Planning & Dev. 280 through Panchayat Raj Bill

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

est of farmers from loss due to unavoidable causes".

The motion was adopted.

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं विश्वेयक को पुर स्थापित करता हूं।

15.47 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES 124 AND 155)

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE: 1 beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India".

The motion was adopted.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE I introduce the Bill

15.471 hrs

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PANCHAYAT RAJ BILL—Contd.

By SHRI KANABAHADUR SINGH

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Ranabahadur Singh on the 28th November, 1974:—

"That the Bill to provide for planning and development through various democratic and official agencies of Panchayat Raj, be taken into consideration". On the last occasion, Shri Shenoy was on his legs. He may resume his speech.

SHRI P. R. SHENOY (Udipi): 1 was narrating the incident of the authorities of a State trying to fix the location of a proposed public well in a village where there was no agreement regarding its fixation amongst the villagers. The authorities had never visited the village and they had no knowledge of the village at all. Sitting in the headquarters of the State, they decided that the well should be at the centre of the village. So they brought a map of the village and took some pains to find out the centre of the village and placed a mark there and directed that the well should be dug exactly at that place An official was deputed to the village. When he went there. he found that this point was on the top of a rocky hill Therefore, the villagers could not get the well which they wanted very badly. This is the result of planning from State headquarters or from Delhi and not at the district/village level.

The Ministry of Planning has promised that the people would be involved in the Fifth Plan. I do not know how the people have been involved in its formulation. So far no people have been involved in the plan at all. Even MPs have not been involved in the formulation of the plan except to the extent of attending some committee meetings.

In some States, District Planning Committees and District Development Councils have been formed but these are neither democratic, nor do they have any power to implement or monitor the plan. In Karnataka, there are not even District Boards These were abolished long back. The promised zila parishads have not yet come into existence. Unless we have democratic bodies at district panchayat levels, we cannot really have a

^{*}Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated, 13-12-1974.