

## Vande Mataram Bill in Rajya Sabha

*Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Government policies and interventions*

### Why in News?

- Rajya Sabha has passed the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026.
- The bill will further amend the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
- The proposed legislation seeks to give Vande Mataram the same statutory protection as the national anthem, Jana Gana Mana.
- These offences are punishable with imprisonment up to three years, a fine, or both.
- The Bill also mandates that all six stanzas of Vande Mataram be sung.
- The proposal comes after the Union Home Ministry directed states to play or sing the national song at official functions, particularly those where the national anthem is performed.
- When the national song and the national anthem are sung or played, the national song will be sung or played first.
- The National Song Vande Mataram was composed in 1875 by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay.
- In 1937, when Jawaharlal Nehru became the President of the Congress, he limited Vande Mataram to only two stanzas.
- On the other hand, in 1928, when Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was Congress President, he requested Timir Baran Banerjee to prepare a complete and dignified musical version of the song.
- On 15<sup>th</sup> August 1947, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel had asked Pandit Omkarnath Thakur to render the complete Vande Mataram on All India Radio at 6:30 in the morning, marking the beginning of the first Independence Day.
- On 24<sup>th</sup> January 1950, Dr. Rajendra Prasad stated in the Constituent Assembly that Vande Mataram would be accorded the same respect as Jana Gana Mana.

## Reference

[India Today | National Honour \(Amendment\) Bill, 2026](#)

