

THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (KERALA AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

(As Passed by the Assembly on the 9th day of October, 2025)

A

BILL

further to amend the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, in its application to the State of Kerala.

Preamble.—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 in its application to the State of Kerala for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

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

1. *Short title, extent and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Kerala Amendment) Act, 2025.

(2) It extends to the whole of the State of Kerala.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of section 2.*—In the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 (Central Act 59 of 1960) (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act) in section 2, after clause (c), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

"(ca) "cattle race" means an event involving bulls or male buffaloes conducted with a view to follow agricultural tradition and culture in such places, as may be notified by the State Government, and includes "Kalapoottu", "Kannupoottu", "Maramadi" , "Uzhavu", "Pothottam" and such similar events; "

3. *Amendment of section 3.*—The existing provision in section 3 of the principal Act shall be numbered as sub- section (1) of that section and after sub-section (1) so numbered, the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

"(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), cattle race shall be conducted with the prior permission of the District Collector, subject to the

condition that no pain or suffering as envisaged by or under the Act is caused to the cattle by any person or persons in charge of cattle used for conducting cattle race and subject to such other conditions as may be prescribed by the State Government under section 38B of the Act.

(3) If any person or persons in charge of the cattle conduct cattle race in contravention of the conditions laid down in sub-section (2) or rules made thereunder relating to cattle race or causes pain or sufferings to the cattle, he shall be punished with fine which may extend up to rupees twenty five thousand or imprisonment for a term which may extend up to one year or with both.”.

4. *Amendment of section 11.*—In section 11 of the principal Act, in sub- section (3),—

(i) in clause (e) for the word and symbol “suffering.” the words and symbol “ suffering; or ” shall be substituted;

(ii) after clause (e), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

"(f) the conduct of cattle race with a view to follow and promote agricultural tradition and culture and to ensure conservation of native breeds of bulls or male buffaloes and also their safety, security, well being and to protect the livelihood of cattle keepers.".

5. *Amendment of section 22.*—In section 22 of the principal Act, after the existing provision the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

"Provided that nothing contained in this section shall apply to the conduct of cattle race in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 3.".

6. *Amendment of section 27.*— In section 27 of the principal Act,—

(i) in clause (b) for the word and symbol “purposes.” the words and symbol “purposes; or” shall be substituted;

(ii) after clause (b), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

"(c) the conduct of cattle race with a view to follow and promote agricultural tradition and culture and ensure conservation of native breeds of bulls or male buffaloes and also their safety, security, wellbeing and protect the livelihood of the cattle keepers."

7. *Insertion of new section 28A.*—After section 28 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

"28A. *Saving in respect of cattle race.*—Nothing contained in this Act shall apply to cattle race conducted in accordance with the provision of sub-section (2) of section 3, to follow and promote agricultural tradition and culture and such conduct of cattle race shall not be an offence under this Act."

8. *Insertion of new section 38B.*—After section 38A of the principal Act the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

"38B. *Power of State Government to make rules.*—(1) The State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, and subject to the condition of previous publication, make rules, not inconsistent with the rules made by the Central Government, for carrying into effect the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Act.

(2) Every rule made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be, after it is made, before the Legislative Assembly while it is in session for a total period of fourteen days which may be comprised in one session or in two successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session in which it is so laid or the session immediately following, the Legislative Assembly makes any modification in the rule or decides that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so however that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule."
