



TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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Part IV—Section 1

Tamil Nadu Bills

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Under Rule 130 of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rules, the following Bill which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Tamil Nadu on 15th September, 2020 is published together with Statement of Objects and Reasons for general information:—

L.A. Bill No. 25 of 2020

A Bill further to amend the Tamil Nadu Public Health Act, 1939.

BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Tamil Nadu in the Seventy-first Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Tamil Nadu Public Health (Amendment) Act, 2020. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 25th day of April 2020.

Tamil Nadu Act III of 1939.

2. In section 74 of the Tamil Nadu Public Health Act, 1939, the following subsection shall be added, namely:- Amendment of section 74.

“(6) Any person who, either by himself or as a member of a group, obstructs or prevents or attempts to obstruct or prevent the cremation or burial of the body of any person who has died while suffering from a notified disease shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one year but which may extend to three years and with fine.”

Tamil Nadu Ordinance 1 of 2020 .

3. (1) The Tamil Nadu Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 is hereby repealed. Repeal and Saving

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the Tamil Nadu Public Health Act, 1939, as amended by the said Ordinance, shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the said Act, as amended by this Act.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Certain incidents of public obstructing the burial or cremation of deceased persons who had died due to COVID-19 had been brought to the notice of the Government. Such acts cause indignity to the human corpse, which is highly condemnable. The Government therefore decided to make such acts a punishable offence and to amend the Tamil Nadu Public Health Act, 1939 (Tamil Nadu Act III of 1939) for the purpose. Accordingly, the Tamil Nadu Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 (Tamil Nadu Ordinance 1 of 2020) was promulgated by the Governor on the 25th April 2020 and the same was published in the *Tamil Nadu Government Gazette*, Extraordinary, dated the 25th April 2020.

2. The Bill seeks to replace the above said Ordinance.

DR. C. VIJAYABASKAR,
Minister for Health and Family Welfare.

Chennai,
15th September 2020.

K. SRINIVASAN,
Secretary.