

**THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2006
(AMENDMENT OF EIGHTH SCHEDULE)**

DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI (Rajasthan): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): We shall now take up further consideration of the motion moved by Shri Narayanasamy. On 24th November 2006, Shri Santosh Bagrodia had not concluded his speech while participating in the discussion. He may, therefore, like to speak.

**THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE
(REMUNERATIVE PRICES) BILL, 2006**

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Sir, on 24th November, 2006, I was speaking on this Bill introduced by our Chief Whip, Shri V. Narayanasamy—the Agricultural Produce (Remunerative Prices) Bill, 2006.

Sir, while I was speaking, I was mentioning that day that in 2004-05, the total production of foodgrains was 204 million tonnes. It was reduced, of course, mainly due to climatic conditions. But I did compliment the Government for record oilseed production and also cotton production. What I wish to say now is, if you see the records, the total area is coming down in agriculture. Sir, in 1960-61, in the 17th Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization the total area was 133.48 million hectares and the number of operational holdings were 50.77 millions. After ten years, in 1970-71, in the 26th round, it became 125.68 hectares and the number of operational holdings was 57.07 million; it had increased. The total area of operation came down by 5.84 per cent. After another ten years, in 1981-82, in the 37th round, the area was 118.57 million hectares and the number of operational holdings increased to 171.04 millions, that is, the percentage came down by another 5.66, and the total number of holdings increased by 24.48 per cent. In 1991-92, after ten years, the total operational area came down to 125.10 million