

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

Bill No.20-PLA-2019

THE PUNJAB STATE COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED
CASTES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2019

A

BILL

further to amend the Punjab State Commission for Scheduled Castes Act, 2004.

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab State Commission for Scheduled Castes (Amendment) Act, 2019. Short title and commencement.

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

2. In the Punjab State Commission for Scheduled Castes Act, 2004, in section 4, in sub-section (1), in the proviso, for the words "seventy years", the words "seventy-two years" shall be substituted. Amendment in section 4 of Punjab Act 5 of 2004.

3. (1) The Punjab State Commission for Scheduled Castes (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 (Punjab Ordinance No. 4 of 2019), is hereby repealed. Repeal and saving.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the Ordinance, referred to in sub-section (1), shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the provisions of this Act.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

As per the Census-2011, the population of Scheduled Castes in the State of Punjab is 88.60 lac which is 31.94% of the total population (277.43 lac) of the State. This percentage of SC population is highest in the country. With a view to protecting and safeguarding the interests of members of the Scheduled Caste in the State of Punjab, to recommend remedial measures for their welfare and development and for the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, State of Punjab has enacted "The Punjab State Commission for Scheduled Castes Act, 2004" (Punjab Act No.5 of 2004). As per the section 4(1) of the Act, *ibid*, as amended by "The Punjab State Commission for Scheduled Castes (Amendment) Act, 2006", the term of office of the Chairperson of the commission is six years or age limit of seventy years, whichever is earlier.

2. The proposal to enhance the age limit from existing seventy years to seventy two years for appointment as Chairperson of the Commission by converting 'The Punjab State Commission for Scheduled Castes (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019' in to Act will help to find out more experienced person, being appointed as Chairperson of the SC Commission for ensuring the effective implementation of laws meant for protecting and safeguarding the interests of the SC Community belonging to the Punjab State.

Hence, the Bill.

SADHU SINGH DHARAMSOT
Social Justice, Empowerment and
Minorities Minister, Punjab.

Chandigarh
The 6th November, 2019

SHASHI LAKHANPAL MISHRA
Secretary.

N.B. – The above Bill was published in the Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 06th November, 2019 under the proviso to rule 121 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).