

Reservation for Anglo Indians

August 15, 2020

Why is it in the NEWS?

Parliament passed the Constitution (126th Amendment) Bill, extending reservation for SC/STs but doing away with the provision for nomination of Anglo Indians to Lok Sabha and some state assemblies.

Constitutional Provisions

- Art 366(2): An Anglo-Indian means a person whose father or any of whose other male progenitors in the male line is or was of European descent but who is domiciled within the territory of India and is or was born within such territory of parents habitually resident therein and not established there for temporary purposes only.
- Art 331: The President may, if he is of opinion that the Anglo Indian community is not adequately represented in the House of the people, nominate not more than two members of that community to the House of the People.
- Art 333: The Governor of a State may, if he is of opinion that the Anglo Indian community needs representation in the Legislative Assembly of the State and is not adequately represented therein, nominate one member of that community to the Assembly.
- Art 334(b): Representation of Anglo-Indian community in the House of the People and in the Legislative Assemblies of the States by nomination shall cease to have effect on the expiration of a period of 70 years from the commencement of this constitution.
- According to the 10th schedule of the Constitution, Anglo-Indian members of Lok Sabha and State Assemblies can take the membership of any party within 6 months of their nomination. But, once they do so, they are bound by their party whip. The Anglo-Indian members enjoy the

same powers as others, but they cannot vote in the Presidential election because they are nominated by the President.