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1. Union Cabinet clears Citizenship Amendment Bill, to be introduced in Lok Sabha

- What is Citizenship Amendment Bill 2016?
- Why are people in Assam not happy about it?
- What does this bill allow?
- What is the Citizenship Act 1995?

GS paper 2 (Indian Constitution- historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure)

In this video, you can find detailed answers for all the above questions.

The above article has been retrieved from:

PTI. (2019,
January , 8). Union Cabinet clears Citizenship Amendment
Bill, to be introduced in Lok Sabha Tuesday. Indian Express.
Retrieved from <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/union-cabinet-clears-citizenship-amendment-bill-to-be-introduced-in-lok-sabha-tuesday-5526865/>

What is the context about?

- The Union Cabinet Monday cleared the redrafted Citizenship Amendment Bill, which seeks to provide Indian citizenship to non-Muslims from Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- Large sections of people in Assam and other northeastern states have been protesting against the bill, saying it

would nullify the 1985 Assam Accord under which any foreign national, irrespective of religion, who had entered the state after 1971 should be deported.

What is Citizenship Amendment Bill 2016?

- ❑ The Citizenship Amendment Bill 2016 seeks to allow illegal migrants from certain minority communities in Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan eligible for Indian citizenship. In other words, it amends the Citizenship Act of 1955.
- ❑ The Bill provides that the registration of Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders may be cancelled if they violate any law.

Why are people in Assam not happy about it?

- ❑ The Citizenship Amendment Bill has not been sitting well with the Assamese as it contradicts the Assam Accord of 1985, which clearly states that illegal migrants heading in from Bangladesh after March 25, 1971, would be deported.

What does this bill allow?

- ❑ The Citizenship Amendment Bill seeks to allow illegal migrants belonging to the Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi or Christian religious communities coming from Afghanistan, Bangladesh or Pakistan to not be imprisoned or deported.

- ❑ It also appeals for the minimum years of residency in India to apply for citizenship to be lessened from at least 11 to six years for such migrants.
- ❑ The Bill, however, does not extend to illegal Muslim migrants. It also does not talk about other minority communities in the three neighbouring countries, such as Jews, Bahais etc.

What is the Citizenship Act 1995?

- ❑ Under Article 9 of the Indian Constitution, a person who voluntarily acquires citizenship of any other country is no longer an Indian citizen.
- ❑ Citizenship by descent: Persons born outside India on or after January 26, 1950, but before December 10, 1992, are citizens of India by descent if their father was a citizen of India at the time of their birth.
- ❑ From December 3, 2004, onwards, persons born outside of India shall not be considered citizens of India unless their birth is registered at an Indian consulate within one year of the date of birth.
- ❑ In Section 8 of the Citizenship Act 1955, if an adult makes a declaration of renunciation of Indian citizenship, he loses Indian citizenship.