

**Bill No. XLI of 2014**

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2014

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*further to amend the Constitution of India.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-fifth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (i) This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2014.

Short title and  
commence-  
ment.

(ii) It shall come into force at once.

2. In article 31A of the Constitution in clause (1) after the second proviso, the following  
5 proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

Amendment  
of article 31A.

"Provided also that no agricultural land shall be acquired by the State except for  
public utilities such as highways, roads, bridges, dams, airports, railway lines and  
stations and any acquisition of agricultural land for the purposes other than referred  
herein and in particular for promoting private entrepreneur or private corporate venture  
10 shall be void *abinitio*."

#### STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Of late, the agricultural land belonging to poor farmers in various parts of the country is being acquired by the State Governments by paying poor compensation for promoting Special Economic Zones (SEZs) by private entrepreneurs or promoting private sector corporate enterprises setting up power plants, manufacturing of cars, engineering goods, etc. This has agitated the poor farmers and in some parts they have revolted and have become violent in protest against the acquisition of their land, which is the only source of their livelihood. In order to curb them, the State Governments have resorted to arrest, *lathi* charge and even firing, killing many innocent farmers. No doubt, the State can acquire land for public utilities like highways, roads, bridges, dams, airports, railway lines and stations but acquiring land for private entrepreneurs is not the responsibility of the State. The private entrepreneurs can well effort the land price and they can purchase the land directly from its owners at agreed price. But no land should forcibly be acquired for private ventures by the State.

Hence, this Bill.

NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP



RAJYA SABHA

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*(Shri Narendra Kumar Kashyap, M.P.)*