to gastric cancer and hypertension and stomach cancer among a number of other diseases. Sir, however, on the other hand, dung and urine from cattle contain various natural minerals which are extremely beneficial for the soil and have other environmental friendly uses as well. Dung is also collected and used as biogas to generate electricity and heat. The gas is rich in methane and is renewable, stable and an inexpensive source of electricity. Further, the use of dung as manure has no negative impact on our health. Sir, a high dependence on fossil fuels and chemical-based input for agriculture not only harms the environment, but is also extremely expensive. The usage of such inputs significantly raises the cost of farming which is not feasible for the small and marginal farmers who are living a hand-to-mouth existence. Such farmers find it more economical to rear bulls rather than to purchase or rent tractors. Sir, in order to maintain their agricultural inputs they get loans from the banks which they are not able to repay and we hear so many number of farmers committing suicides in recent days across India. Not only in any particular region, but across India, farmers commit suicide only for the reason that they don't get rain, they don't get water, and for incurring costs on inputs for

agriculture like pesticides and fertilizers which they believe would fetch them more yield, which rather put them to disastrous end. So, the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides rather than helping the farmers brings their life to an end. So, it is very imminent. Sir, we have to consider that. It has to be replaced with a traditional and heritage form of cultivation. Use of cattle will not only help the farmers, but also preserve the soil as well as the food products that are cultivated. Sir, as per the Livestock Census conducted by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries of the Government of India, the total indigenous cattle population in India has reduced by 8.94 per cent from 1660.15 lakhs in 2007 to 1511.72 lakhs in 2012 lakhs, which is a small fraction of the total actual requirement for cattle for agricultural practices. On the other hand, the population of exotic breeds of cattle has increased by 10.18 per cent in the same period, from 330.6 lakhs to 397.32 lakhs in 2012. So, native breed of our cattle are diminishing and are being extinct whereas the exotic breeds of cattle are increasing in number. What is the result of that? Sir, I have got a very good example. There is a saying in Tamil about the cows which yield milk. I think, the milk which the cows yield has a protein which is called Beta-Casein, A-1 and U-1, A-2 and U-2. The milk which native cows are giving has A-2 and U-2. It helps the



people to live in good health and, of course, blood circulation is increased.

(Contd. by NBR/2B)

-SSS/NBR-SC/2B/2.45.

**SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (CONTD.):** Whereas milk, which breed cows are giving, has A1 and U1 and they are the source of cancer. Sir, this is not something which is imaginary; it is proved by way of research. So, milk that we get from our native cows keeps our children healthy; whereas, milk given by exotic breed cows brings new diseases. Just to get more milk, we cannot keep the health of our people at stake.

Owing to this decline in cattle population, artificial insemination is increasingly been relied upon for breeding cows. This is a very sad thing. Not only is the process of artificial insemination expensive, but it also led to a reduction in the demand for bulls. Sir, bulls are used for plowing, transportation, breed cows and also for other sports like *Jallikattu*.

**SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH:** That is the real purpose.

**SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:** Yes; maybe. Why not?

So, when native bulls actually become extinct, the focus on certain specific breeds through the process of artificial insemination also results in loss of genetic variation. In fact, according to a recent news report, 59 live bulls of Jersey breed imported from Denmark! Studies have shown

that due to artificial insemination and the way animals are treated, the life span of animals is drastically impacted. In an ideal situation, cattle live for around 25 years. However, animals that are intensively milked live up to only around 10 years. So, Sir, our cows also will become extinct in the coming years. Other breeds will be imported. These also live for a short period. And, even for insemination and growing cattle, we have to depend on other nations. So, my point is, when we have a rich tradition and heritage, we are just giving it up for more income. But, in reality, we would not get more income, rather we are only keeping the lives of our children and the country at stake. So, the native cattle in India have evolved in perfect harmony with their local region and adapting to the local environment conditions. The State of Tamil Nadu has six indigenous cattle breeds -- Kangayam, Pulikulam, Umbalachery, Barugur, Alambadi and Malai Maadu. However, today, owing to increase in artificial insemination and lesser people rearing cattle, most of these breeds have dwindled to a few thousands and are on the verge of extinction. This is majorly due to lack of incentives to farmers, introduction of tractors and popularization of exotic breeds.

Sir, I think, hon. Deputy Chairman is well aware, now-a-days, the people are reverting back to original form of cultivation. They are totally giving up chemical fertilizers as organic products are being welcomed by

consumers as well as farmers. It is more remunerative to farmer as well as it is healthier for consumer. Now, I am converting my farm into organic. Earlier, we were using chemical fertilizers. Now, agriculture experts instructed me to totally stop that. Only two native cows and two native bulls are enough for 15 acres of land whose cow dung and urine can be used as manure as well as pesticides. People are waiting for produce that come out from such farm. So, awareness has come. But, we are resorting to other means.

Article 29 of the Constitution says that it is the fundamental right of every citizen, residing in any part of India and having a distinct culture of its own, to conserve the same. Article 51A of the Constitution directs that it is the fundamental duty of every citizen to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture.

Artificial insemination is the worst thing which we have to stop immediately. When we have got our own bulls used for plowing, transportation and sports, these can otherwise be used for breeding our own cows.

I should confess here and I tender my apology for telling this. Through artificial insemination, cow may breed and give milk. But, its natural pleasure is deprived. It is not just saving an animal from cruelty meted out by human or anyone else. Just because it does not have

voice, we should not underestimate its feelings. It has to give birth to a cow and for that it has to be with a bull.

(CONTD. BY PK/2C)

PK-GS/2C/2.50

**SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (CONTD.):** But you are totally depriving it of a bull. No bull is there, whereas it is impregnated, it gives birth and it also gives milk. Sir, I am very sorry to say this, but I have to share this. They are all animals. How can we deprive them, just for the sake of milk or money? Only artificial insemination can fetch you more money does not mean that we should use this technique. I think, Sir, we have to apply our mind. We should have some humanitarian consideration, not only with fellow human beings, but also with animals, who come along with us and who are always with us. So, there are many such things which I would like to say; I think it is not out of place. Cows and bulls are being domesticated. They are brought up like children. Not only in Tamil Nadu, but also in many other areas, these animals are being used for other activities. In Tamil Nadu, there is an ancient tradition that has been observed for over 2,000 years, the Jallikattu, a bull taming sport, conducted as a part of the annual Pongal festivities to celebrate the harvest season. A glimpse of the Jallikattu sport can also be seen in the ancient relics from the Indus

Valley Civilization, which are on display at the National Museum, New Delhi. So, it is not something which is happening today. It is there since the Indus Valley Civilization and is still in the National Museum, New Delhi. So, it requires the use of indigenous breed of bulls. The bulls are identified, nourished and trained for the event. They are not tortured. They are fed well as that of a child. Without activities like the Jallikattu, a lot of native breeds will be sent to slaughter houses. With reduced availability of bulls, farmers will be forced to adopt artificial insemination techniques, which is cost prohibitive, and is in direct contravention of *in situ* conservation. So, Sir, in a bid to extract more commercial value and more milk from the cows, artificial insemination methods are used rather than breeding of the indigenous breeds of a cattle. Thus, a ban of traditional and cultural practices such as Jallikattu, Kambala in Karnataka, etc. further aggravates the problem of extinction of indigenous cattle. Sir, societal peace and harmony comes about by taking proactive action and not just by talking about it. Despite religious, class and caste diversities prevalent in India, many principles, functions, events are sustainably shared for a peaceful co-living. Jallikattu is one such festival that is celebrated with full enthusiasm across the State of Tamil Nadu, by the people, breaking through numerous class, caste and religious barriers. So, Sir, the native bulls or the native cattle are essential for agricultural

purpose, to preserve our ancient and heritage method of agricultural farming. Moreover, it is in the interest of small and marginal farmers who consider it better to rear a bull to maintain their livelihood than to resort to chemical fertilizers to get some more yield in the farms. Sports like Jallikattu will also encourage the people to develop that. Here, I would like to quote Article 51A. It says, "It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood among all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic, regional or sectional diversities." Sir, just for an example, I say, it does not create any controversy, rather, it brings in more harmony among the people of various culture, diversities, castes, classes and religions. In Madurai, the Muslim Imams offer holy ash to the bulls before the sport is started. In fact, in Madurai, the first bull that enters the arena belongs to a Scheduled Caste family. Further, in Dindigul, the Christian priest hoists the flag to start the event and in Alanganallur, priest belonging to the Scheduled Caste perform a puja before the vadaivasal is opened. So, there is no caste barrier. No religion is there. People are together. For example, if people have to come together, some festivals have to be there. When Ramzan comes, we go there. When Christmas comes, we come to a place. When Deepavali comes, they go to other places. Like that, such events also bring people together. Some sports,

by showing some reason, if curtailed, may spoil the ancient heritage, culture and tradition of the country. So, Sir, in the interests of several things, I am moving this Resolution; namely, first, to preserve the traditional form of agriculture and also to save the interests of small and marginal farmers who cannot afford to pay for the chemical fertilisers.

(Contd. by PB/2D)

PB/2D/2.55

**SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (CONTD.):** And it contaminates the soil. It depletes the ground water. It spoils even the food products. The crops which are produced in that soil by way of these inputs cause harm and it is hazardous to the health of human also. So, we have to replace it. It is high time we concentrated on it. The Ministers are here. The Government is here. All the learned Members are also here, Sir. Should we give it up for other expectations which don't fetch anything?

So, Sir, I would like to conclude with my emphasis on social harmony. In light of the importance of social harmony, it is a goal that must be pursued at all costs. In light of the directives mandated by our Constitution and importance of the events like Jallikattu, the bulls, the native cattle, have to be protected. Sir, events like Jallikattu play an important role in maintaining such harmony, which I just mentioned as an example.

Given the added benefits in achieving this goal by events such as Jallikattu and the Constitutional importance granted to the same, the Government must also take steps to preserve this unique culture and heritage of our country. I also urge the Government to take all positive steps to promote the use of indigenous cattle, and actively engage in preserving and protecting the native breeds.

For that, the House urges upon the Government to take the following measures:

(i) Suitably amend the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, to exempt bulls from the application of provisions that restrict their use and training for various purposes. This includes the use of various techniques to train them to effectively perform their agricultural tasks such as ploughing and transportation.

(ii) Include this amended Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, to the 9<sup>th</sup> Schedule of the Constitution of India; and

(iii) Take steps to educate, encourage and incentivize people about the numerous uses of indigenous cattle for agricultural purposes and improve their health and stock.

Thank you very much, Sir.

(Ends)

*The question was proposed.*



**SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (TELANGANA):** Respected Deputy Chairman, before starting my observations on the submission of my esteemed colleague, Shri Tiruchi Siva, for suitable amendment to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, I salute the recent Marina March which has replicated the Dravidian Renaissance, the inherent, indigenous, native, traditional emotions and their importance. By reflecting their commitment to the Tamil heritage which is part of the Dravidian heritage and which is part of the larger Indian heritage, the Marina March has attracted the attention of all the sensitive citizens of the globe.

Sir, we have our own cock fights in Andhra Pradesh, we have our own type of bull fights in Rayalaseema, we have our own bullock cart races in Telangana and the variety of races, variety of seasonal and festive-related celebrations involving the animals are there almost all across the nations. With the focus on the Jallikattu, the World Council of Indigenous Peoples and their indigenous traditional habits, is again focusing to enlarge the demand to encourage, sustain and preserve the traditional knowledge and traditional festivity.

(Contd. by 2e/SKC)