

Two-child policy: U.P. law panel submits draft Bill

'8,200 of 8,500 suggestions received back the legislation'

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW

After reviewing over 8,000 suggestions from the public, the Uttar Pradesh State Law Commission on Monday submitted a report and the draft Bill of a new population control law proposing two-child policy to the State government.

Panel chairperson Justice Aditya Nath Mittal said the report and the draft Bill of the **Uttar Pradesh Population (Control, Stabilisation and Welfare) Bill, 2021** were submitted to the Chief Minister.

The commission last month uploaded the draft on its website and invited suggestions from people. The report said 8,200 of the 8,500 suggestions were in support of the Bill. The commission adopted the suggestion that special facilities ex-



CM Yogi Adityanath at an all-party meeting ahead of the monsoon session of the U.P. Assembly on Monday. ■PTI

tended to BPL (below poverty line) families who have only one child and undertake voluntary sterilisation would be extended to all couples irrespective of the category.

It, however, rejected suggestions that the right to vote of persons having more than two children be curtailed and that they also be barred from the benefit of reservation. "Right to vote is

a constitutional and fundamental right. Therefore, the State government has no competence to make such law," the report said.

A person who has more than two children after the law comes into force would be debarred from welfare schemes. The person will be barred from contesting elections to local authority or any body of the local self-government, the draft Bill says.