

**Bill No. 167 of 2025**

## THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

By

DR. BACHHAV SHOBHA DINESH, M.P.

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BILL

*further to amend the Constitution of India.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-sixth year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2025.

Short title and  
commencement.

5 (2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government, may by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

2. In article 243G of the Constitution for the words, “economic development and social justice”, the words, “economic development, spatial planning and social justice”, shall be substituted.

Amendment of  
article 243G.

3. In the Eleventh Schedule to the Constitution,—

Amendment  
of the  
Eleventh  
Schedule.

10 (a) in entry (2), for the words, “and soil conservation”, the words, “soil

conservation, regulation of land use and construction of buildings”, shall be substituted;

(b) in entry 23, for the words, “primary health centres and dispensaries”, the words, “primary health centres, dispensaries and solid waste management”, shall be substituted; and

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(c) after entry 29, the following entry(s) shall be inserted, namely:—

“30. Rural planning.

31. Planning for economic and social development.

32. Fire services.”.

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

India had more than 6,49,481 villages with a population of 83 per cent. of the total India's population in 2011. In fact, the Census of India 2011 enumerated a total of 3894 Census towns, which are villages but had all the characteristics of urban area. Researchers projected this Census Towns will grow upto 17.93 million with an additional 2231 Census Towns in 2021.

The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992, mentions about the responsibility of Gram Panchayats, to prepare the social, economic and resource plans for rural areas, but not preparation of spatial plans. Spatial plans are prepared for urban areas popularly known as Master or Development Plans and notified under the respective State Town and Country Planning Acts. These Acts in their title include Country Planning, but in reality, there is rarely provision for preparing Development Plans for village. Many of the States do not even mention about the rural spatial planning in the respective Town and Country Planning Act.

Therefore, the rural areas are devoid of planned spatial development. The absence of planned spatial development in rural areas, especially in peri-urban areas, and in major highway corridors, has major impact on regional development and within the Metropolitan areas as well. Lack of access to basic infrastructure (social, economic and physical) without spatial planning leads to high cost of urbanization and retrofitting for provision of services at a later stage.

Some States have come out with rules and regulations to bring about planned spatial development supported under RURBAN Mission, MANCHITRA and SVAMITVA schemes. It is imperative to provide statutory backing to planned spatial development of rural areas.

Well-designed rural communities & areas are places where people want to live and invest in the future. The proposed Bill would enable, holistic and cohesive planned spatial development in the rural areas which house over two-thirds of the country.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;  
*July 4, 2025.*

BACHHAV SHOBHA DINESH

## ANNEXURE

### [EXTRACTS FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA]

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Powers,  
authority and  
responsibilities  
of Panchayats.

243G. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Legislature of a State may, by law, endow the Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government and such law may contain provisions for the devolution of powers and responsibilities upon Panchayats, at the appropriate level, subject to such conditions as may be specified therein, with respect to—

(a) the preparation of plans for economic development and social justice;

(b) the implementation of schemes for economic development and social justice as may be entrusted to them including those in relation to the matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule.

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#### ELEVENTH SCHEDULE

(Article 243G)

23. Health and sanitation, including hospitals, primary health centres and dispensaries.

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29. Maintenance of community assets.

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*(Dr. Bachhav Shobha Dinesh, M.P.)*