

[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

**A
BILL**

further to amend the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 (Act No. XIX of 1929)

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, to make appropriate amendments to strictly punish child marriages;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be called the Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act, 2016.
(2) It shall come into force at once.
2. **Amendment of section 5 Act XIX of 1929.**- In the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 (No. XIX of 1929) in section 5,-
 - (a) for the words, "one month" the words, "three years", shall be substituted; and
 - (b) for the word, "one", occurring for the second time, the words, "three hundred", shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Child marriage is not less than a curse biologically and socially but in rural areas of the country this curse is going on non-stop as particularly the parents of minor girls contract their marriages without their consent with person far older in their ages and then they have to suffer throughout their lives. Thus, it is expedient that such social curse should be dealt with iron hand which is not possible except by enhancement of punishment of the offence to ensure effective deterrent for commission of the offence. It will also particularly protects Fundamental Rights of female child and minor girls.

2. The Bill seeks to achieve the above-said objectives.

Sd/-

MS. KISHWER ZEHRA,

(Handwritten signature)
Member, National Assembly.