Bill No. XXXVIII of 2018

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM (MODIFICATION) BILL, 2018

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BILL

to modify the National Anthem "Jana Gana Mana".

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

1. (*I*) This Act may be called the National Anthem (Modification) Act, 2018.

Short title, and commencement.

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

2. The National Anthem "Jana Gana Mana" shall be modified as mentioned in the Schedule of this Act.

Modification of the National Anthem.

THE SCHEDULE

[See Section 2]

Jana gana mana adhinayaka jaya hey

Bharata bhagya vidhata

Punjab Sindh Uttarpurv Gujarat Maratha

Dravida Utkala Banga

Vindhya Himachala Yamuna Ganga

Uchchala jaladhi taranga

Tava shubha name jage

Tava shubha ashisha mage

Gahe tava jaya gatha

Jana gana mangala dayaka jaya hey

Bharata Bhagya vidhata

Jaya hey, jaya hey, jaya hey

Jaya jaya jaya, jaya hey.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The National Anthem of India "Jana Gana Mana" was composed by Dr. Rabindranath Tagore and was first sung on December 27, 1911. The Anthem naturally reflects the composition of India at that time.

The then President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, had made a statement in the Constituent Assembly on 24th January, 1950 that the composition consisting of the words and music known as Jana Gana Mana is the National Anthem of India, subject to such alterations in the words as the Government may authorise as occasion arises.

The anthem does not mention very important component of India like the Northeast, now comprising of the states like Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Mizoram. The North-Eastern(NE) states are situated at such strategic and sensitive points, that they are at the border of Burma, China, Bhutan and Bangladesh. In most of the cases the people of North-Eastern states feel alienated from rest of India, as most of the states are still not easily accessible by virtue of being hill states with inhabitants of hill tribes inspite of the mass participation and commendable contribution of the people of these states in the freedom struggle of India. Therefore, the anthem needs to be modified so that it reflects the true composition of present day India including the northeastern states.

Hence, this Bill.

RIPUN BORA

RAJYA SABHA

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BILL

to modify the National Anthem "Jana Gana Mana"

(Shri Ripun Bora, M.P.)