

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 18th October, 2022 is published together with Statement of Objects and Reasons for general information:-

**L.A Bill No. 49 of 2022**

**A Bill further to amend the Tamil Nadu Universities Laws.**

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:—

**PART-I.**

PRELIMINARY.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Tamil Nadu Universities Laws (Third Amendment) Act, 2022. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

**PART-II.**

AMENDMENTS TO THE MADURAI-KAMARAJ UNIVERSITY ACT, 1965.

Tamil Nadu Act  
33 of 1965.

2. In section 6 of the Madurai-Kamaraj University Act, 1965 (hereafter in this Part referred to as the 1965 Act), in sub-section (1), in clause (a), the expression “a deaf-mute or suffering from leprosy” shall be omitted. Amendment of section 6.

3. In section 43 of the 1965 Act, in sub-section (2), the expression “or deaf-mute or suffers from leprosy” shall be omitted. Amendment of section 43.

**PART-III.**

AMENDMENTS TO THE BHARATHIAR UNIVERSITY ACT, 1981.

Tamil Nadu Act  
1 of 1982.

4. In section 6 of the Bharathiar University Act, 1981 (hereafter in this Part referred to as Tamil Nadu Act 1 of 1982), in sub-section (1), in clause (a), the expression “a deaf-mute or suffering from leprosy” shall be omitted. Amendment of section 6.

5. In section 49 of Tamil Nadu Act 1 of 1982, in sub-section (2), the expression “or deaf-mute or suffers from leprosy” shall be omitted. Amendment of section 49.

**PAR-IV.**

AMENDMENTS TO THE BHARATHIDASAN UNIVERSITY ACT, 1981.

Tamil Nadu Act  
2 of 1982.

6. In section 6 of the Bharathidasan University Act, 1981(hereafter in this Part referred to as Tamil Nadu Act 2 of 1982), in sub-section (1), in clause (a), the expression “a deaf-mute or suffering from leprosy” shall be omitted. Amendment of section 6.

7. In section 49 of Tamil Nadu Act 2 of 1982, in sub-section (2), the expression “or deaf-mute or suffers from leprosy” shall be omitted. Amendment of section 49.

**PART-V.**

## AMENDMENTS TO THE MOTHER TERESA WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY ACT, 1984.

- |                          |  |                            |
|--------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Amendment of section 6.  | 8. In section 6 of the Mother Teresa Women's University Act, 1984 (hereafter in this Part referred to as the 1984 Act), in sub-section (1), in clause (a), the expression "or deaf-mute or suffering from leprosy" shall be omitted. | Tamil Nadu Act 15 of 1984. |
| Amendment of section 41. | 9. In section 41 of the 1984 Act, in sub-section (2), the expression "or deaf-mute or suffers from leprosy" shall be omitted.  |                            |

**PART-VI.**

## AMENDMENTS TO THE ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY ACT, 1985.

- |                          |   |                            |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Amendment of section 7.  | 10. In section 7 of the Alagappa University Act, 1985 (hereafter in this Part referred to as the 1985 Act), in sub-section (1), in clause (a), the expression "a deaf-mute or suffering from leprosy" shall be omitted. | Tamil Nadu Act 23 of 1985. |
| Amendment of section 55. | 11. In section 55 of the 1985 Act, in sub-section (2), the expression "or deaf-mute or suffers from leprosy" shall be omitted.  |                            |

**PART-VII.**

## AMENDMENTS TO THE MANONMANIAM SUNDARANAR UNIVERSITY ACT, 1990.

- |                          |  |                            |
|--------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Amendment of section 6.  | 12. In section 6 of the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University Act, 1990 (hereafter in this Part referred to as the 1990 Act), in sub-section (1), in clause (a), the expression "or a deaf-mute" shall be omitted. | Tamil Nadu Act 31 of 1990. |
| Amendment of section 49. | 13. In section 49 of the 1990 Act, in sub-section (2), the expression "or deaf-mute" shall be omitted.   |                            |

**PART-VIII.**

## AMENDMENTS TO THE PERIYAR UNIVERSITY ACT, 1997.

- |                          |   |                            |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Amendment of section 6.  | 14. In section 6 of the Periyar University Act, 1997 (hereafter in this Part referred to as the 1997 Act), in sub-section (1), in clause (a), the expression "or a deaf-mute" shall be omitted. | Tamil Nadu Act 45 of 1997. |
| Amendment of section 50. | 15. In section 50 of the 1997 Act, in sub-section (2), the expression "or deaf-mute" shall be omitted.  |                            |

**PART-IX.**

## AMENDMENTS TO THE TAMIL NADU OPEN UNIVERSITY ACT, 2002.

- |                          |   |                            |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Amendment of section 18. | 16. In section 18 of the Tamil Nadu Open University Act, 2002 (hereafter in this Part referred to as Tamil Nadu Act 27 of 2002), in sub-section (1), in clause (a), the expression "or a deaf-mute" shall be omitted. | Tamil Nadu Act 27 of 2002. |
| Amendment of section 50. | 17. In section 50 of Tamil Nadu Act 27 of 2002, in sub-section (2), the expression "or deaf- mute" shall be omitted.  |                            |

**PART-X.**

## AMENDMENTS TO THE THIRUVALLUVAR UNIVERSITY ACT, 2002.

Tamil Nadu Act 32 of 2002.	18. In section 6 of the Thiruvalluvar University Act, 2002 (hereafter in this Part referred to as Tamil Nadu Act 32 of 2002), in sub-section (1), in clause (a), the expression "or a deaf-mute" shall be omitted.	Amendment of section 6.
	19. In section 49 of Tamil Nadu Act 32 of 2002, in sub-section (2), the expression "or deaf- mute" shall be omitted.	Amendment of section 49.

**PART-XI.**AMENDMENTS TO THE TAMIL NADU TEACHERS EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITY ACT, 2008.

Tamil Nadu Act 33 of 2008.	20. In section 17 of the Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University Act, 2008 (hereafter in this Part referred to as the 2008 Act), in sub-section (1), in clause (a), the expression "or a deaf- mute" shall be omitted.	Amendment of section 17.
	21. In section 47 of the 2008 Act, in sub-section (2), the expression "or deaf-mute" shall be omitted.	Amendment of section 47.

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.**

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi has requested to amend the laws which discriminate against persons affected by leprosy. The Leprosy Mission Trust India, New Delhi has also made a similar request to the Government.

2. Further, 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.

3. The below mentioned University Laws disqualify any person who is deaf-mute or suffering from leprosy for election or nomination as a member of any of the authorities of the Universities. Further, the said Acts also enable the Syndicate or the Senate or the Executive Council of those Universities, as the case may be, to remove any person from the membership of any authorities of the Universities, if he becomes deaf-mute or suffers from leprosy:-

- (i) The Madurai-Kamaraj University Act, 1965 (Tamil Nadu Act 33 of 1965);
- (ii) The Bharathiar University Act, 1981 (Tamil Nadu Act 1 of 1982);
- (iii) The Bharathidasan University Act, 1981 (Tamil Nadu Act 2 of 1982);
- (iv) The Mother Teresa Women's University Act, 1984 (Tamil Nadu Act 15 of 1984);
- (v) The Alagappa University Act, 1985 (Tamil Nadu Act 23 of 1985);
- (vi) The Manonmaniam Sundaranar University Act, 1990 (Tamil Nadu Act 31 of 1990);
- (vii) The Periyar University Act, 1997 (Tamil Nadu Act 45 of 1997);
- (viii) The Tamil Nadu Open University Act, 2002 (Tamil Nadu Act 27 of 2002);
- (ix) The Thiruvalluvar University Act, 2002 (Tamil Nadu Act 32 of 2002); and
- (x) The Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University Act, 2008 (Tamil Nadu Act 33 of 2008).

4. The Government have, therefore, decided to amend the aforesaid Acts suitably so as to omit the aforesaid disqualifications for being elected or nominated as a member of any of the authorities of the Universities.

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

**DR. K. PONMUDY,**  
*Minister for Higher Education.*

Secretariat,  
Chennai-600 009,  
18th October 2022.

K. SRINIVASAN,  
*Secretary.*