

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

Bill No. 25-PLA-2018

THE INDIAN PENAL CODE (PUNJAB AMENDMENT)  
BILL, 2018

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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-ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows :—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Indian Penal Code (Punjab Amendment) Act, 2018.

Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force on and with effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Indian Penal Code, 1860, in its application to the State of Punjab, (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 Section 295-AA in Central Act 45 of 1860.

“295-AA. Whoever causes injury, damage or sacrilege to Sri Injuring, causing any damage of sacrilege to Sri Guru Granth Sahib, Srimad Bhagwat Geeta, Holy Quran and Holy Bible with the intention to hurt the religious feelings of the people, shall be punished with imprisonment for life.”.

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

In the recent past there have been attempts to disturb peace and communal harmony in the State by committing sacrilege of Sri Guru Granth Sahib ji, Srimad Bhagwat Gita and holy Quran. Government is determined not to allow such incidents and ensure deterrent action against all those who commit such sacrilege. The proposed 'The Indian Penal Code (Punjab Amendment) Bill, 2018' aim to achieve this objective by providing punishment of life imprisonment for such acts of sacrileges. This Bill will replace the Bill namely 'The Indian Penal Code (Punjab Amendment) Bill, 2016' passed by the Punjab State Legislative Assembly earlier.

AMARINDER SINGH,  
Chief Minister, Punjab.

CHANDIGARH :  
The 27th August, 2018.

SHASHI LAKHANPAL MISHRA,  
Secretary.

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*N.B.*— The above Bill was published in the *Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary)*, dated the 27th August, 2018 under the proviso to rule 121 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).