

# Revision Of Indian Constitution

## OPPOSITION BY MERCHANTS

**From Our Special Representative**

NEW DELHI, April 28: That the Governments of the Centre and the States should make suitable modifications in their own "hasty and ill-considered measures" rather than rush to amend a permanent document like the Constitution of India is the view which the executive committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has conveyed in the course of a long representation to the Law Ministry of the Government of India.

"The very fact that the General Elections are not far away," observed the Committee, "should be enough not to hustle through far-reaching changes in the Constitution, particularly when they are likely to be misunderstood as electioneering tactics by the party in power."

The representation refers to the proposed amendments to various articles including Article 19 and 31 dealing with freedom of speech and expression and compensation to compulsorily acquired private property and points out that arbitrary revision of such fundamental provisions designed to meet conflicting points of view "is in effect a breach of faith not calculated to inculcate much respect either for the Constitution or for the authors of such amendments."

The Committee, therefore, urged the Government of India to postpone consideration of amending the Constitution until after the General Elections.

## DELIMITATION OF CONSTITUENCIES

### Congress Party Meeting

**From Our Special Representative**

NEW DELHI, April 29: An important meeting of the Congress Party was held on Saturday evening to discuss the differences which have arisen between the Election Commission and members of Parliament who served on various delimitation committees of States.

Apart from a representation made to the President by the Punjab members of Parliament in this connection, a memorandum signed by a large number of members of Parliament from Madras State has just been sent to the Prime Minister asking him to intervene in the matter.

The Madras memorandum states that the proposals for delimitation of constituencies both for the States and the Central legislature made by the Madras Government and the Delimitation Committee of the State have been changed by the Election Commission to such an extent that they are beyond recognition. This, it is stated, is unwarranted and unjust. The memorandum, therefore, requests the Prime Minister to re-examine the question in the light of the proposals made by the Madras Government and modified by the States Delimitation Committee.

The Election Commissioner, Mr. S. Sen, called on the Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, on Saturday afternoon just before the meeting of the Congress Party.