

The motion was adopted.

[English]

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: I introduce the Bill

15.35 hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF PEOPLE
(AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Section 77, etc.)

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I introduce the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bandari Dattatraya - Absent.

15.36 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL-
CONTD.

(Amendment of Article 356)

By Shri Sudhir Giri

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we shall take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Sudhir Giri on the 20th December, 1991, namely:-

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Madam Chairman, I was speaking on this Bill and I was trying to say that article 356, though it is very necessary, is an article which is being openly attacked by almost all since it has been used at various points of time against various States. In 1977, we saw that the Government which came to power after alleging that the previous governments were using article 356 indiscriminately, had actually used this as a weapon to scuttle so many State Governments without any other reason than for a statement that the majority was thinking otherwise. There was absolutely no cause for that but that was done in 1977, just after the Government came in power in 1977.

In a similar way, we all speak about Sarkaria Commission's Report. We have several times stated that it is a report which should be given effect to. But we have seen that the very essence of the Report was flouted by the Government which came to power two years back in 1989, in the case of Kashmir, when a Governor was appointed in a manner which was not befitting at all and which was against all the spirit of the Sarkaria Commission's Report which said that in the case of appointment of Governors, the State Government or the Chief Ministers may be consulted.

15.38 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

But not only the Chief Ministers weren't consulted but the Governors were thrust upon against the will of that government and further that government had to go just be-