

Bill No. 155 of 2026

THE KERALA (ALTERATION OF NAME) BILL, 2026

A

BILL

to alter the name of the State of Kerala.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Kerala (Alteration of Name) Act, 2026.

Short title and
commencement.

5 (2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

Definitions.

(a) “appointed day” means the date appointed under sub-section (2) of section 1;

10 (b) “appropriate Government” means, as respects a law relating to a matter enumerated in List I in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, the Central Government, and as respects any other law, the State Government;

(c) “law” includes any enactment, Ordinance, regulation, order, bye-law, rule, scheme, notification or other instrument having the force of law in the whole or any part of the State of Kerala.

Alteration of
name of State of
Kerala.

3. On and from the appointed day, the State of Kerala shall be known as the State of Keralam.

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Amendment of
article 31A.

4. In article 31A of the Constitution, in clause (2), in sub-clause (a), in item (i), for the word “Kerala”, the word “Keralam” shall be substituted.

Amendment of
article 290A.

5. In article 290A of the Constitution, for the word “Kerala”, the word “Keralam” shall be substituted.

Amendment of
First Schedule to
Constitution.

6. In the First Schedule to the Constitution, under the heading “I. THE STATES”, in entry 5, under the column “Name”, for the word “Kerala”, the word “Keralam” shall be substituted.

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Amendment of
Fourth Schedule
to Constitution.

7. In the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution, under the heading “TABLE”, in entry 9, in the second column, for the word “Kerala”, the word “Keralam” shall be substituted.

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Power to adapt
laws.

8. (1) For the purpose of giving effect to the alteration of the name of the State of Kerala by section 3, the appropriate Government may, before the expiration of one year from the appointed day, by order, make such adaptations and modifications of any law made before the appointed day, whether by way of repeal or amendment, as may be necessary or expedient, and thereupon every such law shall have effect subject to the adaptations and modifications so made.

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(2) Nothing in sub-section (1) shall be deemed to prevent a competent Legislature or other competent authority from repealing or amending any law adapted or modified by the appropriate Government under the said sub-section.

Power to
construe laws.

9. Notwithstanding that no provision or insufficient provision has been made under section 8 for the adaptation of a law made before the appointed day, any court, tribunal or authority, required or empowered to enforce such law, may construe the law in such manner, without affecting the substance, as may be necessary or proper in regard to the matter before the court, tribunal or authority.

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Legal
proceedings.

10. Where immediately before the appointed day any legal proceedings are pending to which the State of Kerala is a party, the State of Keralam shall be deemed to have been substituted for the State of Kerala in those proceedings.

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Government of Kerala forwarded to the Central Government, the resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly of Kerala on 24th June, 2024 stating, *inter alia*, that necessary steps may be taken to amend the First Schedule to the Constitution by modifying the name of State of “Kerala” as “Keralam” in accordance with article 3 of the Constitution.

2. As required by the proviso to article 3 of the Constitution, the President referred the Bill to the Legislature of the State of Kerala for expressing its views thereon. The Legislative Assembly of Kerala considered the Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026 and adopted a unanimous Resolution agreeing with the Bill.

3. The Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026 provides for such alteration of name of the State of Kerala and contains necessary amendments to the provisions of the Constitution and also consequential provisions.

NEW DELHI;

AMIT SHAH.

The 29th July, 2026.

PRESIDENT’S RECOMMENDATION UNDER ARTICLE 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

[Copy of letter No. 19012/01/2026-SR dated the 07.08.2026 from Shri Amit Shah, Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation to the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha]

The President, having been informed of the subject matter of the proposed “Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026”, recommends the introduction of the Bill in the Lok Sabha under article 3 of the Constitution of India.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 8 of the Bill empowers the State Government to adapt and modify existing laws for the purpose of giving effect to the alteration of name of the State of Kerala to Keralam by clause 3. This power will be available only for a period of one year from the appointed day. The adaptations and modifications cannot affect the substance of the laws adapted.

2. The delegation of legislative power is of a normal character.

ANNEXURE

EXTRACTS FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

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31A. (1) * * * *

(2) In this article,—

(a) the expression “estate” shall, in relation to any local area, have the same meaning as that expression or its local equivalent has in the existing law relating to land tenures in force in that area and shall also include—

(i) any *jagir*, *inam* or *muafi* or other similar grant and in the States of Tamil Nadu and Kerala, any *janmam* right;

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Saving of laws providing for acquisition of estates, etc.

290A. A sum of forty-six lakhs and fifty thousand rupees shall be charged on, and paid out of, the Consolidated Fund of the State of Kerala every year to the Travancore Devaswom Fund; and a sum of thirteen lakhs and fifty thousand rupees shall be charged on, and paid out of, the Consolidated Fund of the State of Tamil Nadu every year to the Devaswom Fund established in that State for the maintenance of Hindu temples and shrines in the territories transferred to that State on the 1st day of November, 1956, from the State of Travancore Cochin.

Annual payment to certain Devaswom Funds.

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FIRST SCHEDULE

[Articles 1 and 4]

I. THE STATES

Name	Territories
* * * * *	
5. Kerala	The territories specified in sub-section (1) of section 5 of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956.
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FOURTH SCHEDULE

[Articles 4(1) and 80(2)]

Allocation of seats in the Council of States

To each State or Union territory specified in the first column of the following table, there shall be allotted the number of seats specified in the second column thereof opposite to that State or that Union territory, as the case may be:

TABLE

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9. Kerala.....	9
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LOK SABHA

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BILL

to alter the name of the State of Kerala.

(Shri Amit Shah, Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation)