
THE NURSES AND MIDWIVES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

(Given Notice By DR. N. Jayaraj M.L.A.)

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Kerala Legislature Secretariat
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Fifteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly
Bill No. 261

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(Given Notice By DR. N. Jayaraj M.L.A.)

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(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025**

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A

BILL

further to amend the Nurses and Midwives Act, 1953.

Preamble.—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Nurses and Midwives Act, 1953 for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

BE it enacted in the Seventy - sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Nurses and Midwives (Amendment) Act, 2025.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of section 6.*—In clause (c) of section 6 of the Nurses and Midwives Act, 1953 (Act X of 1953), the symbols and words", a deaf-mute or a leper" shall be deleted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

As per clause (c) of section 6 of the Nurses and Midwives Act, 1953, a person is disqualified to be elected or nominated as and be a member to the Kerala Nurses and Midwives Council if he is a deaf-mute or a leper.

The National Human Rights Commission, on 14th January 2022, issued an advisory [D.O.No.R-18/15/2020 - PRP & P (RU-3)] to all States to ensure that no person suffering from leprosy is discriminated or denied his right to be nominated, selected or elected to a public office by amending the existing Laws providing for discrimination of leprosy affected persons in a time bound manner, since leprosy is now completely curable. Also, section 3 of the Rights of

Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (Central Act 49 of 2016) stipulates that no person with disability shall be discriminated on the ground of disability.

To remove such discriminations to people affected by leprosy and are deaf and mute, in becoming member to the Board, Government have enacted the Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board (Amendment) Act, 2023 (Act 2 of 2023), deleting the words "a deaf-mute or a leper".

Hence the words "a deaf-mute or a leper" occurring in clause (c) of section 6 of the Nurses and Midwives Act, 1953 need to be omitted. The Bill aims to achieve this.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill, if enacted and brought into operation, would not involve any additional expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State.

DR. N. JAYARAJ, M. L. A.

EXTRACT FROM THE RELEVANT PORTIONS OF THE NURSES AND
MIDWIVES ACT, 1953 (ACT X OF 1953)

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6. Disqualifications for membership.—A person shall be disqualified for being elected or nominated as, and for being a member of the Council -

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(c) if he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court, a deaf-mute or a leper;

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