

Article 101(4)

Source: IE

An independent **Member of Parliament (MP),** has approached the **High Court** over concerns regarding the potential loss of his **Lok Sabha** seat due to prolonged absence.

Article 101(4):

- Article 101 of the Constitution of India deals with the vacation of seats, disqualifications, and dual membership in <u>Parliament</u>.
- As per Article 101(4) of the Constitution, if an MP remains absent from all meetings of the House for 60 days without permission, the House may declare their seat vacant.
 - However, this period excludes days when the House is prorogued or adjourned for more than 4 consecutive days.
 - This provision is intended to ensure that MPs actively participate in legislative proceedings.
- A seat is vacated only when the House formally declares it vacant through a vote, not automatically.
 - Barjinder Singh Hamdard, a Rajya Sabha MP, was disqualified in 2000 under Article 101(4) for sustained absence.
- Procedure for Seeking Leave:
 - MPs must request leave from the **Committee on Members' Absence**, which **reviews** and **reports to the House**. The House then **votes on approval or rejection**.
 - Leave is granted for up to 59 days at a time; MPs must submit a fresh request for extended absences.

Read More: Major Constitutional Amendment: Part 1

PDF Refernece URL: https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/article-101-4