

Centre Granted Citizenship Under CAA

Souce: TH

The <u>Union Government</u> has granted citizenship certificates to over 300 people who applied under the <u>Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), 2019.</u>

- The <u>Citizenship Amendment Rules</u>, <u>2024</u>, were notified by the <u>Ministry of Home Affairs</u> on 11th March 2024, that paved the way for the implementation of the **CAA** after 4 years since its passage by <u>Parliament</u> in December 2019.
- The CAA provides citizenship to undocumented migrants from 6 non-Muslim communities (Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi, or Christian) from 3 neighboring countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan), who entered India on or before 31st December 2014.
 - It also reduced the period to qualify for citizenship from existing 11 years to 5 years.
 - The Act states that such minorities "shall not be treated as illegal migrants" and will be exempted from punishable sections under Section 3 of the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920 and the Foreigners Act, 1946.
 - The insertion of Section 6B allows such migrants to obtain citizenship through registration and naturalisation.
 - Section 6B (introduced by the CAA of 2019 to the <u>Citizenship Act of 1955</u>)
 outlines a specific process for acquiring Indian <u>citizenship</u> by naturalisation for
 migrants from 3 neighbouring countries mentioned.

What the rules state

Centre has implemented CAA, 4yrs after the law was passed, as it notified rules ahead of expected announcement of LS polls

of the Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2024

...STATES THAT AN APPLICANT WILL HAVE TO SUBMIT

- Form VIIIA. with affidavits verifying statements and character of applicant
- Declaration that they have adequate knowledge of a language specified in 8th schedule of Constitution
- Supporting papers like a passport, or identity document to show someone in lineage was a citizen of one of the three countries

APPLICANT MUST ALSO PROVE

- December 31, 2014
- They entered India before | The applicant or either of his parents was a citizen of Independent India

WHAT IS THE 2019 CAA made people from Hindu, Sikh, Jain Buddhist, Christian and Parsi faiths who entered India from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan eligible for citizenship

Read More: Citizenship Amendment Act: Unpacked, Centre Notifies Rules for CAA Implementation, Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019

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