

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh]

Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, to provide for the assessment or re-assessment of persons who have to a substantial extent evaded payment of taxes during a certain period and for matters connected therewith.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, to provide for the assessment or re-assessment of persons who have to a substantial extent evaded payment of taxes during a certain period and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I introduce* the Bill.

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) BILL

PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF JOINT
COMMITTEE

श्री शाहीगल (पूजा मन्त्र) : मैं दंड प्रक्रिया संहिता, १८६८ में और ज्यादा संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक सम्बन्धी संयुक्त समिति का प्रतिवेदन सभा के सामने उपस्थित करता हूँ ।

Shri Matthen (Thiruvellah): I do not understand what it is.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will find an English translation in the order paper.

Shri Matthen: Then, there is no necessity for this.

SPECIAL MARRIAGE BILL—Contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will proceed with the further consideration of the Bill to provide a special form of marriage in certain cases, for the registration of such and certain other marriages and for divorce, as passed by the Rajya Sabha.

Clause 4 and amendments numbers 60, 61, 108, 109, 182, 227, 229, 294, 62 and 112 which are identical, 183, 30, 295, 2 and 113 which are identical are under discussion.

Clause 4.— (*Conditions relating to solemnization of special marriages*)

Shrimati Jayashri (Bombay-Suburban): I have sent an amendment to this clause. In the Hindu Code Bill which came before the Provisional Parliament, the conditions laid down for a valid marriage—*dharmic* as well as civil marriage—were, the bridegroom has completed the age of 18 years and the bride the age of 15 years at the time of the marriage and each party has, if he or she has not completed the age of 21 years at the time of this marriage, obtained the consent of his or her guardian for the marriage, provided that no such consent shall be required if the bride is a widow. We have changed this clause and instead of 15, we have raised it to twenty-one. Some of the members of the All-India Women's Conference met the Law Minister when this draft was circulated for public opinion and we requested the Law Minister not to raise this age too high.

[**SHRI PATASKAR in the Chair**]

Because, as we know, in our country, girls mature at a very early age, we requested the Law Minister not to raise the age beyond 18. Eighteen is a reasonable age and some of us have now sent an amendment to this clause and asked for keeping this age limit at eighteen. If you raise this age too high, we fear that this will prevent many girls from taking advantage of this Act. As we know, in our country, girls like to marry at the age of 15 or 16. In the case of *dharmic* marriages, we are going to keep it at 15. I would request the hon. Members not to raise this age too high and to keep the limit at eighteen. We are going to accept an amendment that if the party has not completed the age of twenty-one at the time of the marriage, he should

*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.