LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE ASSEMBLY ABSTRACT SERIES

7

Legislation -How a Bill Becomes an Act



TELANGANA LEGISLATURE SECRETARIAT HYDERABAD

PREFACE

This abstract containing the information pertaining to the **Legislation** – **How a Bill Becomes an Act** is a part of Legislative Procedure and is intended to serve as handy guide for ready reference. The information contained in this abstract booklet is in consonance with the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Telangana Legislative Assembly.

The information contained in this publication is not exhaustive and it cannot be quoted as an authority. It is hoped that this publication will meet the reference requirements. However, for authenticity, the original source may be referred to and relied upon.

Hyderabad, Dr. V. NARASIMHA CHARYULU, December, 2018. Secretary to State Legislature.



LEGISLATION

Introduction:

In the modern set-up laws and legislation are intended to serve the people and promote good life for all. They aim to remedy grievances and correct abuses in the existing set-up. In a State where measures are being taken up to improve the lot of people, there is ample need for new laws and legislation. It grows in number when the activities of the State are on increase.

Bill means a draft proposal of legislation. The bill has to undergo various stages before it becomes an Act. A member or a Minister who desires to move for leave to introduce a Bill, is known as the member in-charge of the Bill.

Notice of Motion:

A member in-charge of the Bill desiring to move for leave to introduce a Bill has to give a notice of motion or leave to introduce the Bill. He has to send a copy of the Bill together with an explanatory statement of objects and reasons.

Period of Notice:

The period of notice of motion for leave to introduce a Bill is seven days expiring on the day previous to the day on which the motion is made. The Speaker may allow the motion to be made at shorter notice.

Requirements to be complied with:

In the case of a Bill which under the Constitution cannot be introduced without the previous sanction of the President or recommendation of the Governor, the Bill is to be annexed with such sanction or recommendation.

In the case of a Bill that involves expenditure if it is passed into law, a financial memorandum inviting attention to the clauses involving expenditure is to be enclosed to the Bill. A bill involving proposals of delegation of legislative power is accompanied by a memorandum delegating legislative powers.

A memorandum showing whether a Bill is required to be assented to by the Governor or to be reserved by the Governor for consideration and assent of the President, is to be enclosed to the Bill.

Notice for leave to introduce the Bill:

The member-in-charge of a Bill has to obtain the leave of the House to introduce

a Bill. If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed by a member, who has given prior notice, the Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves, and from the member who opposes the motion, may without further debate put the question. The Speaker may provide a full discussion where a motion is opposed on the ground that the Bill initiates legislation outside the Legislative competence of the House.

Gazette publication:

As soon as may be after leave to introduce a Bill has been granted, the Bill with the Statement of Objects and Reasons is to be published in the Gazette. The Speaker may order publication of any Bill with the statement of Objects and Reasons in the Gazette even before no motion has been made for leave to introduce the Bill. If the Bill is afterwards introduced, it is not necessary to publish it again.

Notices after introduction of Bill:

After the introduction of a Bill, the memberin-charge of a Bill may move any of the following motions.

- (1) that the Bill be taken into consideration; or
- (2) that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee of the House; or
- (3) that the Bill be circulated for purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.

If the member-in-charge of the Bill moves that the Bill be taken into consideration, any member may move as an amendment that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee of the House, or be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by a date to be specified in the motion. In case, the House adopts the motion, the Bill is referred either to a Select Committee of the House or for circulation for purpose of eliciting public opinion. Otherwise the Bill is taken up for consideration.

In the case of a Select Committee on a Bill, the members of the Committee are appointed by the House when a motion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee is made. The Select Committee consists of members as decided by the Speaker. The member-incharge of the Bill is invariably be a member of that committee. The Chariman of the Committee is nominated by the Speaker.

Procedure before the Committee:

Members of the Select Committee may give notice of amendments one day before the day on which the Bill is taken up by the Committee. The procedure in the Select Committee is akin to that of the House during the consideration stage of the Bill.

If a Bill is referred to a Select Committee, the Committee considers the Bill clause by clause. The members may move amendments to the clauses. The Committee, may, before proceeding clause by clause consideration, take evidence of public bodies, associations, individuals or experts who are interested in the matters. The Committee considers the Bill in the light of the evidence gathered from the persons, Associations, Bodies, Experts, etc., and presents its report to the House along

with the Bill as amended by the Committee.

If the Bill is referred for eliciting public opinion thereon, the opinion so collected is circulated to the members of the House within the time stipulated by the House.

Consideration of the Bill:

The House takes up consideration of the Bill as reported by the Select Committee. Otherwise the House takes up consideration of the Bill as introduced. Afte discussion on the provisions of the Bill, the House adopts the motion for consideration of the Bill.

Amendments to clauses:

Notice of amendments to a clause or schedule of the Bill may be given to the Secretary one day before the day on which the Bill is to be considered. The list of amendments of which notices have been received in time and have been admitted is made available to all members. Amendments are considered in the order of the Clauses of the Bill to which they respectively related.

Clause by clause consideration of the Bill:

After the motion for consideration of the Bill is adopted, the members who have given notices of amendments, move their amendments at this stage. Then the House takes up clause by clause consideration of the Bill. The amendments to each clause are first put to vote of the House and then the Clause. If any amendment is accepted by House, the clause as amended is put to vote. Then it becomes part of the Bill. After the clauses, the schedules if any, clause one, the Enacting

Formula, the Preamble if any, and the Title of the Bill are put to vote of the House.

Passing of the Bill:

After consideration of the Bill by the House, the Member-in-charge of the Bill moves that the Bill be passed. The motion is put to vote and adopted.

Assent to the Bills:

When a Bill has been passed by the Legislature of the State, it is presented to the Governor. The Governor declares either that he assents to the Bill or that he withholds his assent therefrom or that he reserves the Bill for consideration of the President.

If the Bill is returned by the Governor with a message requesting to reconsider the Bill or any specified provisions thereof, the Legislature reconsiders the Bill accordingly. If the Bill is passed again by the Legislature with or without amendments and presented to the Governor for assent, the Governor does not withhold his assent therefrom.

When the Bill is reserved by the Governor for consideration of the President as required by the Constitution, the Presdient declares either that he assents to the Bill or that he withholds his assent therefrom. The President may direct the Governor to return the Bill to the State Legislature together with a message requesting to reconsider the Bill or any specified provisions thereof. When the Bill is so returned, the Legislature reconsiders it accordingly within a period of six months from the date of receipt of such message and if it is again passed by the Legislature with or without amendment, it is presented again to the President for his consideration.

The Bill becomes an Act when it receives assent of the Governor or President.

Notes:

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