

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 24th January, 2026 is published together with Statement of Objects and Reasons for general information:-

L.A.Bill No. 9 of 2026

**A Bill further to amend the
Tamil Nadu Prevention of Begging Act, 1945**

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Begging (Amendment) Act, 2026. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

Tamil Nadu Act XIII
of 1945.

2. In section 4 of the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Begging Act, 1945 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), the expression “and the provisions of sections 10-A, 12-A and 23 shall apply if the State Government have notified any leper asylum appointed under section 3 of the Lepers Act, 1898 (Central Act III of 1898) as a special home under clause (2) of section 2” at the end shall be omitted. Amendment of section 4.

3. In section 6 of the principal Act, the expression “or section 12-A ” shall be omitted. Amendment of section 6.

4. In section 10 of the principal Act, the expression “other than a person who is a leper” shall be omitted. Amendment of section 10.

5. Section 10-A of the principal Act shall be omitted. Omission of section 10-A.

6. In section 11 of the principal Act, for the expression section 8,9,10 or 10-A, the expression “section 8,9 or 10” shall be substituted. Amendment of section 11.

7. Section 12-A of the principal Act shall be omitted. Omission of section 12-A.

8. In section 15 of the principal Act, in the proviso to sub-section (2), the expression “a contagious leper or” shall be omitted. Amendment of section 15.

9. In section 23 of the principal Act,— Amendment of section 23.

(1) in the marginal heading, the expression “lepers and” shall be omitted.

(2) in sub-section (2),—

(a) clause (a) shall be omitted;

(b) in clause (b), the expression “other than leprosy” shall be omitted.

(3) in sub-section (3),—

(a) the expression “a contagious leper or”, occurring in two places, shall be omitted;

(b) clause (i) shall be omitted.

(4) in sub-section (4), the expressions “the Lepers Act, 1898 (Central Act III of 1898) or”, “leper asylum appointed under section 3 of the Lepers Act, 1898 (Central Act III of 1898) or any”, “the Superintendent of such leper asylum or”, “under section 10-A or section 12-A or” and the expression “as the case may be” occurring in two places, shall be omitted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 07.05.2025 in W.P(Civil) No.83 of 2010 has directed to constitute a Committee to identify all the State laws, pre or post Constitution where the discriminating expressions in respect of the leprosy affected or cured persons are still part of the Statute book including the subordinate legislations and also directed that the Committee to make recommendations to the State Government for suitable amendments therein.

2. It is identified that some of the provisions of the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Begging Act, 1945 (Tamil Nadu Act XIII of 1945) are discriminating the leprosy affected or cured persons. In compliance of the above order of the Supreme Court of India, the Government have decided to omit such discriminatory provisions of the said Tamil Nadu Act XIII of 1945.

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

P. GEETHA JEEVAN,

Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment.

Secretariat,
Chennai,
24th January 2026.

K. SRINIVASAN,
Principal Secretary.