



CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF INDIA (CBCI)

CBCI Centre, 1 Ashok Place, Near Gole Dakhana, New Delhi - 110 001 India

Tel : +91 11 2334 4470 Mob.: 987 114 7838

Ref: CBCI/PR/26-15

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CBCI EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN OVER FCRA AMENDMENT BILL

New Delhi, March 26, 2026: The Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) expresses grave concern over the Foreign Contribution Regulation Amendment Bill (FCRA Amendment) introduced in the Lok Sabha, terming it dangerous and alarming in its implications.

Under the pretext of license renewal, the proposed amendment risks enabling executive overreach into the constitutionally guaranteed freedoms of minorities. It raises serious concerns about undue interference in the functioning of minority institutions and civil society organizations.

The CBCI strongly objects to provisions that empower the Central Government—being the licensing authority—to deny renewal or cancel licenses and subsequently, through a newly proposed authority, assume control over the institutions, funds, properties, and assets of minority organizations and NGOs. Such measures are unacceptable and raise serious concerns regarding fairness, transparency, and accountability.

The Conference also questions the intent behind the unilateral introduction of the bill in Parliament, despite protests from opposition Members of Parliament, and calls for wider consultation and deliberation on matters affecting fundamental rights.

The attempt to bring minority institutions under an excessively stringent regulatory framework is viewed with deep concern, as it undermines democratic principles. Provisions enabling the Centre to take control of the foreign funds and assets of NGOs upon the expiry of their FCRA registration are undemocratic, unconstitutional, and contrary to the principles of natural justice.

In light of these concerns, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) urges the Government of India to reconsider the proposed amendments and to remove all contentious provisions from the bill, ensuring that the constitutional rights and freedoms of all citizens, especially minorities, are fully protected.

For further information, please contact:

Fr. Robinson Rodrigues

PRO, CBCI

Phone: +91-8130905028

Email: procpci1@gmail.com