## India enacts citizenship law criticised as 'discriminatory' to Muslims

## Controversial rules grant Indian nationality to refugees who are Hindu, Christian, Parsi, Jain or Buddhist, but not Muslim

India's interior ministry has said it was enacting a citizenship law that critics say discriminates against Muslims, just weeks before the world's most populous country heads into a general election.

While the law was passed in December 2019, its implementation was delayed after widespread protests and deadly violence erupted in which more than 100 people were reported to have been killed.

The law grants Indian nationality to Hindus, Parsis, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains and Christians who entered India from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh before December 2014 – but not if they are Muslim.

Late on Monday, the ministry of home affairs said the rules would now come into force.

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Source: https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/mar/11/india-enacts-citizenship-law-crit icised-as-discriminatory-to-muslims

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