

AS INTRODUCED IN LOK SABHA

Bill No. 134 of 2019

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2019

By

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB, 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 the preamble to the Constitution, for the words "THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India", the words "THE PEOPLE OF BHARAT, having solemnly resolved to constitute Bharat" shall be substituted.

Amendment
of the
preamble.

Amendment of article 1. **3.** In article 1 of the Constitution, for clause (1), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

"(1) Bharat shall be a Union of States."

Substitution of reference to 'India' by 'Bharat'. **4.** Throughout the Constitution, for the word "India", wherever it occurs, the word "Bharat" shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Historically, our country was known as Bharat. Though there are indications that the name 'India' was also in use even in very ancient times, the term came more prominently in vogue with the advent of the British imperial rule. For this reason, often the use of the term 'India' is regarded an imperial legacy. The framers of our Constitution did give recognition to the name 'Bharat' and named the republic as "India, that is Bharat" in article 1 of the Constitution. However, they chose to give precedence to "India" over "Bharat". That is why, throughout the rest of the Constitution, the term "India" has been used to refer to the republic.

The Bill seeks to amend the Constitution so as to rename the republic as "Bharat" instead of "India".

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
June 17, 2019.

BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

ANNEXURE

EXTRACT FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

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PREAMBLE

Preamble. WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and to secure to all its citizens:

.....

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949, do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.

PART I

THE UNION AND ITS TERRITORY

Name and territory of the Union.

1. (1) India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States.

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(Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab, M.P.)