

FOURTEENTH KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

SEVENTEENTH SESSION

**THE RESOLUTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ON 31st DECEMBER, 2019**

Consequent to the approval of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019 by both the houses of the Parliament it has created apprehensions among various sections of society and led to nation wide protests. In Kerala the protests have been unison and peaceful .

The inclusion of new provisions for granting citizenship as per the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 is violative of the principle of fundamental right of equality enshrined in Part III of our Constitution.

The national freedom movement was a convergence of various streams of thoughts. The Indian Constitution has evolved incorporating the modern democratic and secular perspectives put forward by such movements. Our Constitution based on democracy, secularism, equality and scientific temper is a milestone in the movement towards civil rights and an equitable society. Indian nationalism has developed by imbibing the life and culture of various sections of people. Hence, the Constitution has encapsulated the fundamentals of the perspective unity in diversity.

The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 is one which contains provision for granting citizenship to followers of Hindu, Sikh, Budha, Jaina, Parsi and

Christian religions who have migrated to India from countries viz. Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan before 31st December 2014 and denies it to Muslims. When Citizenship is decided in terms of religion, the doctrine of theocratic state is being institutionalised. As this is in stark contradiction to the secular perspective put forth by the Constitution, this law is not in conformity with the basic structure of the Constitution.

This occasion calls for a combined effort from all religious denominations and people with secular perspectives, to protect secularism which is one of the important features of the basic structure of the Constitution.

In view of the apprehensions being created among a large section of people in our country, the Kerala Legislative Assembly requests the Central Government to take measures to abrogate the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, which will lead to discrimination on the basis of religion while granting citizenship and thereby jeopardising secularism envisaged in the Constitution.

Thiruvananthapuram
31.12.2019

S.V.Unnikrishnan Nair,
Secretary.