

**Title:** Need to formulate a National Slum Policy.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH EAST): Sir, the Supreme Court judgement of March, 2000 giving instructions to the Government to remove encroachment on various States/Central Government lands and private lands is an important verdict for crores of slum-dwellers throughout India. It is going to affect the lives of more than six crore downtrodden people living in *Jhuggis* for years together and it creates an atmosphere of scare and fear among those downtrodden people. They will be rendered homeless. There is a need to finalise National Slum Policy immediately. Corrective action by the Government is required. Shelter, safety and basic amenities to these downtrodden people are utmost necessary. I request the Government to come out with their policy decision.

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**स्भापति महोदय :** अब हम आइटम नं. 12 लेंगे। माननीय मंत्री जी ने इंट्रोड्यूस किया।

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): Sir, I am on a point of order under Rule 331E(b). There are two Constitution Amendment Bills and some other Amendment Bills are presented to this House. My request is that according to Rule 331E(b), as the Standing Committees are being constituted by this House, these important Bills are to be referred to the Standing Committee for the extensive scrutiny of the Bills.

Sir, it has become a practice that all the Bills are introduced, discussed and passed in the House. I can understand if it is not a Bill of this nature then it can be just discussed and passed. But a Constitution Amendment Bill is going to have a far reaching effect in the society, so this should be first referred to the Standing Committee where it should be discussed and when the report comes to the House, then it can consider it.

**स्भापति महोदय :** आप पहले सुन लीजिए।

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : As soon as these Bills are introduced, they become the property of the House. My request to the Chair is that such Bills should be referred to the Standing Committee and then these should be passed.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Chief Whip of the Congress Party, whether this is the position of the Congress to refer these Bills and take them to the Monsoon Session or is it the opinion of the Member only...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, it is not a party affair. These two Constitution Amendments Bills ought to have been referred to the Standing Committees...(*Interruptions*)