

Bill No. 7 of 2022

THE BUREAU OF ACCOUNTABILITY BILL, 2022

By

SHRI GOPAL CHINAYYA SHETTY, M.P.

A

BILL

to provide for establishment of a Bureau of Accountability to suggest measures for rooting out corruption; making the administration efficient and for matters connected therewith.

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Bureau of Accountability Act, 2022.

(2) It extends to the whole of India.

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

Short title,
extent and
commencement.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) “Bureau” means the Bureau of Accountability established under section 3;

10 (b) “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act.

Definitions.

Establishment of
a Bureau of
Accountability.

3. (1) The Central Government shall by notification in the Official Gazette, establish a Bureau to be known as the Bureau of Accountability for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(2) The Bureau shall consist of —

(i) three serving or retired Judges of the Supreme Court of India; 5

(ii) Cabinet Secretary to the Central Government;

(iii) Home Secretary to the Central Government;

(iv) Director of Intelligence Bureau;

(v) Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation;

(vi) One retired General of the Army to be nominated by the Central Government; 10

(vii) One eminent social worker to be nominated by the Central Government;

(viii) One political worker to be nominated by the Central Government; 15

(ix) Two Members of Parliament one each from the House of the People and the Council of States, to be nominated by the Presiding Officers of the respective Houses; and

(x) Three serving or retired Chairpersons of Public Sector undertakings to be nominated by the Central Government. 20

(3) The members of the Bureau shall have a tenure of six years from the date of their appointment or nomination, as the case may be.

(4) The office of the Bureau shall be at New Delhi.

(5) The Central Government shall appoint such number of Officers and staff as it considers necessary for the efficient functioning of the Bureau. 25

(6) The salary and allowances payable to and other terms and conditions of service of members and officers and staff of the Bureau shall be such as may be prescribed.

Chairperson of
the Bureau.

4. The Members of the Bureau shall elect from amongst themselves a member to preside over its meetings and the member so elected shall be designated as Chairperson of the Bureau. 30

Functions of
the Bureau.

5. The Bureau shall —

(i) make the administration corruption free;

(ii) accelerate the pace of working in the Ministries of the Government of India; and 35

(iii) take steps and suggest measures to implement the policies framed by the Central Government within the prescribed time period.

Powers of
Bureau.

6. The members of the Bureau shall carry out surprise inspections of various Ministries and Departments of the Central Government and the Public Sector Undertakings, from time to time, and suggest measures for carrying out administrative reforms in the functioning of the Union Ministries, Departments and Public Sector Undertakings. 40

Procedure to be
followed by
the Bureau in
its functioning.

7. (1) The Bureau shall formulate rules for its internal working and the rules so made shall be laid on the Table of each House of Parliament.

(2) If any amendment is made to the rules framed under sub-section (1), the amendment so made shall also be laid on the Table of each House of Parliament. 45

8. (1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act. Power to make rules.

(2) Every rule made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both the Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

It is a fact that unstable bureaucracy is a big hurdle in the development of the country. Some senior officers and their subordinates working in Government offices do not dispose of their official works within the prescribed or reasonable time period. Many important files remain pending for months in Government Offices which in turn leads to corruption. It is, therefore, necessary that a high powered permanent Bureau should be set up to accelerate the pace of work of bureaucracy and ensure timely completion of work.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
3 *December*, 2021.

GOPAL CHINAYYA SHETTY

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 3 of the Bill provides that the Central Government shall establish a Bureau of Accountability. It further provides that the Central Government shall appoint such number of officers and staff as it considers necessary for the efficient functioning of the Bureau. It also provides that the office of the Bureau shall be located at New Delhi. The Bill, therefore, if enacted, would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. It is likely to involve a recurring expenditure of rupees one hundred and twenty five crore per annum.

A non-recurring expenditure of about rupees eighty crore is also likely to be involved.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 8 of the Bill empowers the Central Government to make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Bill. The rules will relate to matters of detail only. The delegation of legislative power is, therefore, of a normal character.

LOK SABHA

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(Shri Gopal Chinayya Shetty, M.P.)