

AS INTRODUCED IN LOK SABHA

Bill No. 171 of 2019

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2019

By

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A

BILL

further to amend the Constitution of India.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2019.

Short title .

Insertion of
new article
47A.

2. After article 47 of the Constitution, the following article shall be inserted,
namely:—

No person
shall
Procreate
more than two
living
children.

"47A. The State shall promote small family norm by encouraging and motivating
married couples to procreate not more than two living children so as to control the
rising population of the country."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

A recent United Nations report projects India to overtake China as the most populous country by around the year 2027. The report projects the world population to rise to some 9.7 billion, by the year 2050. The countries expected to show the biggest increase population are India, Nigeria and Pakistan. We are today the second most populous country in the world despite the fact that we were among the first countries to have enacted a national population control policy. There have been movements of forced and compulsive sterilization in the country, creating massive public unrest and panic finally abandoning the entire movement. India's population today stands at around 1.36 billion, which is about eighteen per cent. of the world population with the land share of just two per cent. of the entire world.

The rate of growth of a country's population is directly proportional to its development. It impacts exploitation of its natural resources including clean air, water, land, woods etc.; its social and financial infrastructure; placing huge pressure on its sustainability. In a relatively young and developing economy like ours where human capital is its biggest asset, it is high time that we put serious check on our ever inflating population. It is an irony to note that despite of the need of an immediate population control a central law to population control was never given due consideration. An effective law to control population, if enacted, would solve many problems faced by our country including poverty, corruption, violence against women and children and many other challenges.

The Bill, therefore, seeks to amend the Constitution with a view to put an obligation on the State to encourage and motivate married couples to opt for not more than two living children to control the rising population of the country.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
June 26, 2019.

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(Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde, M.P.)