The Supreme Court on Wednesday refused to stay the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act of 2018 which nullified a controversial March 20 judgment diluting the stringent provisions of the Dalit protection law.

A Bench led by Justice U.U. Lalit posted the petitions for hearing on February 19. The government brought in the amendments as the Scheduled communities faced the same social stigma, poverty and humiliation which they had been subjected to for centuries.