WEST BENGAL · UCC CITIZEN CONSULTATION

Complete questionnaire and response categories · For information before submission

Part A · Objective Response

1. Do you support the implementation of a UCC in the State of West Bengal at this point in time?
Yes · No · No comment

2. Do you believe that a UCC can be implemented without infringing the right to freedom of religion?
Yes · No · No comment

3. Do you believe that implementation of a UCC will promote gender equality and social justice?
Yes · No · No comment

4. Do you think the implementation of a UCC will help in reducing legal disputes and making legal processes more efficient?
Yes · No · No comment

5. Should there be a common system for registration and maintenance of records relating to marriages, divorces and live-in relationships and other matters covered by the UCC?
Yes · No · No comment

6. What should be the minimum age of marriage?
Male / female: age in years (1 to 149)

7. Should there be a standard list of relationships within which marriage is prohibited?
Yes · No · No comment

8. Should a person be prohibited from contracting another marriage during the subsistence of an existing marriage?
Yes · No · No comment

9. Should there be uniform provisions governing the grounds and consequences of void and voidable marriages?
Yes · No · No comment

10. Should the UCC preserve customary practices including religious ceremonies and rituals such as the way marriages are solemnised?
Yes · No · No comment

11. Should there be common grounds and procedure for divorce applicable uniformly to all communities?
Yes · No · No comment

12. Should the grounds for divorce be the same for both sexes?
Yes · No · No comment

13. Should the UCC prohibit extra-judicial divorce?
Yes · No · No comment

14. Should registration of divorce and nullity of marriage be made compulsory?
Yes · No · No comment

15. Should imposing any condition on remarrying a divorced spouse, such as marrying a third person before such remarriage, be prohibited?
Yes · No · No comment

16. Should the UCC contain uniform, gender-neutral provisions to deal with claims for maintenance arising from matrimonial disputes?
Yes · No · No comment

17. Should there be a uniform law for the maintenance of dependent children irrespective of the religion of the parents?
Yes · No · No comment

18. Should there be a uniform law requiring financially capable adult children to maintain their dependent parents?
Yes · No · No comment

19. Should the welfare and best interests of the child be the paramount consideration in matters relating to custody?
Yes · No · No comment

20. Should all children, irrespective of the marital status of their parents, have equal rights in matters of succession?
Yes · No · No comment

21. Should there be uniform provisions governing intestate succession, i.e., succession where a person dies without leaving a valid will, irrespective of the religion of the parties?
Yes · No · No comment

22. Should there be uniform provisions governing testamentary succession and Wills, irrespective of religion?
Yes · No · No comment

23. Should men and women have equal rights of inheritance across all communities?
Yes · No · No comment

24. Should a person have the freedom to dispose of his or her entire property through a Will?
Yes · No · No comment

25. Are provisions relating to solving marital disputes in the existing legal framework so cumbersome and time consuming that potential spouses are being driven to prefer live-in relationship over marriage?
Yes · No · No comment

26. Should the UCC contain provisions regulating live-in relationships with a view to ensuring the protection of men and women in such relationships?
Yes · No · No comment

27. Should there be mandatory registration of live-in relationships?
Yes · No · No comment

28. Should there be mandatory registration of termination of live-in relationships?
Yes · No · No comment

29. Should UCC include provisions to protect the rights of women in live-in relationships, such as inheritance rights and maintenance in certain circumstances like desertion?
Yes · No · No comment

30. Should children born from live-in relationships have inheritance rights?
Yes · No · No comment

31. Should children born from live-in relationships have the right to be cared and maintained by their parents?
Yes · No · No comment

Part B · Descriptive Response

32. What areas do you think should be covered under the UCC?
Free text · Maximum 150 words.

33. What problems do people face while dealing with personal civil matters such as registration of marriage, getting a decree for divorce, claiming inheritance rights (with or without a Will) etc. Do you have suggestions for improving the present state of affairs?
Free text · Maximum 150 words.

34. Are there facets of family laws that are biased against women? Please give examples. Do you approve of them? If not, suggest ways to remove such biases.
Free text · Maximum 150 words.

35. Do you believe that the scheme of succession pertaining to agricultural land and ancestral home should be different from the scheme for other types of properties? If yes, why and how should the scheme be different?
Free text · Maximum 150 words.

36. Do you believe that children should get identical maintenance and inheritance rights from their parents whether they are born of a valid marriage or not? Give reasons for your answer.
Free text · Maximum 150 words.

37. Which portions of present-day family laws need to be discarded or modified to ensure that the law in question is just and equitable? Please share your suggestions regarding the provisions to be made in the UCC for building a better, harmonious and futuristic West Bengal?
Free text · Maximum 150 words.

Part C · General Overview

General View
Maximum 250 words.