

Bill No. 173 of 2016

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016

By

DR. UDIT RAJ, M.P.

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BILL

further to amend the Constitution of India.

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

1. This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2016.

Short title.

2. In article 15 of the Constitution, after clause (2), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

Amendment of article 15.

"(2A) No citizen shall, on ground of caste or sex, be denied access to any place of religious worship opened for general public.

Explanation.—For the purpose of this clause, the expression 'place of religious worship' means a temple, mosque, gurudwara, church, monastery or any other place of public religious worship of any religious denomination or any section thereof, by whatever name called."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

There have been numerous cases where persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are denied access to places of worship on the ground of the castes they belong to. Recently, women have also been denied access to places of worship for unconvincing reasons. Such practices are derogatory to human values. Therefore, it is propose to make specific provisions in the Constitution that no citizen shall be denied access to any place of worship opened to the general public on the ground of caste or gender.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
July 5, 2016

UDIT RAJ

ANNEXURE

EXTRACT FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

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15. (1) The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them.

Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.

(2) No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them, be subject to any disability, liability, restriction or condition with regard to—

(a) access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment;

or

(b) the use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads and places of public resort maintained wholly or partly out of State funds or dedicated to the use of the general public.

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further to amend the Constitution of India.

(Dr. Udit Raj, M.P.)