

Under Rule 130 of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rules, the following Bill which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly of the Tamil Nadu on 7th May, 2022 is published together with Statement of Objects and Reasons for general information:-

L.A Bill No. 31 of 2022

A Bill further to amend the Tamil University Act, 1982.

BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Tamil Nadu in the seventy-third year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Tamil University (Amendment) Act, 2022. Short title and commencement.
- (2) It shall come into force at once.
2. In section 6 of the Tamil University Act, 1982, (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in sub - section (1), in clause (a) the expression "deaf-mute or suffering from leprosy" shall be omitted. Amendment of section 6.
3. In section 39 of the principal Act, in sub-section (2), the expression "or deaf-mute or suffers from leprosy" shall be omitted. Amendment of section 39.

Tamil Nadu Act 9 of 1982.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Tamil University Act, 1982 (Tamil Nadu Act 9 of 1982) disqualifies any person who is deaf-mute or suffering from leprosy, for election or nomination as a member of any of the authorities of that University. Further, the said Act also enables the Syndicate of the University to remove any person from the membership of any authorities of the University, if he becomes deaf-mute or suffers from leprosy.

2. The Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission has stated that one of the major recommendation of the Advisory issued by the Commission is to amend thirteen (13) legislations of the State of Tamil Nadu which discriminate leprosy affected persons and these laws violate the Human Rights and requested to amend the said Laws suitably. The said Tamil University Act, 1982 is one among the said thirteen State legislations.

3. According to section 3 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (Central Act 49 of 2016), the Government shall ensure that the persons with disabilities enjoy the right of equality, life with dignity and respect for his or her integrity equally with others and no person with disability shall be discriminated on the ground of disability, unless it is shown that the impugned act or omission is a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim.

4. The Government have therefore decided to amend the said Tamil University Act, 1982 suitably, so as to omit the aforesaid disqualifications for being elected or nominated as a member of any of the authorities of the University.

5. The Bill seeks to give effect to the above decision.

THANGAM THENNARASU,
Minister for Industries.

Secretariat,
Chennai-600 009,
7th May 2022.

K. SRINIVASAN,
Secretary.