

AS INTRODUCED IN THE RAJYA SABHA
ON THE 18TH DECEMBER, 2009

Bill No. XXIII of 2009

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009

A

BILL

further to amend the Constitution of India.

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2009.

Short title
and com-
mencement.

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

5 **2.** In article 51A of the Constitution, in clause (e), after the words, “dignity of women”, the words “to protect and safeguard women from harassment, mental and physical abuse and to desist from giving or taking dowry or encouraging or advocating the same,” shall be inserted.

Amendment
of Art. 51A.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Women constitute half of the total population in the country. But they are often harassed, abused, insulted and neglected. Of late, there has been a spurt in dowry related cases resulting in the death of the women. Bringing culprits to book as a crime assuming process and cases in courts remain pending for years and, therefore, it is felt that law alone cannot prevent maltreatment of women. It is necessary to educate people and to sensitize them on gender related issues. It should be the duty of every citizen of the country to renounce violence against women, desist from giving or taking dowry and protect women from crimes. It is, accordingly, proposed to amend the Constitution so as to include this aspect as a fundamental duty of every citizen.

Hence this Bill.

T. SUBBARA'MI REDDY

ANNEXURE

EXTRACTS FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

** ** *

PART IV A

** ** *

FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES

** ** *

51A** Fundamental Duties

(a) ** ** *

(b) ** ** *

(c) ** ** *

(d) ** ** *

(e) to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities, to renounce practice derogatory to the dignity of women;

** ** *

RAJYA SABHA

A
BILL

further to amend the Constitution of India.

(Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, M.P.)