

FARM LAWS REPEAL BILL



Issue

The Farm Laws Repeal Bill, 2021 was passed by the Lok Sabha without any discussion. The bill will be repealing three farm laws.

Background

The Prime Minister had announced that the government would repeal the three farm laws during the winter session of the Parliament.

Details

➤ Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020, the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020, the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020 will be the three laws that will be repealed by the bill.

Constituents of the bill

- The bill consists of three sections. The first section defines the title of the Act – the Farm Laws Repeal Act, 2021.
- The second section contains the provisions to repeal three farm laws. The third section will omit sub-section (1A) from section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Sub-section (1A) from section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955

- This section empowered the government to control production, supply, distribution, etc., of essential commodities.

- It included foodstuffs such as cereals, pulses, onions, potato, edible oilseeds and oils under “extraordinary circumstances” which may include war, famine, extraordinary price rise and natural calamity of grave nature.

Reasons for repeal

- The government said that it was not successful in convincing a section of farmers protesting against the laws, even though the laws have many merits.
- The Supreme Court had stayed the implementation of the laws, which prevented the government from implementing them on a trial basis.

Existence of the laws

- The laws were first introduced in form of ordinance on June 5, 2020. Proper legislative bills were passed in September 2020.
- The Supreme Court stayed the implementation of the farm laws on January 12, 2021. The laws had a total life of 221 days.

Way ahead

The Farm Laws Repeal Bill, 2021 has been passed by the Lok Sabha. The bill has now been introduced in the Rajya Sabha.

NOTES

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