

CONSTITUTION (FOURTEENTH  
AMENDMENT) BILL\*

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):** I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

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

*The motion was adopted.*

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** I introduce the Bill.

OIL AND NATURAL GAS COM-  
MISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL\*

**The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Oil and Natural Gas Commission Act, 1959.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Oil and Natural Gas Commission Act, 1959."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I introduce the Bill.

12.15 hrs.

LAND ACQUISITION (AMEND-  
MENT) BILL—contd.

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now take up further clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill further to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 and to validate certain acquisitions under that Act.

**Some Hon. Members rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** Before we start, I have to make one request.

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil) rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the hon. Minister want to say something?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** Sir, before the debate starts I would like to make a statement so that, possibly, that would save the time of the House. If you allow me, Sir, I shall make that statement just now.

**Mr. Speaker:** He may go on.

**Shri S. K. Patil:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday, during the speeches, a concern was expressed, and very rightly so, as to whether good agricultural lands would be utilised for this purpose and, if so, that would be a loss to agricultural production and that is something which should not be done. Another point that was made is, that this Bill might be misused for any purpose and, possibly, unless unavoidable circumstances arise the application of such a Bill should not be there. So also, there was a third point that was made, that the rules that are made should be laid on the Table of the House.

There were many other points raised, but I am not taking them up now as I am not replying to the debate. What I am saying is this. So far as the first two or three points are concerned, the House will remember that I told, at the very outset, yesterday, that so far as the protection of good agricultural land is concerned, I am second to none. In fact, I want to go a little farther than even the hon. Members and say that such lands ought not to be taken unless the unavoidable circumstances could be conclusively proved. Therefore, in order to clinch the issue I would like to read this statement which I want to make.

In view of the depth of feelings expressed in the House on this Bill and keen regard for the agriculturists which has been shown by hon.

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†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.