

Special Protection Group (Amendment) Bill, 2019

Why in News

Recently, the Parliament has **passed** the **Special Protection Group (Amendment) Bill, 2019.** The SPG Bill will amend the **SPG Act of 1988.**

- The proposed amendments in the Special Protection Group (SPG) Bill aims to reduce the financial burden of VIP security on the state exchequer.
- The reduction of SPG coverage will also help to **eliminate the notion of a status symbol** attached to it.

Special Protection Group

- The SPG was raised in **1985** to provide security cover to the Prime Minister, former Prime Ministers and their immediate family members.
- The SPG comprises of the personnel from the CRPF, Border Security Force and other Central and State forces.

Amendments

Reduced SPG Coverage:

- The protection to be offered **only to the Prime Minister**, **former Prime Ministers and their immediate family** members that will reside with him at **his official residence**.
- Currently, the security cover is provided to the Prime Minister, former Prime Ministers and their immediate family members.

Time period:

- The security will be provided only for a period of five years to the former Prime Ministers and their immediate family after they leave the office.
- However, the immediate family members need to be residing with the former Prime Minister at the allotted residence.

Withdrawal:

• When the proximate security is withdrawn from a former Prime Minister such proximate security will also stand withdrawn from members of his immediate family.

Source: TH

