

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

Bill No. 30-PLA-2018

THE PUNJAB GOOD CONDUCT PRISONERS (TEMPORARY RELEASE)
AMENDMENT BILL, 2018

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BILL

further to amend the Punjab Good Conduct Prisoners (Temporary Release) Act, 1962.

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 Punjab Good Conduct Prisoners (Temporary Release) 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 Punjab Good Conduct Prisoners (Temporary Release) Act, 1962, in section 3,—

Amendment of section 3 of Punjab Act 11 of 1962.

(i) in sub-section (2), in clause (b), for the words “six weeks”, the words “eight weeks” shall be substituted ; and

(ii) for sub-section (2-A) the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely :-

“(2-A) The total period of temporary release of the prisoner, excluding the release availed of,—

(i) on the death of a family member of the prisoner; or

(ii) by a female prisoner on account of delivery of child, as the case may be,

shall not exceed sixteen weeks, during a calendar year and shall be availed of on quarterly basis :

Provided that a prisoner, may avail such release for a continuous period of sixteen weeks, during the period falling between the 23rd day of November, 2018 to the 23rd day of November, 2019, as a onetime measure on *pro rata* basis, however, subject to the other provisions of the Act :

Provided further that any prisoner, who is on temporary release for a specified period and wants to surrender before the expiry of his temporary release period, he shall be allowed to do so."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

At present the Punjab Good Conduct Prisoners (Temporary Release) Act, 1962 is applicable in the State of Punjab. Being a historic occasion, Government of Punjab has decided to celebrate the 550th birth anniversary of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji from 23rd November, 2018 to 23rd November, 2019. It is felt that prisoners with good conduct may be given parole a little more liberally during this period. Further, for the welfare of prisoners with Good Conduct in the Jails, they should be given more parole holidays extending up to 16 weeks instead of existing 12 weeks and on this historic occasion prisoners may avail 16 weeks parole in one go also, as a one time measure. To achieve this, there is need to amend sub-section 2 of Section 3 of Punjab Good Conduct Prisoners (Temporary Release) Act. Hence, this bill.

SUKHJINDER SINGH RANDHAWA,
Minister for Jail Punjab.

CHANDIGARH :
The 13th December, 2018.

SHASHI LAKHANPAL MISHRA,
Secretary.

N.B.—The above Bill was published in the *Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary)*, dated the 13th December, 2018 under the proviso to rule 121 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).