

be able to have with the National Federation of Blind. Sir, I would seek the permission of the House to withdraw this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is an Amendment standing in the name of Shri Mool Chand Daga. I will now put this Amendment to vote. The question is:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by 30 June, 1961." (1)

The motion was negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you withdrawing it, Prof. Dandavate?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Yes.

I beg to move for leave of the House to withdraw the Bill to provide for employment to blind persons and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill to provide for employment to blind persons and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The Motion was adopted.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I withdraw the Bill.

RE. CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of Article 326)

MR. CHAIRMAN: This Bill, the Constitution (Amendment) Bill (Amendment of Article 326), stands in the name of Shri George Fernandes. He has sent information that because he has gone in some meeting with the Prime Minister, he will not be able to move the Bill today.

He has requested that this Bill be moved next time. But the rule will look to that point.

17.32 hrs.

SMALL FARMERS ASSISTANCE BILL

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the grant of loans and various subsidies to small farmers, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the Objects and Reasons of my Bill are that at present farmers beset with financial difficulties are facing immense hardship in procuring loans to meet the cost of farming operations, in buying agricultural implements, improved seeds etc. and marketing their produce at a price commensurate with the cost of operation.

Sir, my intention in moving this Bill is that today 80 per cent of the population of the country is living in villages and their main occupation is agriculture. After the land reforms initiated by the Congress Government and that in most of the States where land reforms have taken place, a revolutionary change has taken place because of the distribution of lands to the small holders and also because of the opportunity to get the land titles registered in the names of the small farmers and tenants. Today in this country about 80 per cent of the farmers are small holders of land except a certain percentage of plantation crops where they have got more land because it comes within the perview of industry.

Sir, the basis of my argument is this. We have to see whether after the land reforms there are any adequate measures to meet these exigencies of small farmers. This is a point to be considered by this House.

Sir, this Bill was placed before the previous Lok Sabha, but its turn was not reached and it lapsed. Therefore, I am reviving it.