

# Legislation Procedure in the Parliament

We can see the detailed procedure of legislation in parliament in Articles 70-88 of Constitution of 1973. National Assembly & Senate, both houses of parliament does job of central legislation. All laws made by parliament have to pass through same essential steps. Every type of social legislation is also done in the same way which we are going to discuss in detail.

## 1) Preparation Of Bill/Proposal

When Central Govt. feels specific law, it gets for written preparation of that proposal according to Govt. point of view. When opposition members or common members in National assembly want so, they prepare legislation bill/proposal by using their own resources.

## 2) First Reading

After preparation of proposal, it is sent to speaker of National Assembly. Then it is published and included in official gazette. Unofficial proposals are not placed in official Gazette. Moving member presents proposal in the House on the day decided by Speaker of National Assembly. It is called introduction of proposal/bill in the House. Then moving person requests speaker to present proposal for debate in house or to send to committee. After debate on that proposal, if majority of members in Assembly approve, it is send to committee.

## 3) Committee

Different committees are formed in National Assembly & Senate to deal with different type of proposals for law making. For example, Education committee deal with such proposals which are concerned educational matters. Every committee discusses proposal in detail committee may take opinion from experts, ministers and common citizens. That committee sends the proposal back in house with its positive or negative opinion. Committee is not allowed to change the actual proposal.

#### 4) Second Reading

This step is considered very important. After coming back from committee, proposal is discussed in depth with detail. Every member may take part in discussion. After completion of debate, moving person requests speaker to present proposal for voting. If majority of members favor it, proposal is considered valid for next step.

#### 5) Third Reading

Date & time is decided by speaker of National Assembly for third reading on Proposal. At this stage, proposal is not discussed in detail. After short debate, members cast votes in favor or opposite to proposal. After approval of majority, proposal is handed over to Upper House.

#### 6) Proposal in Second House

If senate is second House, it prepares its decision within three months. If it does not decide in limited period, proposal is considered a "Law" without its approval. Senate may reject or amend or approve the proposal. If it amends, National Assembly repeats the above procedure. After second approval from National Assembly, proposal is not sent to senate. It is directly sent to president for final approval.

Same times, joint meeting of both houses (Senate & National Assembly) is called to approve a proposal. Speaker of National Assembly presides such meeting. If he is absent, chairman of senate presides. Proposal is sent for final approval if majority of both houses approve it.

#### 7) Approval of President

After approval of proposal from both houses, it is sent to President. It is sent with the advice of Prime Minister. President makes it complete law after signing it. President keeps powers to approve the proposal or to send it back for revision. If both houses approve it again, President has to sign it.