

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

Bill No. 7-PLA-2016

THE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (PUNJAB AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2016

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BILL

further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, 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 Code of Criminal Procedure (Punjab Amendment) Act, 2016. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. In the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in the First Schedule, under the heading captioned as “Chapter XV—offences relating to religion”, for the entries against section 295, the following shall be substituted, namely :— Amendment in first schedule appended to Central Act 2 of 1974.

“295	Destroying, damaging or defiling a place of worship or sacred object with intent to insult the religion of any class of persons.	Imprisonment for 10 years or fine or both.	Cognizable Non-bailable	Magistrate of the First Class.”.
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Insertion of new
section 295-AA
in schedule
appended to
Central Act 2 of
1974.

3. In the principal Act, in the First Schedule, under the heading captioned as "Chapter XV—offences relating to religion", after section 295-A, the following section shall be inserted namely :—

"295-AA	Injuring, causing any damage or sacrilege to Sri Guru Granth Sahib with the intention to hurt the religious feelings of the people.	Imprisonment for life	Cognizable	Non- bailable	Court of Session."
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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. Amendment in the existing provisions in the Indian Penal Code, 1860 is being carried out which necessitates the consequential amendments in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. Hence Schedule-1 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 in so far as this is applicable to the State of Punjab is 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).