

4. Repealing and Amending Bill 2025- Polity

Lok Sabha passes Bill for repealing or amending obsolete laws

The Lok Sabha passed the Repealing and Amending Bill, 2025, to repeal 71 obsolete acts and amend 4 existing laws, aiming to declutter the statute book and reduce compliance burdens. This move aligns with the government's philosophy of "Minimum Government, Maximum Governance" by removing colonial-era redundancies and simplifying legal procedures.

The Lok Sabha has passed the Repealing and Amending Bill, 2025. The primary objective of this legislation is to cleanse the Indian statute book by removing laws that are obsolete, redundant, or remnants of the colonial era.

Rationale Behind the Bill

The Government has outlined three main objectives for introducing this Bill

Reversing Colonial Legacies- It seeks to reverse the effects of colonization by systematically removing outdated colonial-era statutes that are no longer relevant to modern India.

Reducing Legal Clutter- The Bill aims to declutter the statute book, making legal frameworks more accessible and understandable for the general public.

Ease of Compliance- It focuses on lowering the compliance burden placed on citizens, businesses, and institutions, thereby facilitating smoother operations.

Governance Philosophy & Achievements

The Law and Justice Minister highlighted the broader governance strategy driving these reforms. Governance Philosophy. The reform is rooted in three key principles- "Minimum Government, Maximum Governance" Citizen-centric policymaking "Reform, Perform, Transform"

Key Statistics (Progress since 2014)

Repealed Acts- A total of 1,562 obsolete Acts have been repealed since 2014.

Amended Acts- 15 Acts have been amended to align with current needs.

Compliance Reduction- Over 40,000 compliance requirements have been eliminated in the last 11 years.

Key Provisions of the Bill

The Bill focuses on two distinct legal actions- Repealing (removing) laws and Amending (correcting) laws.

Repeal of Obsolete Laws

Total Acts Repealed- The Bill repeals a total of 71 Acts.

Nature of Repeals- Out of these, 65 are Amendment Acts. These are laws whose changes have already been incorporated into the principal legislation, making the amendment acts themselves redundant.

Amendment of Existing Acts

Scope- The Bill amends four specific Acts.

Purpose- To correct drafting issues. To update outdated terminology. To remove procedural redundancies.

Specific Details of Acts Affected

Acts Being Repealed

The Bill removes specific standalone acts that are no longer required- Indian Tramways Act, 1886 Levy Sugar Price Equalisation Fund Act, 1976. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Act, 1988

Various Obsolete Amendment Laws- Laws that served their purpose by amending principal acts and now exist only as clutter.

Acts Being Amended- The Bill introduces specific corrections and updates to the following laws-

Act Name	Specific Change / Amendment
Indian Succession Act, 1925	Removal of Probate Requirement- The requirement for court validation (probate) for wills has been removed in specific cases.

	Target Demographic- It relaxes earlier rules that required probate for wills of Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs, Jains, and Parsis within the jurisdictions of Kolkata, Madras, and Mumbai.
General Clauses Act, 1897	Terminology Update- Amended to update terminology related to "registered posts."
Code of Civil Procedure, 1908	Terminology Update- Amended to update terminology related to "registered posts."
Disaster Management Act, 2005	Drafting Correction- Corrects a drafting error by replacing the term "prevention" with "preparation".

Source- <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/lok-sabha-passes-bill-for-repealing-or-amending-obsolete-laws/article70403623.ece>

