

Swatantra Party

CENTRAL OFFICE

PHONE: 251424

GRAMS: SURAJYAM

3945



SASOON BUILDING,
143, MAHATMA GANDHI ROAD,
BOMBAY 1.

When replying, please quote our Reference No.

August 10, 1967

CENTRAL PARLIAMENTARY BOARD CIRCULAR NO. 20

Dear friend,

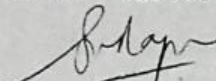
On the instructions of Mr. N. Dandekar, Officiating General Secretary, I am enclosing herewith a Private Members Bill which Sriraj Meghrajji of Dhrangadhra, Member of our Group in the Lok Sabha, wishes to introduce.

Since the Bill has to be tabled some time in September and since this is an issue which involves an important issue of policy, it has become necessary to obtain the approval of the Central Parliamentary Board by this Circular.

We are also enclosing herewith a letter to you from Mr. M. R. Masani, Deputy Leader of the Party's Group in Parliament.

May we expect a reply from you to this Circular by 31st August ?

Yours sincerely,


(S. V. Raju)

Executive Secretary

Encl : . .

DRAFT BILL

To be Introduced in Lok Sabha

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1967

BY

SRIRAJ MEGHRAJJI DHRANGADHRA, MP

A

B I L L

Further to Amend the Constitution of India

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Eighteenth Year of the Republic of India as follows :-

1. This Act may be called the Constitution short Title
(Amendment) Act, 1967.

2. Article 360 of the Constitution shall be Amendment of
numbered as Clause (1), and after clause (1) as so Article 368.
numbered, the following clauses shall be added,
namely :-

"(2) A Bill seeking to amend any of the fundamental rights contained in Part III or any other fundamental provision in the Constitution may be introduced in either House of Parliament and after it has been passed by the Houses of Parliament in the manner specified in Clause (1) and presented to the President for his assent, the President shall, before giving assent to the Bill, ascertain the views of the electorate on the proposed amendment through a referendum.

Explanation :- Fundamental provision means any provision of the Constitution which is held to be of a fundamental nature by one-fourth of the members of either House of Parliament present and voting.

(3) If the electorate, through the said referendum, approve of the proposed amendment, the President shall give assent to the Bill.

(4) Parliament shall, by law, provide for the holding of the referendum referred to in Clause (2), and such a law shall also be amended in the manner provided in Clause (1). "

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143, MAHATMA GANDHI ROAD,
BOMBAY 1.

When replying, please quote our Reference No. _____

August 9, 1967

My dear

I thought I would drop you a personal line to accompany the attached Circular issued by the Central Office to Members of the Central Parliamentary Board in regard to a Private Members Bill that Sriraj Meghrajji of Dhurangadhra, MP, of our Party, wishes to introduce in Parliament.

The background to this matter is that Sriraj Meghrajji had given notice of another Private Members Bill which was somewhat similar to the Bill introduced by Mr. Nath Pai which the Party had decided to oppose. This action of the Party was approved by the Central Parliamentary Board at its recent meeting in Madras.

A notice of this Bill had been given by our member in ignorance of the Circular issued by the Parliamentary Group asking members to seek prior approval of the Party before tabling any Bill. In response to our plea, Sri Meghrajji was good enough not to introduce this Bill when the matter came up in Parliament and, at that time, I told him that the correct approach for our Party would be not to give sovereign powers to Parliament but to see that they were exercised by the sovereign people through a referendum which could be held simultaneously with the General Elections.

The Draft Bill that has been circulated to you is along these lines and I do hope that it will have your approval so that notice of it may be given in time.

Yours sincerely,

(M. R. Masani)