

AS INTRODUCED IN LOK SABHA

Bill No. 95 of 2019

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2019

By

SHRI GOPAL CHINAYYA SHETTY, M.P.

A

BILL

further to amend the Constitution of India.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2019. Short title.

2. In article 85 of the Constitution, in clause (I), the following proviso shall be added at the end, namely:— Amendment of article 85.

5 "Provided that the number of sittings of each House of Parliament in all sessions in a calendar year shall not be less than one hundred and fifty days.".

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Constitution of India does not specify the number of sittings of each House of Parliament. It merely says that six months shall not intervene between its last sitting in one session and the date appointed for its first sitting in the next session. There is, of late, a growing tendency to curtail the number of sittings of the Houses.

India is a country with complex problems which need immediate and durable solutions. Parliament is the supreme law making body. If it meets only for a limited number of days, it will cease to be an effective platform for the people to ventilate their grievances and seek remedy. The All India Presiding Officers Conference discussed the matter and proposed that the number of sittings of Parliament and State Legislatures be increased. But, so far, no initiative in this regard has come from the Central Government.

Parliament and State Legislatures should meet more often to discuss legislative proposals and other burning problems of the people.

The present Bill provides that each House of Parliament should meet at least for one hundred and fifty days in a calendar year. Thus it aims at fulfilling the long felt desire of the people and their representatives.

NEW DELHI;
June 11, 2019.

GOPAL CHINAYYA SHETTY

ANNEXURE

EXTRACT FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

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85. (1) The President shall from time to time summon each House of Parliament to meet at such time and place as he thinks fit, but six months shall not intervene between its last sitting in one session and the date appointed for its first sitting in the next session.

Sessions of
Parliament,
prorogation
and
dissolution.

(2) The President from time to time—

- (a) prorogue the Houses or either House;
- (b) dissolve the House of People.

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(*Shri Gopal Chinayya Shetty, M.P.*)