What earlier topics gave us, and the kinds of Bills

A Bill becomes an Act of Parliament when both Houses have passed it, or are deemed to have passed it, and the President has given his assent; the route differs for ordinary Bills, Money Bills, Financial Bills and Constitution Amendment Bills. The examination asks about the stages in each House, the joint sitting, the President's choices, how the four kinds differ and which Bills lapse when the Lok Sabha is dissolved.

Earlier topics:

- the Lok Sabha was taught in Topic 54, the Rajya Sabha in Topic 82 and the amendment procedure under Article 368 in Topic 104.

What is a Bill?

- A Bill is the draft of a proposed law. Article 100(1): questions in either House, or at a joint sitting, are decided by a majority of the members present and voting. So an ordinary Bill needs only this simple majority in each House.

By who moves it.

- A Bill introduced by a Minister is a Government Bill; one introduced by any other member is a Private Member's Bill (Lok Sabha Secretariat).

Where it may start.

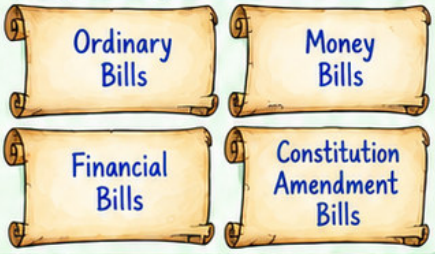
- Article 107(1): subject to Articles 109 and 117, "a Bill may originate in either House of Parliament".

Mover and legislative procedure are separate classifications; Financial Bills have two Article 117 routes.

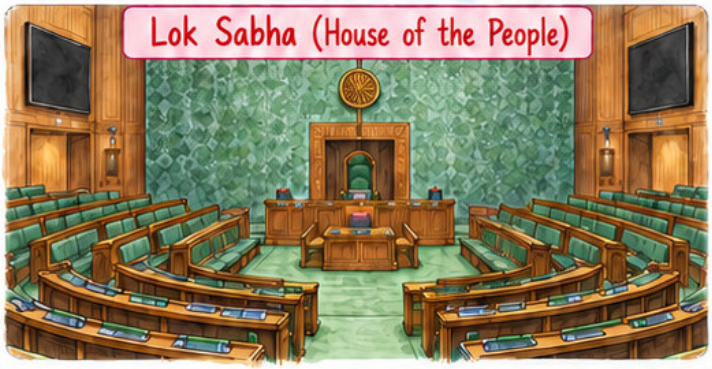
By who moves it



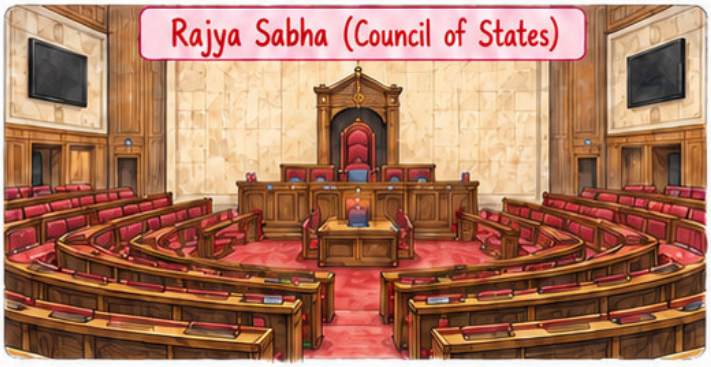
Legislative procedure (four kinds)



Lok Sabha (House of the People)



Rajya Sabha (Council of States)



Ordinary Bills



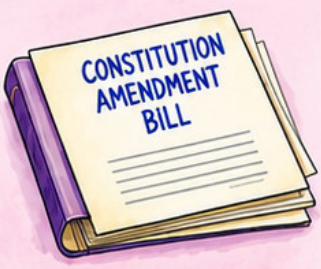
Money Bills



Financial Bills

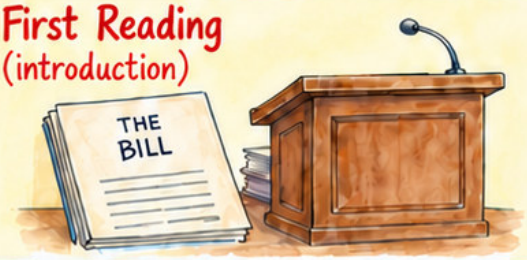
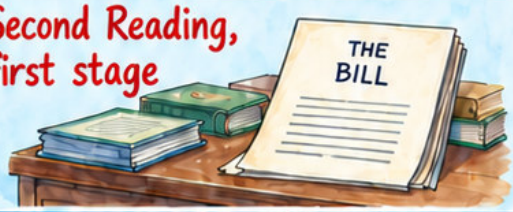


Constitution Amendment Bills



Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 2.1

The stages of an ordinary Bill in a House

Stage	What happens (Lok Sabha Secretariat's account)
First Reading (introduction) 	The member in charge moves for leave of the House to introduce the Bill. If the motion is opposed, he and the member opposing make brief statements, and the question is put to the vote. The principles of the Bill are ordinarily not debated now; Rule 72 permits a full discussion when introduction is opposed on legislative-competence grounds
Second Reading, first stage 	General discussion of the Bill as a whole and its principles. The House may then refer it to a Select Committee of the House or a Joint Committee of the two Houses, circulate it to elicit opinion, or take it into consideration straightaway
Committee stage (if referred) 	The committee goes through the Bill clause by clause, may amend it and may take evidence from associations, public bodies or experts. It then reports to the House
Second Reading, second stage 	Clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill, as introduced or as reported by the committee. Members move amendments to clauses
Third Reading 	The member in charge moves that the Bill be passed. Debate is confined to arguments for or against the Bill. "Only formal, verbal or consequential amendments are allowed at this stage"

Main flow of an ordinary Bill

Optional: if referred to a committee



Committee reference is optional. Rules 64 and 72 qualify the usual introduction procedure.

Publication



Once a Bill is introduced it is published in the Gazette of India, unless it has already been published (Lok Sabha Rule 73). Under Rule 64 the Speaker may order publication before introduction; in that case a motion for leave to introduce is unnecessary, and publication need not be repeated. Committee reference is optional, not an inevitable stage.

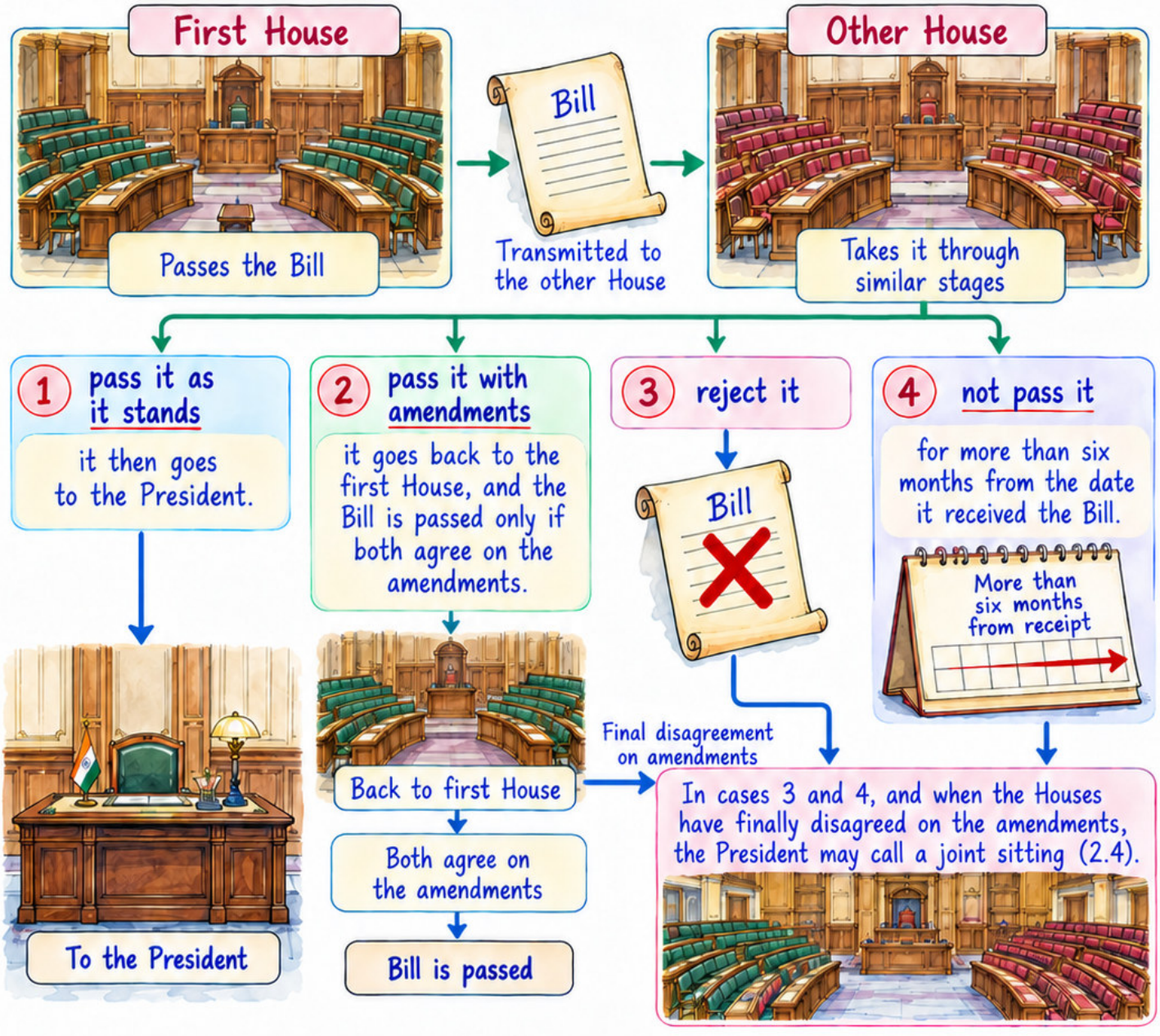
Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 2.2

The other House and its choices

After one House passes the Bill, it is transmitted to the other House, which takes it through similar stages. The other House may:

1. pass it as it stands: it then goes to the President;
2. pass it with amendments: it goes back to the first House, and the Bill is passed only if both agree on the amendments;
3. reject it; or
4. not pass it for more than six months from the date it received the Bill.

In cases 3 and 4, and when the Houses have finally disagreed on the amendments, the President may call a joint sitting (2.4).



Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 2.3

The joint sitting: Article 108 (1/2)

How it is called.

In the three cases of 2.3, the President notifies his intention to summon a joint sitting by message if the Houses are sitting, or by public notification if they are not (Article 108(1)).



Counting the six months.

Days when the House is prorogued, or adjourned for more than four consecutive days, are not counted (Article 108(2)).



Majority.

The Bill is deemed passed by both Houses if it is passed by "a majority of the total number of members of both Houses present and voting" (Article 108(4)). Only limited amendments may be proposed at the sitting.



Passed by a majority of the total number of members of both Houses present and voting.

Only limited amendments may be proposed at the sitting.



Joint sitting of both Houses (Article 108)

Who presides.

The Speaker of the Lok Sabha, or in his absence the person decided by the rules of procedure (Article 118(4)). The Chairman of the Rajya Sabha does not preside.



The Chairman of the Rajya Sabha does not preside.

Speaker of the Lok Sabha presides.

Not for two kinds of Bill.

Article 108 does not apply to a Money Bill. A Constitution Amendment Bill must be passed by each House separately, so there is no joint sitting for it either (Topic 104).



No joint sitting (Article 108 does not apply).



No joint sitting (must be passed by each House separately, Topic 104).

Dissolution.

A joint sitting notified before the Lok Sabha is dissolved may still be held after the dissolution, and the Bill passed; but none can be called on a Bill that has already lapsed (Article 108(5)).



May still be held after the dissolution, and the Bill passed.



None can be called on a Bill that has already lapsed (Article 108(5)).

Seat strength and voting strength.

Seat strength and voting strength differ: the usual full strengths of 543 Lok Sabha seats and 245 Rajya Sabha seats show the Lok Sabha's numerical advantage. Vacancies and attendance can change the number voting; passage depends on the members present and voting (Topic 82). Sessions and joint sittings are covered in Topic 432.

Lok Sabha



543 Lok Sabha seats

Rajya Sabha



245 Rajya Sabha seats

Key points at a glance

Ordinary / Financial Bills joint sitting possible	Money / Article 368 Bills no joint sitting	Vote majority of members present and voting
Ordinary Bill, Financial Bill — Joint sitting possible (Article 108).	Money Bill, Article 368 Bill — No joint sitting (Article 108 does not apply; Article 368 Bill must be passed by each House separately).	VOTE — Majority of the total number of members of both Houses present and voting (Article 108(4)).

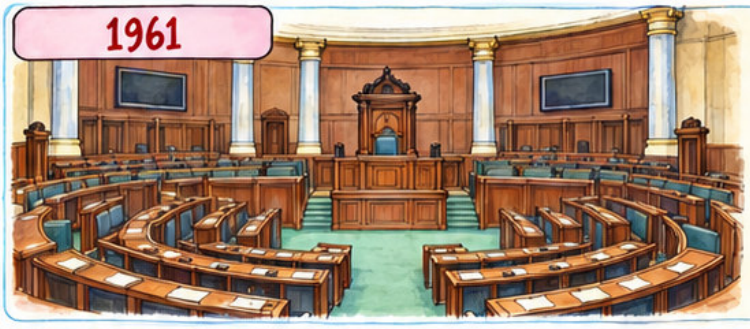
Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 2.4

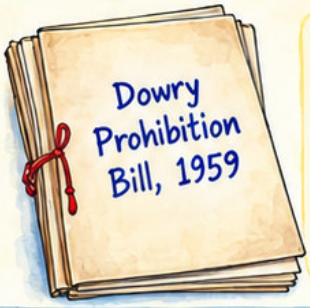
The joint sitting: Article 108 (2/2)

Article 108 of the Constitution provides for a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament in certain situations, to resolve a deadlock on a Bill. The following table gives examples of Bills that were passed after a joint sitting, along with the year or date of the joint sitting.

Joint sitting	Bill passed
1961	Dowry Prohibition Bill, 1959
16 May 1978	Banking Service Commission (Repeal) Bill, 1977
26 March 2002	Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2002

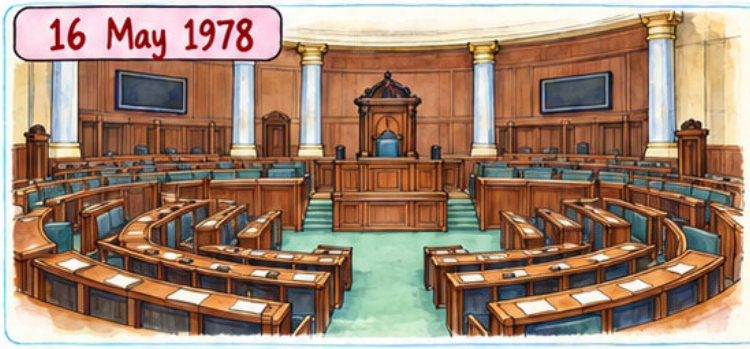
1961





In 1961, the Dowry Prohibition Bill, 1959 was passed after a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament.

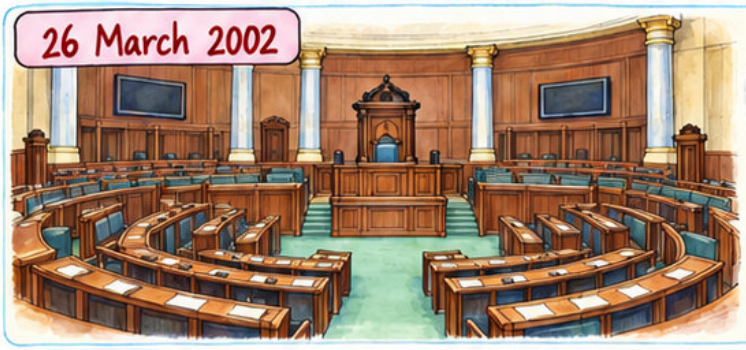
16 May 1978





On 16 May 1978, the Banking Service Commission (Repeal) Bill, 1977 was passed after a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament.

26 March 2002





On 26 March 2002, the Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2002 was passed after a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament.

Key points about joint sitting under Article 108



Ordinary / Financial Bills
joint sitting possible



Money / Article 368 Bills
no joint sitting

Vote
majority of members present and voting

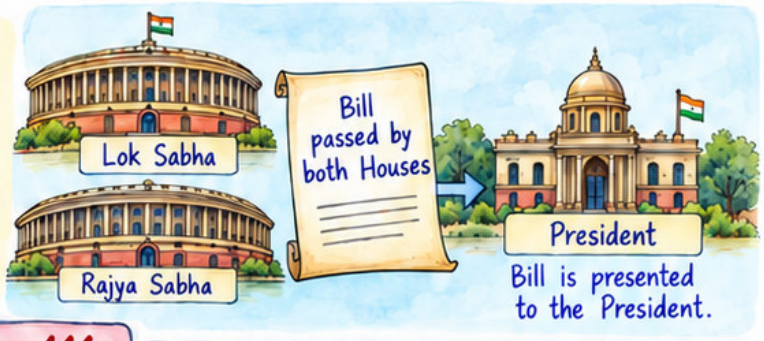


President summons; Speaker presides.
Prior notice preserves the route after dissolution.

Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 2.4

The President's assent: Article 111

When both Houses have passed a Bill, it is presented to the President. He must declare either that he assents to it or that he withholds assent.



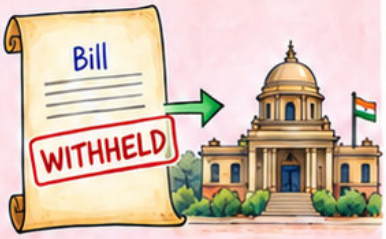
Possible outcomes under Article 111

Assent



He assents to it.

Withhold assent



He withholds assent.

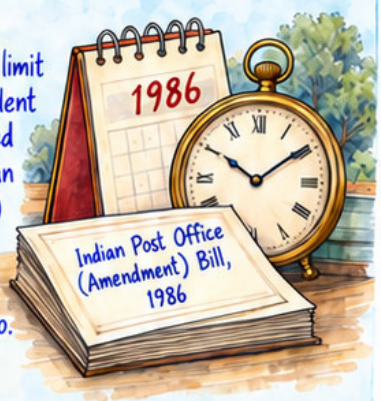
Return (not a Money Bill)



For a Bill that is not a Money Bill, he may instead, as soon as possible, return it with a message asking the Houses to reconsider it, or parts of it, and any amendments he recommends. If the Houses pass it again, with or without amendment, he "shall not withhold assent therefrom". So he can return a Bill only once.

Pocket veto

Article 111 fixes no time limit for assent. In 1986 President Zail Singh neither assented to nor returned the Indian Post Office (Amendment) Bill, 1986, which both Houses had passed. This is called a pocket veto.



Comparison of different Bills

Ordinary / Financial Bill	Money Bill	Article 368 Bill
		
• assent • withhold • return once	• assent or withhold; • no return	• President shall assent

Article 111: if a returned Bill is passed again, assent cannot be withheld. State Bills use Articles 200–201.

State Bills (Topics 4 and 132)



Keep Article 200 separate from Article 111.

The Supreme Court's 20 November 2025 advisory opinion (2025 INSC 1333, paragraph 165.1) states three Governor options: assent; reserve the Bill for the President; or, for a non-Money Bill, withhold assent and return it with comments for reconsideration. Withholding and return are coupled, not two independent options. Article 201 governs the President's action on a reserved State Bill.

The opinion rejects court-made fixed timelines and deemed assent, while permitting limited judicial intervention in cases of prolonged, unexplained and indefinite inaction by the Governor.

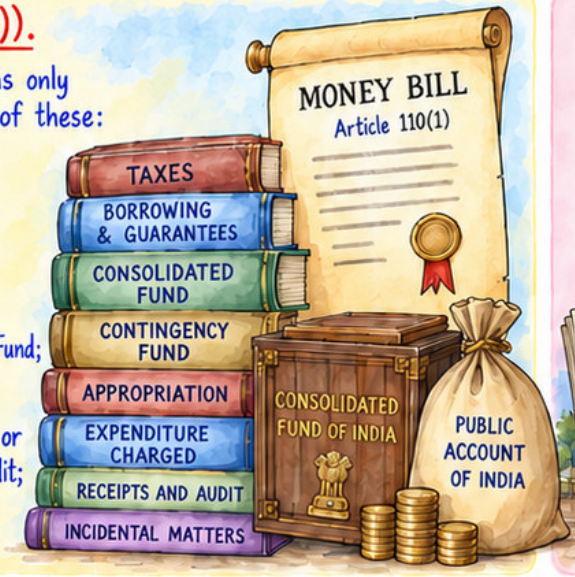
Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 2.5

The Money Bill: Articles 109 and 110

What it is (Article 110(1)).

A Bill is a Money Bill if it contains only provisions dealing with all or any of these:

(a) taxes;
(b) borrowing or guarantees by the Government of India;
(c) the Consolidated Fund and the Contingency Fund of India;
(d) appropriation out of the Consolidated Fund;
(e) expenditure charged on it;
(f) receipts into the Consolidated Fund or the public account of India, and audit;
(g) any matter incidental to these.



What does not make it one (Article 110(2)).

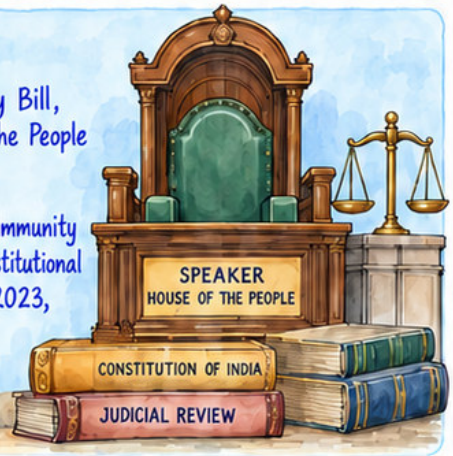
Fines or other pecuniary penalties, fees for licences or for services, and taxes levied by a local authority for local purposes.



The Speaker decides.

If a question arises whether a Bill is a Money Bill, "the decision of the Speaker of the House of the People thereon shall be final" (Article 110(3)).

This constitutional finality does not mean total immunity from judicial review for substantive illegality or constitutional violation (Supreme Court, Subhash Desai, 11 May 2023, paragraph 96, discussing the Money Bill cases).



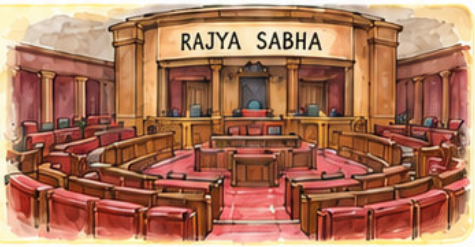
Where and how.

A Money Bill "shall not be introduced in the Council of States" (Article 109(1)), and it needs the President's recommendation for introduction (Article 117(1)).



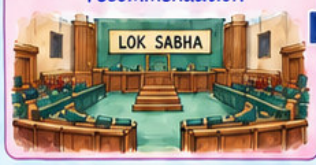
The Rajya Sabha's role (Article 109).

It must return the Bill within fourteen days of receiving it, with its recommendations. The Lok Sabha may accept or reject any or all of them. If the Rajya Sabha does not return it in time, the Bill is deemed passed by both Houses at the end of the fourteen days, in the form in which the Lok Sabha passed it.



Flow of a Money Bill under Article 109

1. Lok Sabha introduces President's recommendation



2. Lok Sabha passes transmits to Rajya Sabha



3. Rajya Sabha receives the Bill



A. Returned within 14 days with recommendations → Lok Sabha may accept or reject any or all recommendations.



B. Not returned within 14 days → Deemed passed in the Lok Sabha's original form.



On timeout, deemed passage is in the Lok Sabha's original form; the Rajya Sabha cannot veto or amend.



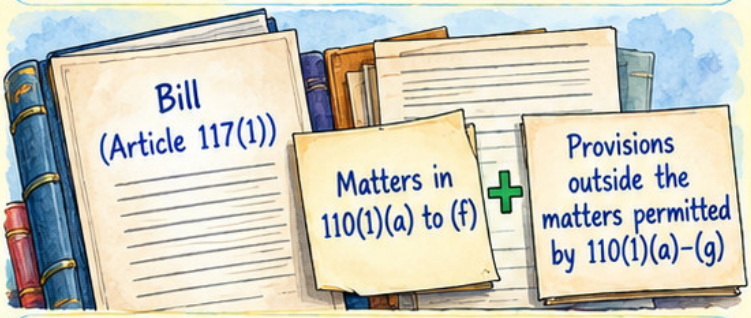
The Budget, the Finance Bill and the Appropriation Bill come in Topic 162.

Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 2.6

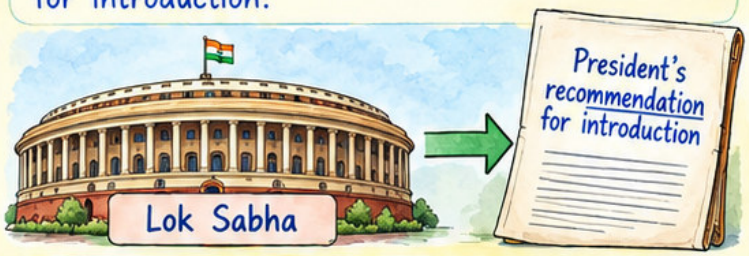
Financial Bills: Article 117

Article 117(1)

A Bill that makes provision for any of the matters in sub-clauses (a) to (f) of Article 110(1) but also contains provisions outside the matters permitted by Article 110(1)(a)–(g), and so is **not a Money Bill.**



It cannot be introduced in the Rajya Sabha, and needs the President's recommendation for introduction.



No recommendation is needed to move an amendment that reduces or abolishes a tax.

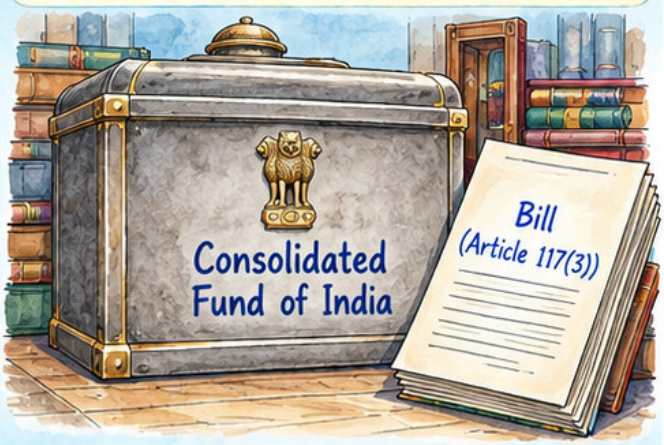


After introduction it goes like an ordinary Bill: the Rajya Sabha may amend or reject it, and a joint sitting may be held on it, because Article 108 shuts out only Money Bills.

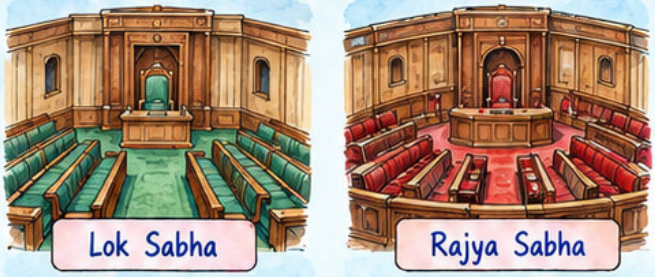


Article 117(3)

A Bill which, if enacted and brought into operation, would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India.



It may be introduced in either House without a recommendation, but it "shall not be passed by either House of Parliament unless the President has recommended" to that House that it be considered.





In all else it is an ordinary Bill.

Key Comparison

Article 117(1)	Article 117(1)	Article 117(3)	Article 117(3)
110(a)–(f) + matters outside 110(a)–(g)	Lok Sabha; recommendation to introduce	CFI expenditure; either House	recommendation before passage

After introduction, both have ordinary-Bill procedures; neither is automatically a Money Bill.

Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 2.7

The Constitution Amendment Bill: Article 368 (Topic 104)

It may be introduced in either House, by a Minister or by a private member.



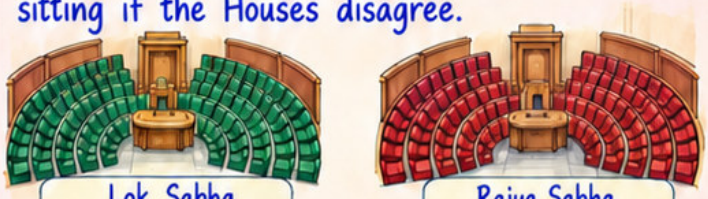
Lok Sabha (House of the People)

Rajya Sabha (Council of States)

Article 368 does not require the President's recommendation for introducing it.



Each House must pass it separately by a **special majority**: a majority of its total membership and a majority of not less than two-thirds of its members present and voting. There is no joint sitting if the Houses disagree.



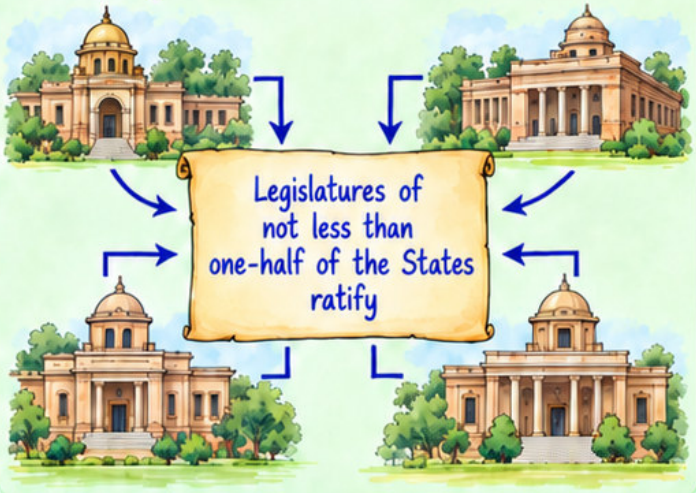
Lok Sabha passes separately

Rajya Sabha passes separately

Special majority in each House

A majority of its total membership **AND** A majority of not less than two-thirds of its members present and voting

If it changes a matter listed in the **proviso to Article 368(2)**, it must also be ratified by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States before it goes to the President.



Article 368: key requirements

Each House must pass it separately by a special majority: a majority of its total membership and a majority of not less than two-thirds of its members present and voting.

Only if it changes a matter listed in the proviso to Article 368(2), it must also be ratified by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States before it goes to the President.

The President "shall give his assent". These words came in with the 24th Amendment (1971), so he can neither withhold assent nor return the Bill.

State ratification is conditional, not required for every Article 368 amendment.

The President's Assent

The President "shall give his assent". These words came in with the 24th Amendment (1971), so he can neither withhold assent nor return the Bill.

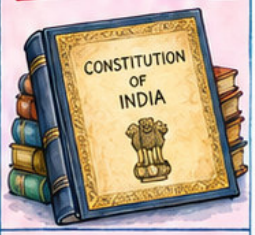


Compare a Bill under Article 3

A new State, or a change in the area, boundaries or name of a State; Topics 104 and 132). It may be introduced only on the President's recommendation, and if it affects a State's area, boundaries or name he first refers it to that State's Legislature for its views. It is then passed like an ordinary law, by a simple majority, because Article 4(2) says it is not an amendment for the purposes of Article 368.

Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 2.8

The four kinds compared

Point	Ordinary Bill	Money Bill	Financial Bill, Article 117(1)	Financial Bill, Article 117(3)	Constitution Amendment Bill
					
Where it may be introduced	Either House	Lok Sabha only	Lok Sabha only	Either House	Either House
President's recommendation	Generally not needed; special constitutional exceptions apply, such as Article 3	Needed for introduction	Needed for introduction	Needed before either House passes it	Not needed
Majority in each House	Simple	Simple, in the Lok Sabha	Simple	Simple	Special
Rajya Sabha's power	Full: it may amend or reject	Recommendations only, within 14 days	Full	Full	Full: each House must pass it separately
Joint sitting	Possible	Not possible	Possible	Possible	Not possible
President's choices	Assent, withhold, or return once	Assent or withhold; no return	Assent, withhold, or return once	Assent, withhold, or return once	Must assent

Where a Bill may originate



Either House
(Ordinary / 117(3) / Amendment may originate in either House)



Lok Sabha only
(Money / 117(1))

Rajya Sabha's role in a Money Bill



Recommendations only, within 14 days.

Joint sitting



Possible
(Ordinary / 117(1) / 117(3))



Not possible
(Money / Amendment)

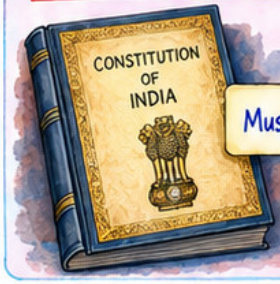
President's choices



- Assent
- Withhold
- Return once

(For Ordinary / 117(1) / 117(3))

Constitution Amendment Bill



Must assent.

Use the full comparison table for recommendation, majority, joint sitting and assent rules.

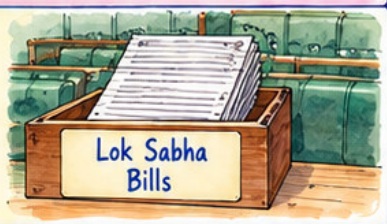
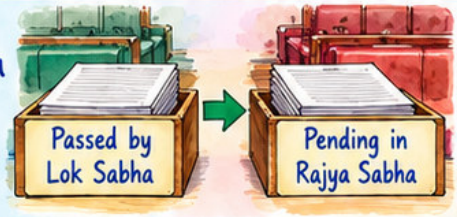
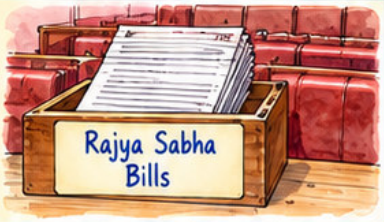
Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 2.9

Which Bills lapse when the Lok Sabha is dissolved

Prorogation does not make any Bill lapse (Article 107(3)). Dissolution of the Lok Sabha does:





Bill	Lapses?	Why
Pending in the Lok Sabha, whether it began there or came from the Rajya Sabha 	Yes	Article 107(5)
Passed by the Lok Sabha and pending in the Rajya Sabha 	Yes	Article 107(5)
Pending in the Rajya Sabha and not yet passed by the Lok Sabha 	No	Article 107(4)
A Bill on which the President has given notice of a joint sitting before the dissolution 	No: the joint sitting may still be held	Article 108(5)
Passed by both Houses and awaiting the President's assent 	No	It is pending in neither House, so Article 107(5) does not reach it

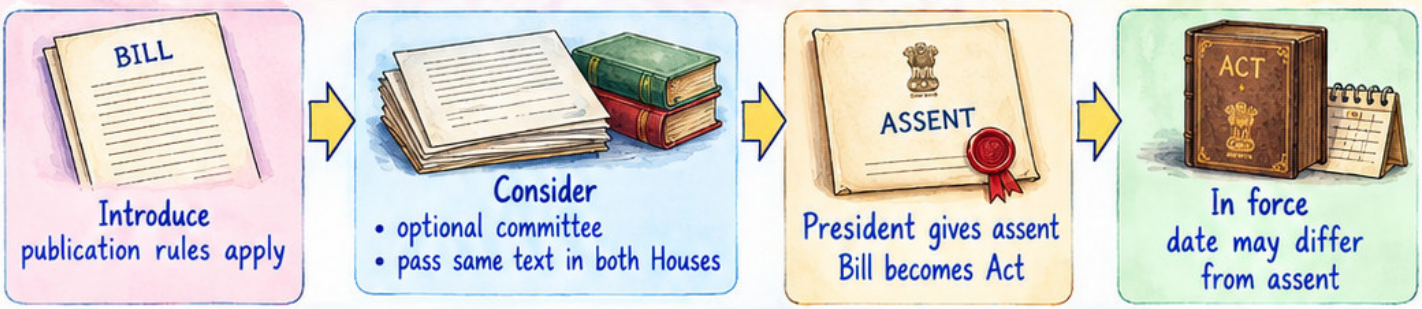
Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 2.10

Extra section: the path of an ordinary Government Bill that starts in the Lok Sabha, and where the other kinds branch off (1/2)

Step	What happens	Where another kind differs
1. Introduction (First Reading)	 A Minister moves for leave; if opposed, brief statements and a vote; the Bill is published in the Gazette 	A Money Bill and a Financial Bill under Article 117(1) need the President's recommendation and cannot start in the Rajya Sabha
2. Second Reading, first stage	 Debate on principles; the Bill may go to a Select or Joint Committee or be circulated for opinion 	None
3. Committee report (if referred)	 Clause-by-clause examination; evidence; report 	None
4. Second Reading, second stage	 Clause-by-clause consideration and amendments 	A Financial Bill under Article 117(3) cannot be passed without the President's recommendation for its consideration
5. Third Reading	 Motion that the Bill be passed; only formal, verbal or consequential amendments; simple majority of members present and voting 	A Constitution Amendment Bill needs the special majority
6. In the Rajya Sabha	 Similar stages; the House may pass, amend, reject, or not pass the Bill for more than six months 	For a Money Bill: only recommendations, within 14 days 

Step	What happens	Where another kind differs
7. Deadlock	 The President may summon a joint sitting, presided over by the Speaker	No joint sitting for a Money Bill or a Constitution Amendment Bill
8. Assent	 Assent, withhold, or return once for reconsideration	A Money Bill cannot be returned; a Constitution Amendment Bill must receive assent

Simplified flow of an ordinary Government Bill (starting in the Lok Sabha)



Deadlock, return and special-Bill branches belong in the full decision flow; assent is not always commencement.

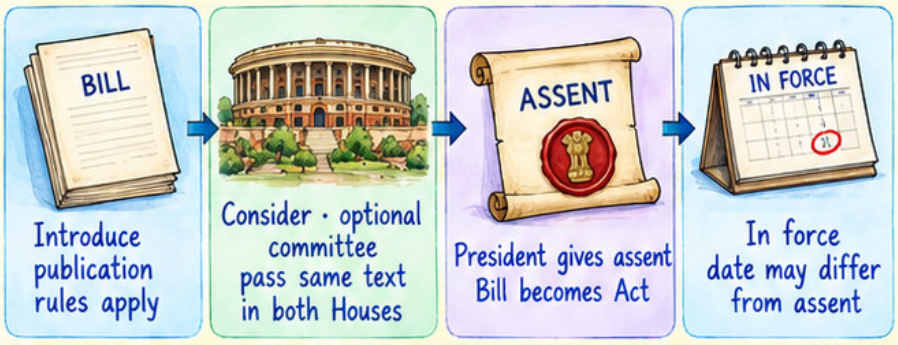
Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 3

Extra section: the path of an ordinary Government Bill that starts in the Lok Sabha, and where the other kinds branch off (2/2)

Two checks:

1. If the Lok Sabha is dissolved between steps 5 and 6, the Bill lapses (Article 107(5)). Had it started in the Rajya Sabha and still been there, unpassed by the Lok Sabha, it would have survived (Article 107(4)).

Main steps for an ordinary Government Bill (starting in the Lok Sabha)



Introduce publication rules apply

Consider · optional committee pass same text in both Houses

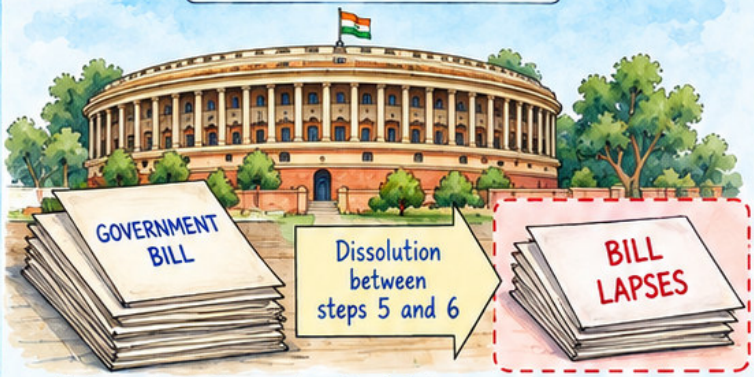
President gives assent Bill becomes Act

In force date may differ from assent

Deadlock, return and special-Bill branches belong in the full decision flow; assent is not always commencement.

Check 1: Dissolution between steps 5 and 6

Lok Sabha is dissolved



If the Lok Sabha is dissolved between steps 5 and 6, the Bill lapses (Article 107(5)).

Bill started in the Rajya Sabha



Even if the Lok Sabha is dissolved, if the Bill had started in the Rajya Sabha and still been there, unpassed by the Lok Sabha, it would have survived (Article 107(4)).

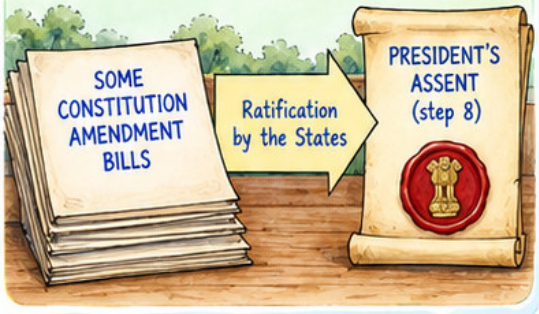
Check 2: Enactment and commencement (and possible State ratification)

A Bill becomes an Act when the President gives assent at step 8, not merely when it is presented or returned.



Enactment and commencement may be different dates: an Act may specify its operative date or require a commencement notification.

If it needs ratification by the States (some Constitution Amendment Bills), that comes between passage by Parliament and step 8.



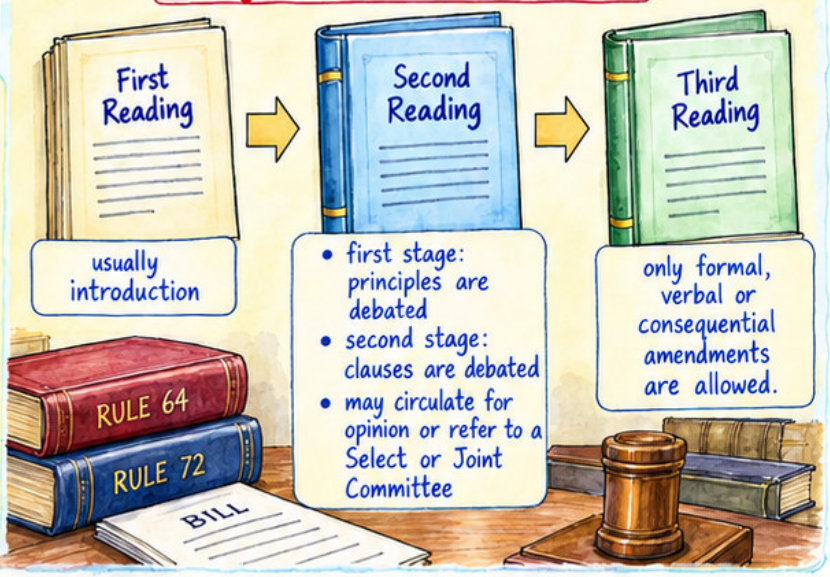
Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 3

Three common exam traps

1. "The First Reading is the debate on the Bill."

The First Reading is ordinarily introduction, subject to the Rule 64 publication exception and Rule 72 legislative-competence exception: a motion for leave, and if it is opposed, two brief statements and a vote. The principles are debated at the first stage of the Second Reading, the clauses at its second stage, and at the Third Reading only formal, verbal or consequential amendments are allowed. Circulation for opinion and reference to a Select or Joint Committee are choices made at the Second Reading, not at introduction.

Stages of a Bill in Parliament



2. "Any Bill with a tax in it is a Money Bill."

A Money Bill must contain only the matters listed in Article 110(1). Fines, licence fees, fees for services and local taxes for local purposes do not make a Bill a Money Bill. A Bill that has a tax clause along with provisions outside the matters permitted by Article 110(1)(a)–(g), is a Financial Bill under Article 117(1), not a Money Bill. Whether a Bill is a Money Bill is decided by the Speaker, and Article 110(3) calls his decision final, subject to the judicial-review qualification in 2.6; it is not decided by the President or by the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

Money Bill or Financial Bill?

Money Bill

must contain only the matters listed in Article 110(1).



Do not make it a Money Bill

- Fines
- licence fees
- fees for services
- local taxes for local purposes



Financial Bill

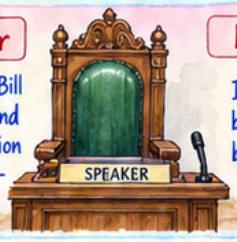
under Article 117(1)

A Bill that has a tax clause along with provisions outside the matters permitted by Article 110(1)(a)–(g), is a Financial Bill under Article 117(1), not a Money Bill.



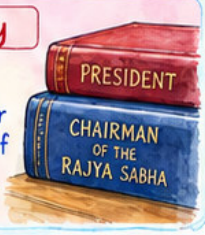
Decision by the Speaker

Whether a Bill is a Money Bill is decided by the Speaker, and Article 110(3) calls his decision final, subject to the judicial-review qualification in 2.6.



Not decided by

It is not decided by the President or by the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.



3. "The joint sitting is presided over by the Chairman, and it cannot be held once the Lok Sabha is dissolved."

Both parts are wrong. The President summons it and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha presides (Article 118(4)). If the President has notified the joint sitting before the dissolution, it may still be held and the Bill passed (Article 108(5)). What blocks a joint sitting is a Bill that had already lapsed before the notice was given.

Joint Sitting of Both Houses

Who summons?

The President summons it.



Who presides?

The Speaker of the Lok Sabha presides (Article 118(4)).



Can it be held after dissolution?

If the President has notified the joint sitting before the dissolution, it may still be held and the Bill passed (Article 108(5)).



What blocks it?

What blocks a joint sitting is a Bill that had already hapsed before the notice was given.

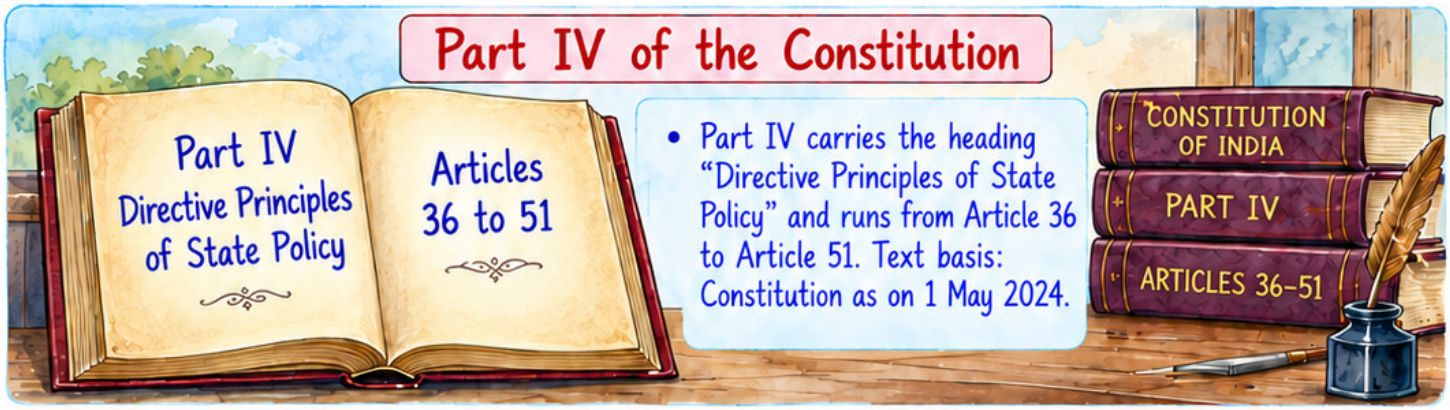


Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 153 | Section 4

Part IV and Article 37

The Directive Principles of State Policy are the principles in Part IV of the Constitution (Articles 36 to 51) that no court can enforce but that the State has a duty to apply in making laws. The examination asks what each Article directs, which amendment added it, their common thematic groupings, and how the courts have set them beside the Fundamental Rights.

Part IV of the Constitution



- Part IV carries the heading "Directive Principles of State Policy" and runs from Article 36 to Article 51. Text basis: Constitution as on 1 May 2024.

Article 36

"In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires, "the State" has the same meaning as in Part III."

That meaning is the one in Article 12 (Topic 62).



Article 37

"Application of the principles contained in this Part" reads:

"The provisions contained in this Part shall not be enforceable by any court, but the principles therein laid down are nevertheless fundamental in the governance of the country and it shall be the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws."

Why non-justiciable?

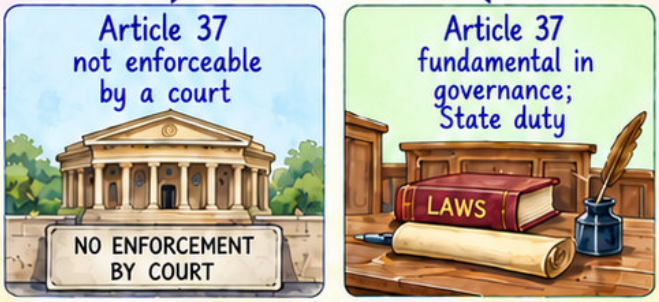
the framers wanted guidelines for future governments but did not want to bind them to particular policies. The principles were not made legally enforceable, that is, they are non-justiciable. The framers relied on their moral force and on the people to hold governments to them.



Both Limbs of Article 37

Both limbs of Article 37 must appear together; non-justiciability does not erase the law-making duty.

Part IV
Articles 36–51

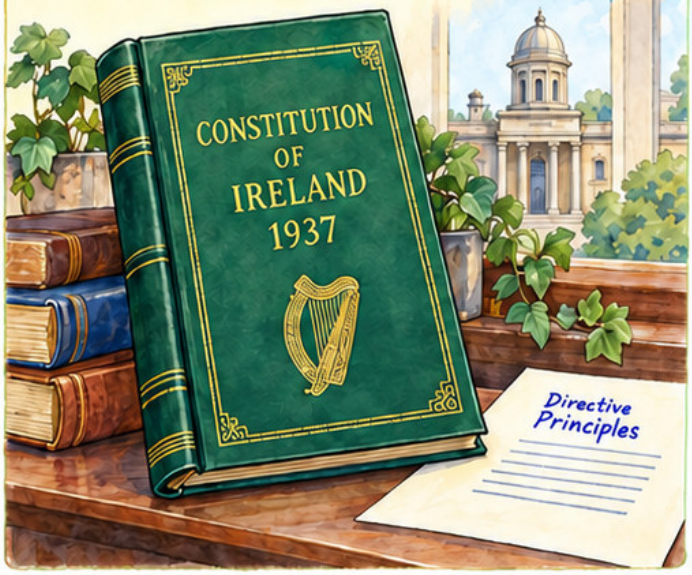


Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 2.1

Where the idea came from, and Dr B.R. Ambedkar's words

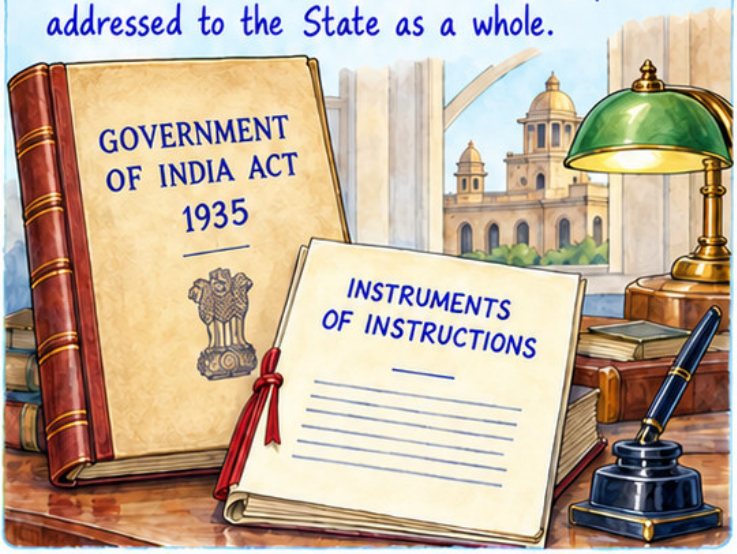
Irish influence:

the Constitution of Ireland, 1937 provided an important model for Directive Principles.



Instrument of Instructions:

compare the Directive Principles with the Instruments of Instructions issued under the Government of India Act, 1935 (Topic 23). Those were addressed only to the Governor-General and the Governors; the Directive Principles are addressed to the State as a whole.



Dr B.R. Ambedkar.

In the Constituent Assembly on 19 November 1948 he explained the word "directive": the Assembly was "giving certain directions to the future legislature and the future executive".

He added: "In my judgment, the directive principles have a great value, for they lay down that our ideal is economic democracy."

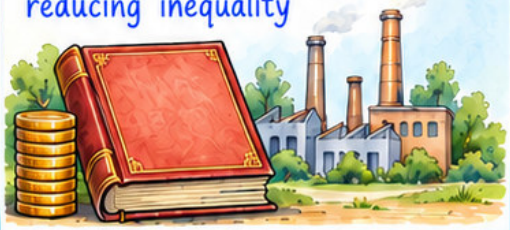
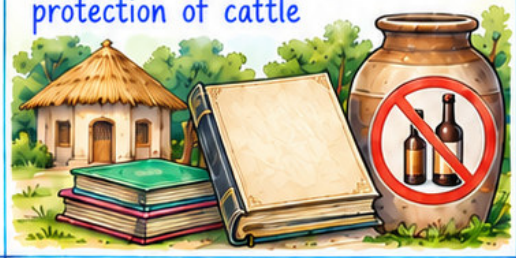
On the word "strive" in the draft of what is now Article 38 he said: "The word 'strive' which occurs in the Draft Constitution, in my judgment, is very important."



Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 2.2

Three themes of the Directive Principles

The principles can be grouped by their main goals to make them easier to understand and remember. These are thematic study groups; the Constitution does not label or divide Part IV in this way.

Theme	Articles	What links them
Socialistic 	38, 39, 39A, 41, 42, 43 (living wage and decent conditions of work), 43A, 47 (nutrition, standard of living, public health)	Justice, social and economic; livelihood, wages and work; reducing inequality 
Gandhian 	40, 43 (cottage industries), 43B, 46, 47 (prohibition of intoxicating drinks and harmful drugs), 48 (ban on slaughter of cows, calves and other milch and draught cattle)	Village self-government, cottage industries, co-operatives, the weaker sections, prohibition, protection of cattle 
Liberal-intellectual 	44, 45, 48 (agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines), 48A, 49, 50, 51 	Uniform civil code, early childhood care, modern farming, environment, monuments, separation of the judiciary, international peace

- Articles 43, 47 and 48 contain provisions serving more than one theme. Classify the particular provision, rather than assuming that every part of an Article must fit only one group.

Thematic study groups, not constitutional headings.

Articles 43, 47 and 48 span themes.

Socialistic
justice, livelihoods, welfare 

Gandhian
village, cooperation, weaker sections 

Liberal-intellectual
institutions, science, peace 

Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 2.3

Articles 38 to 51, one by one (official text) (1/4)

Article	Marginal heading (short)	What it directs
38(1) 	Social order for the welfare of the people	The State "shall strive to promote the welfare of the people" by securing a social order in which justice, social, economic and political, shall inform all the institutions of the national life 
38(2) 	(same Article)	The State shall in particular strive to minimise the inequalities in income, and endeavour to eliminate inequalities in status, facilities and opportunities, among individuals and also among groups of people in different areas or vocations 
39(a) 	Principles of policy	Citizens, men and women equally, have the right to an adequate means of livelihood 
39(b) 	(same Article)	Ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good 
39(c) 	(same Article)	The economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment 
39(d) 	(same Article)	Equal pay for equal work for both men and women 

38 - 39A welfare, distribution, legal aid 

40 - 43B panchayats work, co-ops 

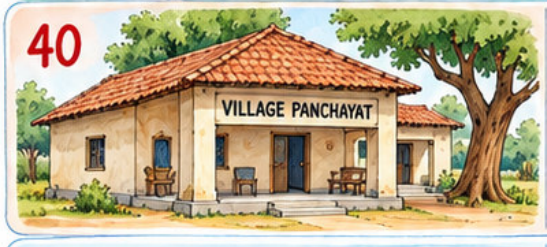
44 - 48A civil code childcare and nature 

49 - 51 heritage courts and peace 

Article 43A means participation in management, Article 45 ends when the child completes six.

Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 2.4

Articles 38 to 51, one by one (official text) (2/4)

Article	Marginal heading (short)	What it directs
39(e) 	(same Article)	The health and strength of workers and the tender age of children are not abused, and citizens are not forced by economic necessity into avocations unsuited to their age or strength. 
39(f) 	(same Article)	Children get opportunities and facilities to develop in a healthy manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity; childhood and youth are protected against exploitation and against moral and material abandonment. 
39A 	Equal justice and free legal aid	The legal system promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunity; free legal aid, so that no citizen is denied justice by reason of economic or other disabilities. 
40 	Village panchayats	Organise village panchayats and give them the powers needed to function as units of self-government. 
41 	Right to work, to education and to public assistance	Within the limits of its economic capacity and development, provide for the right to work, to education and to public assistance in unemployment, old age, sickness, disablement and other cases of undeserved want. 
42 	Conditions of work and maternity relief	Just and humane conditions of work, and maternity relief. 

Related Groups of Articles (for context)









Article 43A means participation in management. Article 45 ends when the child completes six.

Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 2.4

Articles 38 to 51, one by one (official text) (3/4)

Article	Marginal heading (short)	What it directs
43	Living wage for workers	Work, a living wage, a decent standard of life, leisure and social and cultural opportunities for all workers, agricultural, industrial or otherwise; iin particular, cottage industries in rural areas on an individual or co-operative basis
43A	Workers in management	Participation of workers in the management of undertakings, establishments or other organisations engaged in any industry
43B	Co-operative societies	Voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control and professional management of co-operative societies
44	Uniform civil code	A uniform civil code for the citizens throughout the territory of India
45	Early childhood care and education	Early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years
46	Weaker sections	Promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections, in particular the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and protect them from social injustice and exploitation
47	Nutrition, standard of living, public health	These are "among its primary duties"; in particular, prohibition of intoxicating drinks and of drugs injurious to health, except for medicinal purposes

Placing these Articles in Context

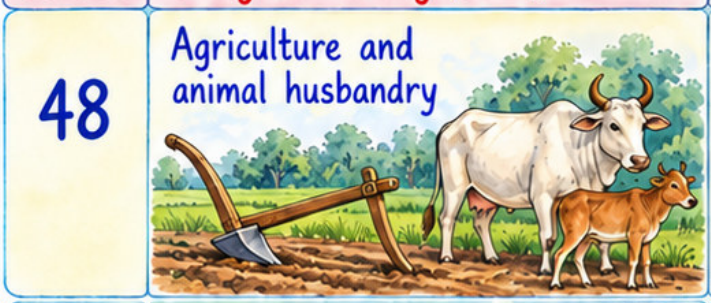
- **38 – 39A** welfare, distribution, legal aid
- **40 – 43B** panchayats work, co-ops
- **44 – 48A** civil code childcare and nature
- **49 – 51** heritage courts and peace

Article 43A means participation in management. Article 45 ends when the child completes six.

Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 2.4

Articles 38 to 51, one by one (official text) (4/4)

Article	Marginal heading (short)	What it directs
48	Agriculture and animal husbandry	Organise them on modern and scientific lines; preserve and improve breeds; prohibit the slaughter of cows and calves and other milch and draught cattle.
48A	Environment, forests and wild life	Protect and improve the environment and safeguard the forests and wild life of the country.
49	Monuments	It "shall be the obligation of the State" to protect monuments, places and objects of artistic or historic interest declared by or under law made by Parliament to be of national importance.
50	Separation of judiciary from executive	Take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive in the public services of the State.
51	International peace and security	Promote international peace and security; just and honourable relations between nations; respect for international law and treaty obligations; settlement of international disputes by arbitration.









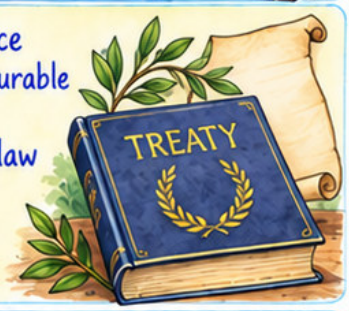












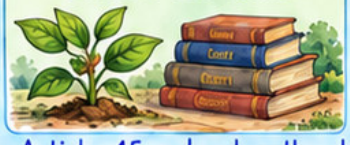
38 – 39A welfare, distribution, legal aid



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44 – 48A civil code childcare and nature



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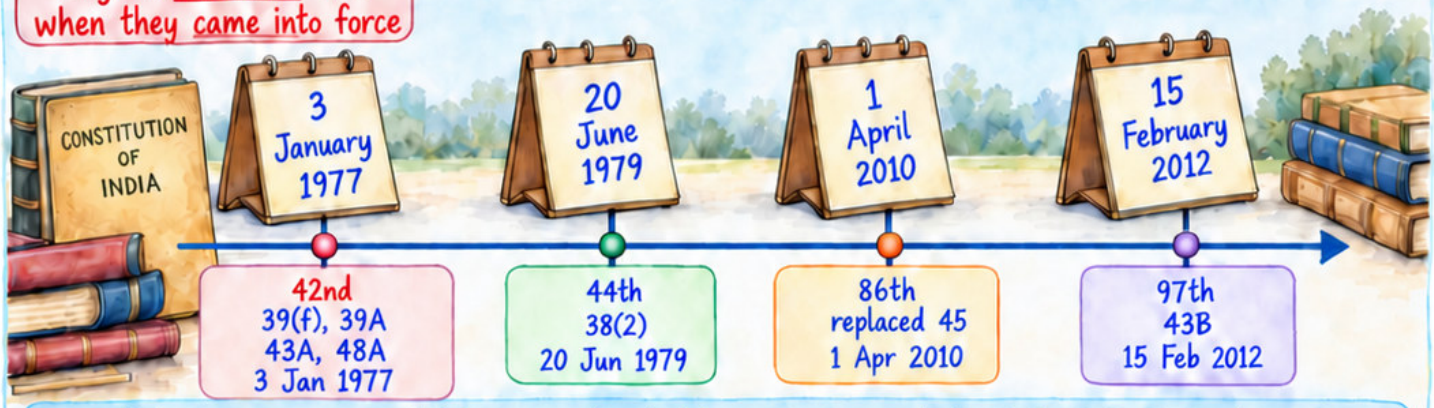
Article 43A means participation in management. Article 45 ends when the child completes six.

Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 2.4

The amendments that added or changed them

Amendment	What it did in Part IV	Section, and in force from
42nd Amendment Act, 1976	Substituted clause (f) of Article 39	Section 7; 3 January 1977
42nd Amendment Act, 1976	Inserted Article 39A	Section 8; 3 January 1977
42nd Amendment Act, 1976	Inserted Article 43A	Section 9; 3 January 1977
42nd Amendment Act, 1976	Inserted Article 48A	Section 10; 3 January 1977
44th Amendment Act, 1978	Renumbered Article 38 as clause (1) and inserted clause (2)	Section 9; 20 June 1979
86th Amendment Act, 2002	Substituted a new Article 45	Section 3; 1 April 2010
97th Amendment Act, 2011	Inserted Article 43B	Section 3; 15 February 2012

Key Amendments and when they came into force



Dates are commencement dates; amendment Act years are respectively 1976, 1978, 2002 and 2011.

The 86th Amendment also inserted Article 21A in Part III: free and compulsory education for children aged six to fourteen (Topic 642). It added Article 51A(k): the parent's or guardian's duty to provide educational opportunities to a child or ward aged six to fourteen. Article 45 concerns children until they complete six; these age ranges must not be interchanged.

Article 45

Article 45 concerns children until they complete six.



children until they complete six

Article 21A

Article 21A in Part III: free and compulsory education for children aged six to fourteen (Topic 642).



children aged six to fourteen

Article 51A(k)

Article 51A(k): the parent's or guardian's duty to provide educational opportunities to a child or ward aged six to fourteen.



a child or ward aged six to fourteen

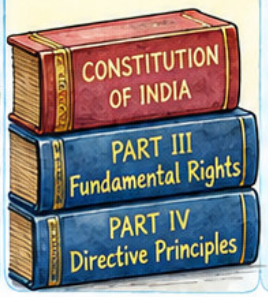
these age ranges must not be interchanged.

Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 2.5

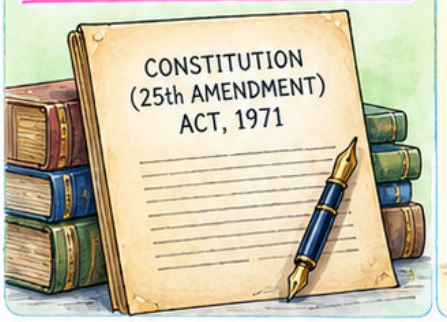
Directive Principles and Fundamental Rights: the cases (1/2)

Case or Act	Date	What it held or did
State of Madras v. Champakam Dorairajan	9 April 1951; seven judges; judgment by Das, J.	The Communal G.O. (Government Order) on college seats was void under Article 13 for violating Article 29(2) (Topic 73). Article 46 could not override Article 29(2): "The directive principles of State policy have to conform to and run as subsidiary to the Chapter of Fundamental Rights." They "cannot override the provisions found in Part III."
25th Amendment Act, 1971	In force from 20 April 1972	Inserted Article 31C: a law giving effect to "the principles specified in clause (b) or clause (c) of article 39" was not to be void for being inconsistent with Articles 14, 19 or 31; and a law declaring that it gave effect to that policy could not be questioned in court on the ground that it did not. It also put the word "amount" in place of "compensation" in Article 31(2)
Kesavananda Bharati	24 April 1973; 13 judges	The first part of Article 31C was upheld and the second part, the declaration clause, was struck down. By 7 to 6 Parliament cannot alter the basic structure (Topic 123)

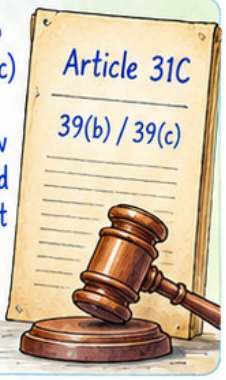




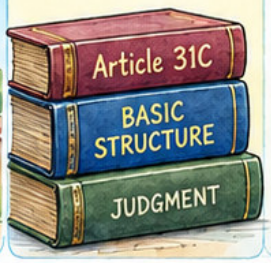


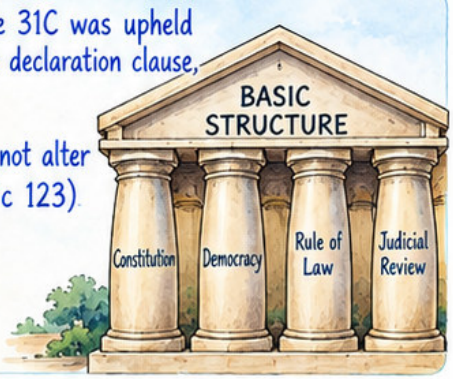












Key cases on Article 31C: a timeline



Current Article 31C protects qualifying 39(b)/(c) laws against Articles 14 and 19; not every privately owned resource automatically qualifies.

Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 2.6

Directive Principles and Fundamental Rights: the cases (2/2)

Case or Act	Date	What it held or did
42nd Amendment Act, 1976, section 4	In force from 3 January 1977	Widened Article 31C to laws for securing "all or any of the principles laid down in Part IV"
Minerva Mills	31 July 1980; five judges; Chandrachud, C.J.	Sections 4 and 55 of the 42nd Amendment were void. "Parts III and IV together constitute the core of our Constitution". The "harmony and balance between fundamental rights and directive principles is an essential feature of the basic structure"



Current Article 31C position:

Property Owners Association v. State of Maharashtra (5 November 2024, 2024 INSC 835) confirmed that Article 31C, to the extent upheld in Kesavananda Bharati, remains in force. The surviving protection is for laws genuinely giving effect to Article 39(b) or (c), against Articles 14 and 19; it is not a blanket shield for every Directive Principle. The Court also rejected treating every privately owned resource automatically as a "material resource of the community"; some private resources can qualify, depending on their nature and context.



Key cases on Article 31C – timeline

1951 Champakam



Part III prevails in the case.

1973 Kesavananda



limited 31C survives; basic structure.

1980 Minerva Mills



all-DPSP extension invalid.

2024 Property Owners

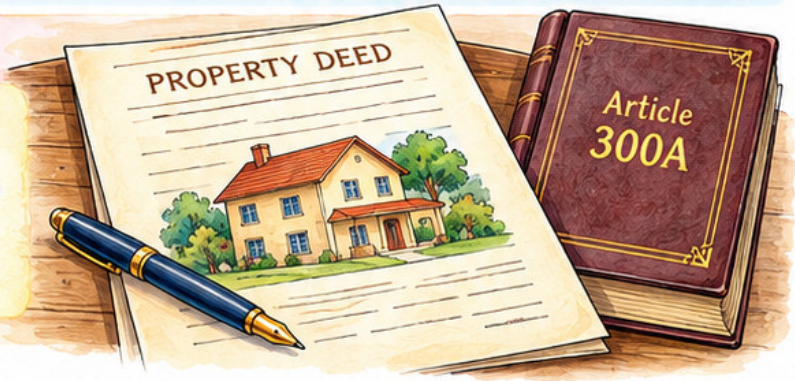


39(b)/(c) protection survives.

Current Article 31C protects qualifying 39(b)/(c) laws against Articles 14 and 19; not every privately owned resource automatically qualifies.

The right to property

The 44th Amendment (1978) removed it from the Fundamental Rights. Article 300A protects it as a constitutional legal right; deprivation must be by authority of law.



Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 2.6

Directives outside Part IV

Three Articles outside Part IV also give directions: Article 335 (Part XVI: the claims of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes "shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration", in appointments to services and posts); Article 350A (Part XVII: adequate facilities for mother-tongue instruction at the primary stage for children belonging to linguistic minority groups; inserted by the 7th Amendment, 1956); and Article 351 (Part XVII: "Directive for development of the Hindi language"). They are not in Part IV, so Article 37 does not speak of them (Topic 954).

Article 335

Part XVI

the claims of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes "shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration", in appointments to services and posts.



Article 350A

Part XVII

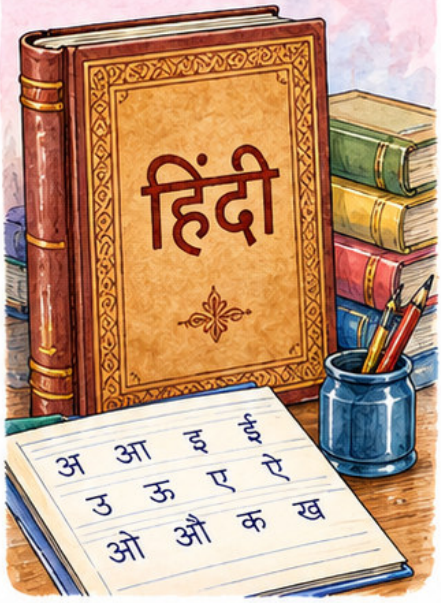
adequate facilities for mother-tongue instruction at the primary stage for children belonging to linguistic minority groups; inserted by the 7th Amendment, 1956.



Article 351

Part XVII

"Directive for development of the Hindi language".



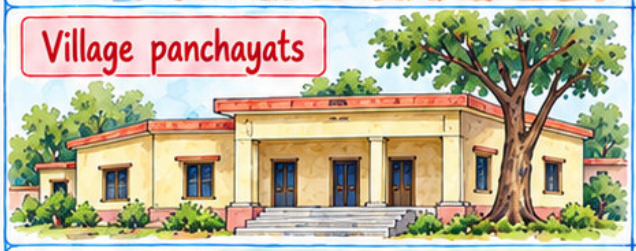
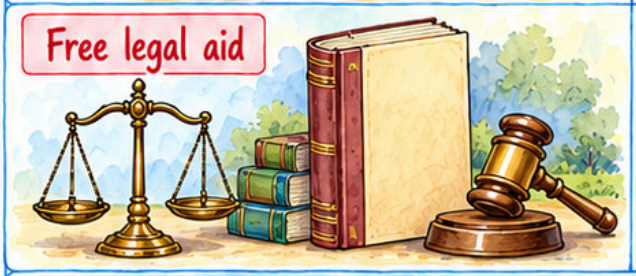
Comparison at a Glance

Article	Part	Direction given
335	Part XVI	the claims of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes "shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration", in appointments to services and posts.
350A	Part XVII	adequate facilities for mother-tongue instruction at the primary stage for children belonging to linguistic minority groups; inserted by the 7th Amendment, 1956.
351	Part XVII	"Directive for development of the Hindi language".

These directions stand outside Part IV; do not label them Part IV DPSPs.

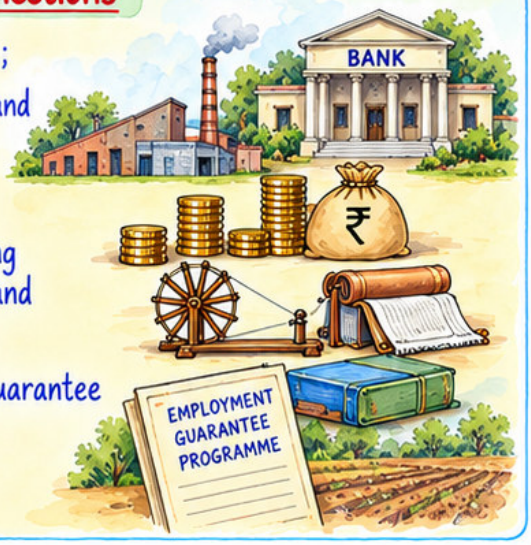
Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 2.7

Directive Principles in public policy

Directive	Article	Implementation or connection
Land reforms 	39(b) and (c)	States abolished zamindari and enacted land-reform laws. Conflicts with property rights led to constitutional amendments supporting these reforms
Village panchayats 	40	The 73rd Amendment, passed in 1992 and effective from 24 April 1993, added Part IX on Panchayats
Education 	45 and 21A	The 86th Amendment, 2002 inserted the right to education in Article 21A and recast Article 45 for children below six. School-meal programmes support access to education and nutrition
Free legal aid 	39A	The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 came into force on 9 November 1995. NALSA, constituted in 1995, provides free legal services to weaker sections and organises Lok Adalats for amicable settlement
Separation of judiciary and executive 	50	The constitutional direction is to take steps towards separation in the public services of the State

Other policy connections

- bank nationalisation;
- factory regulation and minimum wages;
- cottage industries;
- measures supporting Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;
- and employment-guarantee programmes.



Remember

A Directive Principle sets a constitutional goal. An amendment, law or programme is a means of pursuing that goal; the two are not the same thing.



Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 3

Three common exam traps

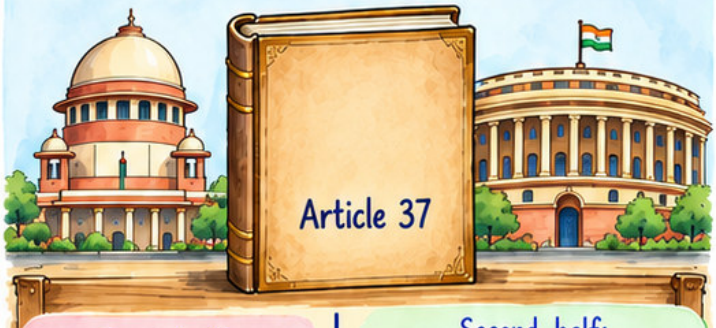
1 "The Constitution divides the Directive Principles into socialistic, Gandhian and liberal-intellectual principles."

It does not. Part IV has no such headings; the three groups are a study aid. Different provisions in Articles 43, 47 and 48 serve different themes. Identify the precise provision before assigning a group.



2 "Non-justiciable means the principles have no legal value."

Article 37 says the opposite in its second half: the principles are fundamental in the governance of the country, and applying them in making laws is a duty of the State. Only the first half is about courts: no court can enforce them. A statement that drops either half is incomplete.



First half: no court can enforce them.

Second half: the principles are fundamental in the governance of the country, and applying them in making laws is a duty of the State.

3 "The Constitution gives no directions to the State outside Part IV."

Part IV contains the DPSPs governed by Article 37, but other constitutional directions also stand outside it, in Parts XVI and XVII. Remember the three numbers, 335, 350A and 351, and remember that Article 351 carries the word "Directive" in its own heading.



Key comparison



Thematic categories not constitutional headings



Non-justiciable still a State duty



Outside Part IV
335 · 350A · 351

Sources: Day 16 Source Index | Topic 154 | Section 4