



सत्यमेव जयते

महाराष्ट्र शासन राजपत्र

असाधारण भाग पाच-अ

वर्ष १२, अंक १५ (२)]

बुधवार, मार्च २५, २०२६/चैत्र ४, शके १९४८

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असाधारण क्रमांक २६

प्राधिकृत प्रकाशन

महाराष्ट्र विधानसभेत व महाराष्ट्र विधानपरिषदेत सादर केलेली विधेयके (इंग्रजी अनुवाद).

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATURE SECRETARIAT

The following Bill was introduced in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly on the **25th March, 2026** is published under Rule 117 of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly Rules :—

L.A. BILL No. XXX OF 2026.

A BILL

to amend the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, in its application to the State of Maharashtra.

45 of 2023. WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, in its application to the State of Maharashtra, for the purposes hereinafter appearing ; it is hereby enacted in the Seventy-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows :-

1. This Act may be called the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (Maharashtra Short title. Amendment) Act, 2026.

45 of 2023. 2. In section 72 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, in its application to the State of Maharashtra (hereinafter referred to as "the said Sanhita"), in sub-section (1), after the word and figures "section 71" the words and figures "or section 124" shall be inserted. Amendment of section 72 of 45 of 2023.

Amendment
of section 75
of 45 of 2023.

3. In section 75 of the said Sanhita,—

(1) in sub-section (1),—

(i) in clause (iv), after the word “remarks,” the word “or” shall be inserted;

(ii) after clause (iv), the following clauses shall be added, namely :—

“(v) offensive communication by telephone, email, social media platform or through any other electronic or digital mode of communication in a manner which is of lascivious or lewd nature; or

(vi) threat to upload or disseminates any photograph, sound or video file including a real or fabricated depiction of any part of the body of woman including the involvement of that woman in any consensual or non-consensual sexual act through electronic or any other form of media; or

(vii) use of social electronic media or any other media in any form to defame or cause disrepute to woman; or

(viii) use of woman’s name, particulars, photographs or any other means of identification to directly or indirectly outrage her modesty or violate her privacy;”;

(2) in sub-section (2), after the word, figure and brackets “clause (iii)” the following words, figures and brackets “or clause (v) or clause (vi) or clause (vii) or clause (viii)” shall be inserted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

In the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (45 of 2023), in Chapter V sections 63 to 99 provides for offences against women and child and punishment therefor. The Government of Maharashtra considers it expedient to amend certain sections of the said Sanhita, in its application to the State of Maharashtra, for protection and safety of women in the State.

2. The proposed amendments to the said Sanhita are as follows:—

(i) Section 72 of the said Sanhita provides for offences of disclosure of identity of victim of certain sexual offences and punishment therefor. Section 124 of the said Sanhita provides punishment for the offence of voluntary causing grievous hurt by use of acid, which is not included in section 72. The Government of Maharashtra, therefore, considers it expedient to provide punishment for disclosure of identity of the victim of acid attack by amending the said section 72, suitably.

(ii) Section 75 of the said Sanhita describes various acts which constitutes offences of sexual harassment. The acts of sexual harassment by use of email, social media platform or through any other electronic or digital mode such as offensive communication, threat to upload or disseminates any photograph, sound or video file, etc., are not covered in the said section 75. The Government of Maharashtra considers it expedient to include such acts of sexual harassment and to provide punishment therefor by amending section 75 of the said Sanhita, suitably.

3. These amendments were proposed by the SHAKTI Criminal Laws (Maharashtra Amendment) Bill, 2020 (L. A. Bill No. LI of 2020) to the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (45 of 1860) which is repealed by the said Sanhita. As the above referred provisions are not contained in the said Sanhita, therefore, these amendments are proposed.

4. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

Mumbai,
Dated the 24th March, 2026.

DEVENDRA FADNAVIS,
Chief Minister.

Vidhan Bhavan :
Mumbai,
Dated 25th March 2026.

JITENDRA BHOLE,
Secretary-1,
Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.