

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

BILL NO. 31-PLA-2021

THE PUNJAB OFFICIAL LANGUAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2021

A

BILL

further to amend the Punjab Official Language Act, 1967.

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Punjab in the Seventy-second Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

Short title and commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab Official Language (Amendment) Act, 2021.

(2) It shall come into force on and with effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Amendment in section 8-D of Punjab Act 5 of 1967

2. In the Punjab Official Language Act, 1967, in section 8-D, after sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be added, namely:-

"(3) If any officer or official violates the provisions of this Act or the notification issued thereunder, the Director, Languages finds this prima facie case and upon issuance of show cause notice, if the reply filed by the officer or official is not satisfactory, then he shall be liable to fine of rupees five hundred for the first time and if he finds guilty for the second time, he shall be liable to fine upto rupees two thousand and if he finds guilty for the third time, he shall be liable for fine upto rupees five thousand. Such fine shall be recovered by the concerned Drawing and Disbursing Officer from the salary of the concerned officer or official:

Provided that before recovering such fine, the concerned officer or official, shall be given an opportunity of being heard."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

To strictly deal with the Officers/Employees of all Government / Semi-Government Offices, Boards, Corporations, Schools, Colleges and Universities in the State of Punjab who do not do their official work in State language Punjabi it is required to include Section 8 (D) (3) after section 8 (D) of The Punjab Official Language (Amendment) Act, 2008 in order to impose a fine of up to Rs. 500 to Rs. 5000.

To make this possible, a bill namely " The Punjab Official Language (Amendment) bill, 2021" is being introduced in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha for its approval.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Section 8 (D) (3) of The Punjab Official Language (Amendment) Bill, 2021 provides Director, Language, Department Punjab the power to make recommendations to impose fine of Rs. 500 to Rs. 5000 on all the officers / employees of Government / Semi-Government Offices, Boards, Corporations, Schools, Colleges and Universities who do not conduct official work in the State language Punjabi but only after giving show cause notice and opportunity of hearing to the concerned officer/employees and the reply is not found satisfactory.

PARGAT SINGH,
HIGHER EDUCATION & LANGUAGES MINISTER,
PUNJAB.

CHANDIGARH:
THE 9TH NOVEMBER, 2021

SURINDER PAL
SECRETARY.

N.B. - The above Bill was published in the Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 9th November, 2021 under the proviso to rule 121 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).

P.S.
Under Secretary
Punjab Vidhan Sabha
Chandigarh