

Anti-defection Bill gets President's assent

NEW DELHI, Feb. 15.

The long-awaited Bill seeking to outlaw defections by legislators, received the assent of the President, Mr. Zail Singh, today. With that it came into operation.

The Presidential action ended the speculation over the delay in securing the assent. A section of the Opposition saw political motives behind what it thought was a deliberate move to delay the operation of the Bill.

As was explained by the Law Minister, Mr. Ashoke Sen, the Bill need not be ratified by half of the State Legislatures.—Our Special Correspondent.