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Title: Need to review and amend Article 370 of the Constitution of India.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD (DARBHANGA): It has been enshrined in the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir that it is an integral part of India however vested interests have steadily tried to alienate the State using article 370. This article is an additional legislative mechanism that was badly conceived and has become irrelevant over the course of time. It has allowed State apathy to prevail with respect to status and empowerment of SC/ST/OBC/women. The State has also relegated certain citizens of India residing in Jammu and Kashmir to the status of refugee. By doing this the State has washed its hands off the responsibility of welfare of these individuals. A glaring example of State's blatant disregard of establishing an equitable society is its own citizenship law which overrides the laws of Indian Parliament. According to this law, a female subject married to an Indian not from the State of Jammu and Kashmir loses her right to inherit property in the State however, a male subject is free to marry anyone from any part of India or the world and be assured of his right to inherit property of his forefathers. This is not only in violation of basic human rights but also the U.N. Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women that India has signed and ratified.

Article 370 has contributed to the alienation of State from the India and fanned separatist sentiments. Therefore, it is doing more harm than good to the people of the State and India at large.