

Fifteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly

Bill No. 115

**THE KERALA KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES
BOARD (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022**

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further to amend the Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board Act, 1957

Preamble.—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board Act, 1957 (9 of 1957) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

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

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board (Amendment) Act, 2022.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of section 6.*— In the Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board Act, 1957 (9 of 1957), in clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 6, the symbols and words, “, a deaf-mute or a leper” shall be omitted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 6 of the Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board Act, 1957 provides that a person shall be disqualified for being appointed or for continuing as a member of the Board, if he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court, a deaf-mute or a leper.

2. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 5th July, 2018 in Pankaj Sinha V. Union of India and others (W.P.(C).No.1151/2017) directed the Union of India and the State Governments to apprise the court about the steps taken with regard to the repeal of the provisions where leprosy has been treated as a stigmatic disability. Based on the above order the Law Reforms Commission proposed the Government to consider the draft bill recommended as per the Law Reforms

Commission Report, 2021. The Government examined the said proposal and decided to remove the discriminations and disqualifications meted out by the people affected with leprosy and also decided to remove the discriminations and disqualifications meted out by deaf and mute. For the above purpose, the Government have decided to amend clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 6 of the Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board Act, 1957.

3. The Bill is intended to achieve the above object.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

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

P. RAJEEVE

EXTRACT FROM THE KERALA KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES
BOARD ACT, 1957 (9 OF 1957)

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6. *Disqualification for appointment on the Board.*-(1) A person shall be disqualified for being appointed or for continuing as a member of the Board if he-

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

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