

Bill Summary

The Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026

- The Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026 was introduced in Lok Sabha on April 16, 2026. It seeks to amend: (i) the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, (ii) the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, 1991, and (iii) the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019. It makes changes with regard to the delimitation of Assembly and Parliamentary constituencies of Puducherry, Delhi, and Jammu & Kashmir. Along with this Bill, two other Bills have also been introduced: (i) the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026 which seeks to enable delimitation based on the census specified by Parliament by law, and (ii) the Delimitation Bill, 2026 which provides for the constitution of a Commission to carry out delimitation.
- **Delimitation of constituencies:** The Bill empowers the Delimitation Commission to carry out readjustment of the Assembly and Parliamentary constituencies. Delimitation will be based on the population as per the latest published census, as on the date of the constitution of the Commission.
- **Number of seats in Assemblies:** The respective Acts specify the number of seats in the Legislative Assembly as follows: (i) 30 in Puducherry, (ii) 70 in Delhi, and (iii) 114 in Jammu & Kashmir. The Bill instead provides that the Delimitation Commission will determine the number of seats such that it is not less than the above number.
- **Nominated members in Puducherry Assembly:** Currently, the central government may nominate up to three members to the Assembly. The Bill provides that this limit will increase to five, of which two will be women. This increase will come into effect after delimitation.
- **Nominated members in J&K Assembly:** Currently, the Lieutenant Governor may nominate two members to give representation to women. The Bill provides that this limit will increase to three, after delimitation.

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