

AS INTRODUCED IN THE RAJYA SABHA ON
THE 8TH AUGUST, 2014

Bill No. XVIII of 2014

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2014

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BILL

further to amend the Constitution of India

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2014.

(2) It shall come into force with immediate effect.

2. After clause (2) of article 151 of the Constitution, the following clauses shall be
5 inserted, namely:—

“(3) All reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India relating to the
Accounts of the Union submitted under clause (1) shall be laid before each House of
Parliament within one month from the date of submission to the President.

“(4) All reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India relating to the
10 accounts of a State submitted under clause (2) shall be laid before the legislature of the
State within one month from the date of submission to the Governor.”

Short title
and
Commence-
ment.

Amendment
of article
151.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Article 148 of the Constitution provides for appointment of the Comptroller and Auditor General to audit and prevent misuse of public money in the country. Being the custodian of the Consolidated Fund of India, he scrutinises the receipts and expenditure of the Consolidated Fund of India. When the reports are submitted by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, it is supposed to be laid before the Legislature at the earliest. However, there were occasions when the report submitted to the President, was delayed in laying before Parliament due to irregularities in the use of public money. This prevented the Legislature to get the report examined by the Public Accounts Committee in a time bound manner. In order to strengthen the mechanism to have control over the Executive by Parliament, it is felt that once the report is submitted to the President, constitutional provision be made within one month from the date of such submission to the President or Governor, as the case may be for laying of such reports. This would facilitate expeditious examination by the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament and the respective State Legislature.

The Bill seeks to achieve the above objective.

Hence, this Bill.

T. SUBBARAMI REDDY

ANNEXURE

EXTRACTS FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

151. (1) The reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India relating to the accounts of the Union shall be submitted to the President, who shall cause them to be laid before each House of Parliament. Audit reports.

(2) The reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India relating to the accounts of a State shall be submitted to the Governor of the State, who shall cause them to be laid before the Legislature of the State.

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(Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, M.P.)