

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

Bill No. 6-PLA-2016

THE INDIAN PENAL CODE (PUNJAB AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016

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BILL

further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860, in its application to the State of Punjab.

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Punjab in the Sixty-Seventh year of the Republic of India, as follows :—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Indian Penal Code (Punjab Amendment) Act, 2016. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. In the Indian Penal Code, 1860, (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 295, for the words, “two years”, the words “ten years” shall be substituted. Amendment of Section 295 of Central Act 45 of 1860.

3. In the principal Act, after section 295-A, the following section shall be inserted, namely :— Insertion of new Section 295-AA in Central Act 45 of 1860.

“295-AA Whoever causes injury, damage or sacrilege to Sri Guru Granth Sahib with the intention to hurt the religious feelings of the people, shall be punished with imprisonment for life.”.

Injuring, causing any damage or sacrilege to Sri Guru Granth Sahib.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

In the recent past, some incidents of disrespect to Sri Guru Granth Sahib have happened in different parts of the State. There is an urgent need to curb these incidents to maintain communal harmony and brotherhood in the society, otherwise there would be serious law and order problem in the State. The existing provisions in the Indian Penal Code, 1860 are not sufficient to deal with such situations. Therefore, it is necessary in the public interest to make stringent provisions in the law. Hence Section 295 and 295 AA of Indian Penal Code, 1860 in so far as these are applicable to the State of Punjab, are therefore, proposed to be amended, accordingly.

SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL,
Deputy Chief Minister, Punjab.

CHANDIGARH :
The 12th March, 2016

SHASHI LAKHANPAL MISHRA,
Secretary.

N.B.— The above Bill was published in the *Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary)*, dated the 14th March, 2016 under the proviso to rule 121 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).