

Bill No.XXVII of 2025

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

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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.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

5 2. In article 19 of the Constitution,

Amendment of
article 19.

(1) in clause (1), after sub-clause (g), the following sub-clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(h) to access internet, telephonic and digital communication, mass media and newspapers.”

10 (2) in clause (2), after the words, “sub-clause (a)” the words “and sub-clause (h)”, shall be inserted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The guarantee to access to the means of communication is essential to preserve the rights of freedom of speech and expression guaranteed by the Constitution. There are many parts in the country where internet and other means of communication are difficult to avail and even in many well-connected cities there are individuals who are unable to access these means of communication.

In order to be a true democracy, there is a need to ensure that people are able to voice their opinions and concerns.

The Bill proposes to make the right to access means of communication as part of the fundamental rights of the citizen.

The proposed legislation, hence, is required to ensure right to freedom which is essential for a fruitful life.

The Bill seeks to achieve this objective.

V. SIVADASAN.

ANNEXURE

EXTRACT FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

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19. (1) * * * *

(2) Nothing in sub-clause (a) of clause (1) shall affect the operation of any existing law, or prevent the State from making any law, in so far as such law imposes reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the right conferred by the said sub-clause in the interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality, or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence.

Protection of certain rights regarding freedom of speech, etc.

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RAJYA SABHA

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(Dr. V. Sivadasan, M.P.)