



# Supreme Court refuses to stay amendments to SC/ST Act

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## Highlights

- **The Supreme Court on Friday refused to stay the recent amendments to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.**
- The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Bill, 2018, restored the legislative intent of the original Act, which barred anticipatory bail to a person accused of insulting or hurting a Dalit.
- **The amendments were meant to nullify the effect of the March 20 judgment of the court that removed the bar on accused persons seeking anticipatory bail.**
- The ruling led to widespread protests and loss of lives.
- Admitting the petitions challenging the amendments, a Bench led by Justice A.K. Sikri directed the government to reply to the allegations that the amendments were meant to appease the Dalits ahead of the 2019 general election.

[The Hindu](#)

