

L. A. BILL No. XCVI OF 2025.

A BILL

*to amend certain enactments for decriminalising and rationalising certain
offences to further enhance trust-based governance for ease of living and ease
of doing business in the State of Maharashtra.*

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WHEREAS it is expedient to amend certain enactments for decriminalizing
and rationalizing certain offences to further enhance trust-based governance
for ease of living and ease of doing business in the State of Maharashtra and
for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto ; it is hereby enacted in
the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows :—

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Short title. **1.** This Act may be called the Maharashtra *Jan Vishwas* (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2025.

Amendments of certain Acts. **2.** The Acts mentioned in column (4) of the *Schedule-I* appended herewith are amended to the extent and in the manner mentioned in column (5) thereof.

Savings. **3.** (1) The amendment to any Act by this Act shall not affect any other Act in which the amended Act has been applied, incorporated, or is referred to. ⁵

(2) This Act shall not affect the validity, invalidity, effect or consequence of anything already done or suffered, or any right, title, obligation or liability already acquired, accrued or incurred or any remedy or proceeding in respect thereof, or any release or discharge of, or from, any debt, penalty, obligation, liability, claim or demand, or any indemnity already granted or any proof of a past act or thing. ¹⁰

(3) This Act shall not affect any principle or rule of law, or established jurisdiction, form or course of pleading, practice or procedure, or existing usage, custom, privilege, restriction, exemption, office or appointment, notwithstanding that the same respectively may have been in any manner affirmed, or recognised or derived by, in or from any Act hereby amended. ¹⁵

(4) The amendment to any Act by this Act shall not revive or restore any jurisdiction, office, custom, liability, rights, title, privilege, restriction, exemption, usage, practice, procedure or other matter or thing not now existing or in force. ²⁰

SCHEDULE-I

(See section 2)

Sr. No.	Year of Act	Number of Act	Short title of Act	Amendments to Act	25
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
1.	1947	XI	The Maharashtra Industrial Relations Act.	<p>(1) In CHAPTER XVI, for the heading “Penalties” the following heading shall be substituted, namely :-</p> <p>“Offences, Fines and Penalties”.</p> <p>(2) In section 101, in sub-section (3), for the letters and figures “Rs. 5000”, the words “fifty thousand rupees” shall be substituted.</p> <p>(3) In section 102,—</p> <p>(i) for the letters and figures “Rs. 2,500”, the words “ five lakh rupees” shall be substituted ;</p>	<p>30</p> <p>35</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
5				<p>(ii) for the letters and figures “Rs. 5,000”, the words “ten thousand rupees” shall be substituted ;</p> <p>(iii) in the marginal note, for the word “Penalty” the word “Fine” shall be substituted.</p>
10				<p>(4) In section 103,–</p> <p>(i) for the letters and figures “Rs. 10”, the words “ ten thousand rupees” shall be substituted;</p>
15				<p>(ii) for the letters and figure “Re.1”, the words “ ten rupees” shall be substituted ;</p>
20				<p>(iii) for the letters and figures “Rs.50”, the words “ five hundred rupees” shall be substituted ;</p>
25				<p>(iv) in the marginal note, for the word “Penalty” the word “Fine” shall be substituted.</p>
30				<p>(5) In section 104, in the marginal note, for the word “Penalty” the word “ Fine” shall be substituted.</p>
35				<p>(6) In section 105, for the portion beginning with the words “ ,on conviction,” and ending with the letters and figures “Rs.1,000.”, the following shall be substituted, namely:-</p>
40				<p>“be liable to a penalty, on a complaint made by the party who gave the information or produced the document in such proceeding, which may extend to twenty thousand rupees.”.</p>
45				<p>(7) In section 106,–</p> <p>(i) in sub-section (1), for the letters and figures “Rs. 5,000”, the words “ fifty thousand rupees” shall be substituted ;</p>
				<p>(ii) in the marginal note, for the word “Penalty” the word “Fine” shall be substituted.</p> <p>(8) In section 106A, for the portion beginning with the words “ ,on conviction,” and ending with the words “such failure continues”, the following shall be substituted, namely:-</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>“be liable to a penalty which may extend to fifty thousand rupees and in the case of a continuing failure with an additional penalty which may extend to five hundred rupees for every day during which such failure continues”. 5</p> <p>(9) In section 107,—</p> <p>(i) for the letters and figures “Rs. 500”, the words “ two lakh rupees” shall be substituted; 10</p> <p>(ii) for the letters and figures “Rs. 125”, the words “ two thousand rupees” shall be substituted ;</p> <p>(iii) in the marginal note, for the word “Penalty” the word “Fine” shall be substituted. 15</p> <p>(10) In section 108,—</p> <p>(i) for the letters and figures “Rs. 500”, the words “ fifty thousand rupees” shall be substituted; 20</p> <p>(ii) in the marginal note, for the word “Penalty” the word “Fine” shall be substituted.</p> <p>(11) In section 109,—</p> <p>(i) after the words “other penalty” the words “or fine” shall be inserted; 25</p> <p>(ii) for the letters and figures “Rs. 100”, the words “ ten thousand rupees” shall be substituted;</p> <p>(iii) for the letters and figures “Rs. 200”, the words “ twenty thousand rupees” shall be substituted ; 30</p> <p>(iv) in the marginal note, for the word “Penalties” the word “ Fines” shall be substituted. 35</p> <p>(12) In section 110,—</p> <p>(i) after the word “fine” the words “or penalty” shall be inserted;</p> <p>(ii) in the marginal note, after the word “fines” the word “ , penalties” shall be inserted. 40</p>

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
5					(13) In section 119A,— (i) in sub-section (1), in clause (d), for the words “one thousand rupees”, the words “ one lakh rupees” shall be substituted; (ii) in sub-section (2), for the words “five hundred rupees”, the words “ fifty thousand rupees” shall be substituted.
10	2.	1949	XV	The Maharashtra Nursing Homes Registration Act.	(1) In section 6,— (i) for the words “ten thousand rupees” the words “one lakh rupees” shall be substituted ; (ii) in the marginal note, for the word “Penalty” the word “Punishment” shall be substituted. (2) In section 9, for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely :— “(2) If any person refuses to allow any such officer to enter or inspect any such premises as aforesaid, or to inspect any such records as aforesaid or furnishes false information or records to any such officer or obstructs any such officer in the execution of his powers under this section, he shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees, or with both.”. (3) In section 12,— (i) after the words “other penalty” the words “or fine” shall be inserted; (ii) in the marginal note, for the word “Penalty” the word “Fine” shall be substituted.
40	3.	1958	LX	The Maharashtra Stamp Act.	(1) In section 59,— (i) in sub-section (1), for the words “rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month but which may extend to six months and with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees” the words “imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month but which may extend to six months, or with fine which may
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
				<p>extend to one lakh rupees, or with both" shall be substituted;</p> <p>(ii) in sub-section (2), for the words "five hundred rupees" the words "fifty thousand rupees" shall be substituted ;</p> <p>(iii) in the marginal note, for the word "Penalty" the word "Punishment" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(2) In section 60,-</p> <p>(i) for the words "rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month but which may extend to six months and with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees" the words "imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month but which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees, or with both" shall be substituted ;</p> <p>(ii) in the marginal note, for the word "Penalty" the word "Punishment" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(3) In section 61,-</p> <p>(i) for the words "one hundred rupees" the words "twenty-five thousand rupees" shall be substituted ;</p> <p>(ii) in the marginal note, for the word "Penalty" the word "Punishment" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(4) In section 62,-</p> <p>(i) in clause (c), for the words "five thousand rupees" the words "five times the deficient portion of the stamp thereof" shall be substituted;</p> <p>(ii) in the marginal note, for the word "Penalty" the word "Punishment" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(5) In section 63A, in sub-section (2), for the words "rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month but which may extend to six months and with a fine which may extend to five thousand rupees" the words "imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month but which may extend to six months, or</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10</p> <p>15</p> <p>20</p> <p>25</p> <p>30</p> <p>35</p> <p>40</p> <p>45</p> <p>50</p>

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
5					with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees, or with both.”.
10					(6) In section 68A, for the words “imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month, but which may extend to six months and with fine which may extend to rupees five thousand” the words “imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month, but which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees, or with both” shall be substituted.
15	4.	1965	XLVI	The Maharashtra Medical Council Act, 1965.	In section 29,-
20					(i) for the words “five thousand rupees” the words “twenty thousand rupees” shall be substituted ;
					(ii) in the marginal note, for the word “Penalty” the word “Fine” shall be substituted.
25	5.	1972	I	The Maharashtra Recognition of Trade Unions and Prevention of Unfair Labour Practices Act, 1971.	(1) In CHAPTER IX, for the heading “PENALTIES” the heading “OFFENCES” shall be substituted.
30					(2) In section 47,-
					(i) for the words “one thousand rupees” the words “twenty-five thousand rupees” shall be substituted ;
35					(ii) in the marginal note, for the word “Penalty” the word “Fine” shall be substituted.
40					(3) In section 48,-
					(i) in sub-section (1), for the words “five thousand rupees” the words “fifty thousand rupees” shall be substituted;
					(ii) in sub-section (2), in clause (d), for the words “one thousand rupees” the words “one lakh rupees” shall be substituted ;
					(iii) in sub-section (3), for the words “five hundred rupees” the words “one lakh rupees” shall be substituted.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
				<p>(4) In section 49,-</p> <p>(i) for the words “five hundred rupees” the words “fifty thousand rupees” shall be substituted ;</p> <p>(ii) in the marginal note, for the word “Penalty” the word “Fine” shall be substituted.</p>	5
6.	1975	XVI	The Maharashtra State Tax on Professions, Trades, Callings and Employments Act, 1975.	Sections 20, 21 and 23 shall be deleted.	10 15
7.	2017	LXI	The Maharashtra Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2017.	<p>(1) In section 7, in sub-section (3), for the words “punishable with a fine of rupees one thousand” the words “liable to penalty of one thousand rupees” shall be substituted.</p> <p>(2) In section 29,-</p> <p>(i) in sub-section (1),-</p> <p>(a) for the portion beginning with the words “punishable with fine” and ending with the words “such contravention continues” the following shall be substituted, namely :-</p> <p>“ liable to penalty which may extend to one lakh rupees and in case of continuing contravention, with an additional penalty which may extend to two thousand rupees for every day during which such contravention continues”;</p> <p>(b) in the proviso, for the word “fine” the word “penalty” shall be substituted;</p> <p>(ii) for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely :-</p> <p>“(2) If any person is found to have committed second or subsequent contraventions under sub-section (1), then he is liable to penalty which may extend to two lakh rupees for such contravention:</p>	20 25 30 35 40 45

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>any provisions of this Act, or any rules, made thereunder, he may impose a penalty:</p> <p>Provided that no such penalty shall be imposed without giving the person concerned a reasonable opportunity of being heard.</p> <p>31B. Appeal.-</p> <p>(1) Whoever is aggrieved by the order, passed by the adjudicating officer under section 31A, may prefer an appeal to an officer not below the rank of Deputy Commissioner of Labour, to be an appellate authority, specially authorised by the State Government in this behalf, within sixty days from the date of receipt of order, in such form and manner as may be prescribed.</p> <p>(2) An appeal may be admitted after the expiry of the period of sixty days if the appellant satisfies the appellate authority that he had sufficient cause for not preferring the appeal within that period.</p> <p>(3) The appellate authority may, after giving the parties to the appeal an opportunity of being heard, pass such an order as he may think fit.</p> <p>(4) An appeal under sub-section (1) shall be disposed of within sixty days from the date of filing.</p> <p>(5) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, if the person fails to comply with the order of the adjudicating officer under section 31A or the order of the appellate authority under this section, as the case may be, within ninety days of such order, he shall, in addition to the penalty, be punishable with fine which may extend to two lakh rupees or imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months, or with both.”.</p>

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

A core element of *Viksit Maharashtra Vision* is the reform of the regulatory framework to shift from a punitive, compliance-heavy regime to a trust-based, facilitative model of governance. Excessive regulation, offences of minor and technical nature and offences of procedural non-compliances impose a significant cost on businesses, citizens and the State. Such provisions not only deter entrepreneurship and hinder the ease of doing business and the ease of living, but also place an undue burden on the judicial system and reduce administrative efficiency.

The Government of Maharashtra has consistently sought to advance the principle of '*Minimum Government, Maximum Governance*' by streamlining and redefining the regulatory framework under the broader Ease of Living and Ease of Doing Business reforms. Towards this, easing the compliance burden and decriminalising minor contraventions of provisions of the Acts have been key policy priorities.

2. The Central Government has also enacted Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Acts decriminalising various penal provisions of the Central Acts. The Central Government has also circulated an advisory along with the Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023, to all States and Union Territories in 2023, to review their legislative landscape and to adopt and implement the decriminalisation strategy at the State level.

3. The Government of Maharashtra has undertaken a comprehensive review of its regulatory legislative framework to identify and amend provisions that criminalise minor contraventions. The State Government seeks to replace punishments for such minor contraventions with civil penalties for reducing burden on Courts and also for increasing administrative efficiency. Offences involving serious threats to public order, public health, life, or safety have been retained, while those relating to minor non-compliances, procedural lapses, and outdated regulatory requirements have been decriminalised. Further, punishments such as fines have been revised and rationalised.

The Government has earlier amended the penal provisions contained in the Maharashtra Police Act (XXII of 1951) and the Maharashtra Cinemas (Regulations) Act (XI of 1953) by the Maharashtra Act No. XI of 2023 and five State Labour Laws by the Maharashtra Act No. XX of 2023, respectively.

4. It is now proposed to amend the Maharashtra Industrial Relations Act (XI of 1947), the Maharashtra Nursing Homes Registration Act (XV of 1949), the Maharashtra Stamp Act (LX of 1958), the Maharashtra Medical Council Act, 1965 (Mah. XLVI of 1965), the Maharashtra Recognition of Trade Unions and Prevention of Unfair Labour Practices Act, 1971 (Mah. I of 1972) the Maharashtra State Tax on Professions, Trades, Callings and Employments Act, 1975 (Mah. XVI of 1975) and the Maharashtra Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2017 (Mah. LXI of 2017), suitably.

5. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

Nagpur,

Dated the 3rd December, 2025.

DEVENDRA FADNAVIS,

Chief Minister.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

The Bill involves the following proposals for delegation of legislative power, namely :—

Clause 2.— Under this clause, in *SCHEDULE-I*, in entry at Serial No. 7, in paragraph (4),—

- (1) which seeks to insert section 31A in the Maharashtra Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2017 (Mah. LXI of 2017), power is taken to the State Government to prescribe the manner to hold an inquiry and impose a penalty under the said Act by the adjudicating officer ;
- (2) which seeks to insert section 31B in the said Act, power is taken to the State Government to prescribe the form and manner for filing an appeal to an officer not below the rank of the Deputy Commissioner of Labour under the said Act.

2. The above-mentioned proposals for delegation of legislative power are of normal character.

ANNEXURE TO THE L.A. BILL No. XCVI OF 2025.—
THE MAHARASHTRA JAN VISHWAS (AMENDMENT OF PROVISIONS)
BILL, 2025.

(Extracts from the Maharashtra Industrial Relations Act, 1947)

(Mah. XI of 1947)

CHAPTER XVI

PENALTIES.

1. to 100.

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101. (1) No employer shall dismiss, discharge or reduce any employee or punish him in any other manner by reason of the circumstances that the employee,—

Employer not to dismiss, reduce or punish an employee.

(a) is an officer or member of a registered union or a union which has applied for being registered under this Act; or

(b) is entitled to the benefit of a registered agreement or a settlement, submission or award; or

(c) has appeared or intends to appear as a witness in, or has given any evidence or intends to give evidence in a proceeding under this Act or any other law for the time being in force or takes part in any capacity in, or in connection with a proceeding under this Act ; or

(d) is an officer or member of an organisation the object of which is to secure better industrial conditions ; or

(e) is an officer or member of an organisation which is not declared unlawful ; or

(f) is representative of employees ; or

(g) has gone on or joined or instigated a strike which has not been held by a Labour Court or the Industrial Court to be illegal under the provisions of this Act.

(2) No employer shall prevent any employee from returning to work after a strike, arising of an industrial dispute which has not been held by a Labour Court or the Industrial Court to be illegal unless,—

(i) the employer has offered to refer the issues on which the employee has struck work to arbitration under this Act, and the employee has refused arbitration ; or

(ii) the employee not having refused arbitration, has failed to offer to resume work within one month of a declaration by the State Government that the strike has ended.

(2A) No employer shall dismiss, discharge or reduce any protected employee save with the express permission in writing of the Labour Court.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this sub-section a “protected employee” in relation to any industry means any employee who being an office-bearer of a union connected with the industry is recognised as such in accordance with the rules made under this Act.

(2B) In every industry in any local area, the number of officer of any union to be recognised as “protected employees” for the purposes of sub-section (2A) shall be one per cent. of the total number of employees employed therein, subject

to a minimum number of five protected employees and a maximum number of one hundred protected employees ; and for the aforesaid purpose, the State Government may make rules providing for the manner in which the employees may be chosen and recognised as protected employees.

(3) Whoever contravenes the provisions of sub-section (1), (2) or (2A) shall, on conviction, be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs.5,000.

(4) and (5) * * *

Penalty for declaring illegal lockout or illegal closure. **102.** Any employer who has commenced a lock-out or a closure which a Labour Court holds or the Industrial Court had declared to be illegal shall, on conviction, be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs. 2,500 and, in the case of the lock-out or the closure, as the case may be, being continued after the lapse of forty-eight hours after it has been held or declared to be illegal, with an additional fine which may extend to Rs. 5,000 for every day during which such lock-out, or closure continues after such conviction.

Penalty for declaring or commencing illegal strike or illegal stoppage. **103.** Subject to the provisions of sub-section (3) of section 97, any employee who has gone on strike or stoppage or who joins a strike or a stoppage which a Labour Court holds or the Industrial Court has declared to be illegal shall, on conviction, be punishable with fine, which may extend to Rs. 10 and in the case of his continuing on strike or on stoppage, as the case may be, after the lapse of forty-eight hours after it is held or declared to be illegal, with an additional fine which may extend to Re. 1 per day for every day during which such strike or stoppage continues after such conviction subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.

Penalty for instigating etc. illegal strike lock-outs, closure and stoppages. **104.** Any person who instigates or incites other to take part in, or otherwise acts in furtherance of a lock-out or a closure for which an employer is punishable under section 102 or a strike or a stoppage for which any employee is punishable under section 103, shall on conviction be punishable with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three months, or with fine or with both :

Provided that no person shall be punishable under this section where the Court trying the offence is of opinion that in the circumstances of the case a reasonable doubt existed at the time of the commission of the offence about the legality of the strike, lock-out, closure or stoppage, as the case may be.

Explanation I.—For the purpose of this section, a person who contributes, collects or solicits funds for the purposes of any such strike, lock-out, closure or stoppage shall be deemed to act in furtherance thereof.

Explanation II.—A person shall be deemed to have committed an offence under this section if before an illegal strike, lock-out, closure or stoppage has commenced, he has instigated or incited others to take part in, or otherwise acted in furtherance of such strike, lock-out, closure or stoppage.

Penalty for disclosing confidential information. **105.** If a Conciliator, a member of a Board or a Labour Officer or any person present at or concerned in any conciliation proceeding wilfully discloses any information or the contents of any documents in contravention of the provisions of this Act, he shall, on conviction, on a complaint made by the party who gave the information or produced the document in such proceeding be punishable, with fine which may extend to Rs. 1,000.

Penalty for illegal change. **106.** (1) Any employer who makes a change which is held or declared by a Labour Court or Industrial Court to be illegal shall, on conviction, be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs. 5,000.

(2) and (3) * * *

<p>106A. Any employer who fails to appoint members of a Joint Committee to be constituted on an application made by the union within the period specified in the order made under sub-section (1) of section 49 shall, on conviction, be punishable with fine which may extend to fifty rupees and in the case of a continuing failure with an additional fine which may extend to fifty rupees for every day during which such failure continues.</p>	<p>Penalty for failure to appoint members on Joint Committee.</p>
<p>107. Any employer who acts in contravention of a model standing order applicable under section 35 or section 40-A or a standing order settled under Chapter VII shall, on conviction, be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs. 500 and in the case of a continuing contravention of such standing order, with an additional fine which may extend to Rs. 125 per day for every day during which such contravention continues.</p>	<p>Penalty for contravention of a standing order.</p>
<p>108. Any person who wilfully refuses entry to a Labour Officer or such officer of an approved union as is authorised under section 25 to any place which he is entitled to enter, or fails to produce any document which he is required to produce, or fails to comply with any requisition or order issued to him by or under the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder shall, on conviction, be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs. 500.</p>	<p>Penalty for obstructing persons from carrying out duties.</p>
<p>109. Whoever contravenes any of the provisions of this Act or of any rule made thereunder shall on conviction, if no other penalty is elsewhere provided by or under this Act for such contravention, be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs. 100 and, in the event of such person having been previously convicted of an offence under this Act or any rule made thereunder with fine which may extend to Rs. 200.</p>	<p>Penalties for offences not provided for elsewhere.</p>
<p>110. The amount of any fine imposed and any compensation directed by any Court to be paid under this Act shall be recoverable as arrears of land revenue.</p>	<p>Recovery of fines and compensation.</p>
<p>111. to 119. * * * *</p>	
<p>119A. (1) If any person---</p>	
<p>(a) to (c) * * * *</p>	
<p>(d) intentionally offers any insult or causes any interruption to the Industrial Court or a Labour Court or a Wage Board at any stage of its judicial proceeding, he shall, on conviction be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees or with both.</p>	<p>Contempt of Industrial Court, Labour Courts and Wage Boards relating to omission to produce documents, etc.</p>
<p>119B. to 119E. * * * *</p>	
<p>120. to 123A. * * * *</p>	
<p>SCHEDULES * * * *</p>	

(Extracts from the Maharashtra Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1949)

(Mah. XV of 1949)

1. and 2. * * * *

3. No person shall carry on a nursing home unless he has been duly registered in respect of such nursing home and the registration in respect thereof has not been cancelled under section 7:

Provided that nothing in this section shall apply in the case of a nursing home which is in existence in any area at the date of the coming into force of section in that area for a period of three months from such date or if an

application for registration is made within that period in accordance with the provisions of section 4 until such application is finally disposed of.

4. and 5. * * *

Penalty for Non-registration. **6.** Whoever contravenes the provisions of section 3, shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees or with both.

7. and 8. * * *

Inspection of nursing homes. **9. (1)** * * *
 (2) If any person refuses to allow any such officer to enter or inspect any such premises as aforesaid, or to inspect any such records as aforesaid or obstructs any such officer in the execution of his powers under this section, he shall be guilty of an offence under this Act.

10. and 11. * * *

Penalty for offences under Act. **12.** Whoever contravenes any of the provisions of this Act or of any rule shall, if no other penalty is elsewhere provided in this Act or the rules for such contravention, on conviction, be punished with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees and in the case of continuing offence to a further fine of fifty rupees in respect of each day on which the offence continues after such conviction.

13. to 18. * * *

(Extracts from the Maharashtra Stamp Act, 1958)

(Mah. LX of 1958)

1. to 58. * * *

Penalty for executing, etc., instrument not duly stamped. **59. (1)** Any person who, with the intention to evade the duty, executes or signs otherwise than as a witness any instrument chargeable with duty without the same being duly stamped shall, on conviction, for every such offence be punished with rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month but which may extend to six months and with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees:

Provided that, when any penalty has been paid in respect of any instrument under section 34, section 39 or section 58, the amount of such penalty shall be allowed in reduction of the fine (if any) subsequently imposed under this section in respect of the same instrument upon the person who paid such penalty.

(2) If a share-warrant is issued without being duly stamped, the company issuing the same, and also every person who, at the time when it is issued, is the managing director or secretary or other principal officer of the company, shall, on conviction, be punished with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees.

59A. * * *

Penalty for making false declaration on clearance list. **60.** Any person who in a clearance list makes a declaration which is false or which he either knows or believes to be false, shall, on conviction, be punished with rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month but which may extend to six months and with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees.

61. Any person required by section 12 to cancel an adhesive stamp, fails to cancel such stamp in the manner prescribed by that section he shall, on conviction, be punished with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees. Penalty for failure to cancel adhesive stamp.

62. Any person who, with intent to defraud the Government,—

(a) and (b) * * * *

(c) makes any false statement or does any other act calculated to deprive the Government of any duty or penalty under this Act, shall, on conviction, be punished with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees. Penalty for omission to comply with provisions of section 28.

63. * * * *

63A. (1) Any person who, before the date of commencement of the Maharashtra Tax Laws (Levy, Amendment and Validation) Act, 1997 hereinafter, in this section, referred to as “the said date”, has collected or any time after the said date collects, from any person, any sum purporting to be towards the payment of stamp duty, shall within 120 days from the said date or, as the case may be, within 30 days from the date of collection of such amount, remit the same in Government Treasury or General Stamp Office, Mumbai, or any other place as the State Government may, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, specify in this behalf. Non-remittance of stamp duty within prescribed time to be offence.

(2) Whoever contravenes the provisions of sub-section (1) shall, on conviction, be punished with rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month but which may extend to six months and with a fine which may extend to five thousand rupees.

64 to 68. * * * *

68A. If any person prevents or obstructs entry of any officer authorised under section 68 or fails to give any reasonable assistance to him, he shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month, but which may extend to six months and with fine which may extend to rupees five thousand. Prevention or obstruction of an officer to be an offence.

69. to 76. * * * *

SCHEDULES * * * *

(Extracts from the Maharashtra Medical Council Act, 1965)

(Mah. XLVI of 1965)

1. to 28. * * * *

29. If any person whose name is not for the time being entered in the register falsely represents that it is so entered, or uses in connection with his name or title any words or letters reasonably calculated to suggest that his name is so entered, he shall, on conviction, be punished with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees. Penalty for falsely claiming to be registered.

30. to 36. * * * *

SCHEDULE * * * *

(Extracts from the Maharashtra Recognition of Trade Unions and Prevention of Unfair Labour Practices Act, 1971)

(Mah. I of 1972)

CHAPTER IX

PENALTIES

1. to 46. * * * *

Penalty for disclosure of confidential information.

47. If an Investigating Officer or any person present at, or concerned in, any proceeding under this Act wilfully discloses any information or the contents of any document in contravention of the provisions of this Act, he shall, on conviction, on a complaint made by the party who gave the information or produced the document in such proceeding, be punished with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees.

Contempts of Industrial or Labour Courts.

48. (1) Any person who fails to comply with any order of the Court under clause (b) of sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) of section 30 of this Act shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees.

(2) (a) to (c) * * * *

(d) intentionally offers any insult or causes any interruption to the Industrial Court or a Labour Court at any stage of its judicial proceeding, he shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees or with both.

(3) If any person refuses to sign any statement made by him, when required to do so by the Industrial Court or a Labour Court, he shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees or with both.

(4). to (8). * * * *

Penalty for obstructing officers from carrying out their duties and for failure to produce documents or to comply with requisition or order.

49. Any person who wilfully,—

(i) prevents or obstructs officers, members of the office staff, or members of any union from exercising any of their rights conferred by this Act;

(ii) refuses entry to an Investigating Officer to any place which he is entitled to enter;

(iii) fails to produce any document which he is required to produce; or

(iv) fails to comply with any requisition or order issued to him by or under the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder;

shall, on conviction, be punished with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees.

50. to 61. * * * *

SCHEDULES * * * *

*(Extracts from the Maharashtra State Tax on Professions, Trades, Callings
and Employments Act, 1975)*

(Mah. XVI of 1975)

1. to 19. * * * *

19A. and 19B. * * * *

20. Any person or employer who, without sufficient cause, fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Act or the rules framed thereunder shall, on conviction, be punished with fine not exceeding five thousand rupees, and, when the offence is a continuing one, with fine not exceeding fifty rupees per day during the period of the continuance of the offence. Offences and Penalties.

21. (1) Where an offence under this Act has been committed by a company, every person who at the time the offence was committed was in charge of and was responsible to the Company for the conduct of the business of the company as well as the company, shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly : Offences by companies.

Provided that, nothing contained in this sub-section shall render any such person liable to any punishment, if he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he had exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission of such offence.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where any offence under this Act has been committed by a company and it is proved that the offence has been committed with the consent or connivance of, or is attributable to any neglect on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or other officer of the company, such director, manager, secretary or other officer shall be deemed to be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this section—

(a) “company” means any body corporate and includes a firm or other association of individuals ; and

(b) “director” in relation to a firm, means a partner in the firm.

22. * * * *

23. (1) Subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, the Commissioner, may either before or after the institution of proceedings for an offence under this Act, permit any person charged with the offence to compound the offence on payment of such sum, not exceeding double the amount of tax to which the offence relates, as the Commissioner may determine. Compounding of Offences.

(2) On payment of such sum, as may be determined by the Commissioner under sub-section (1), no further proceedings shall be taken against the person in respect of the same offence.

24. to 30. * * * *

SCHEDULES * * * *

*(Extracts from the Maharashtra Shops and Establishments (Regulation of
Employment and Conditions of Service Act, 2017)*

(Mah. LXI of 2017)

Intimation of establishment employing less than ten workers.	1. to 6.	*	*	*	*
	7. (1) and (2)	*	*	*	*
	(3) Whoever, contravenes the provisions of this section or rules framed thereunder shall be punishable with a fine of rupees one thousand.				
	8. to 28.	*	*	*	*
Penalty for contravention of provisions of this Act.	29. (1) Whoever, contravenes the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder shall be punishable with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees and in the case of a continuing contravention, with an additional fine which may extend to two thousand rupees for every day during which such contravention continues :				
	Provided that, the total amount of fine shall not exceed two thousand rupees per workers employed.				
	(2) If any person who has been convicted of any offence punishable under sub-section (1) is again guilty of an offence involving a contravention or failure of compliance of the same provision, he shall be punished on a subsequent conviction with fine which may extend to two lakh rupees :				
	Provided that, the total amount of fine shall not exceed two thousand rupees per workers employed.				
Penalty for obstructions or refusal to provide register, etc.	31. (1) Whoever, wilfully obstructs the Facilitator in exercise of any powers conferred on him by or under this Act or refuses or wilfully neglects to afford a Facilitator any reasonable facility for making any inspection, examination, inquiry or investigation authorized by or under this Act in relation to an establishments, shall, on conviction, be punished with fine which may extend to two lakh rupees.				
	(2) Whoever, wilfully refuses to produce on the demand of a Facilitator any register or other document kept in pursuance of this Act or the rules made thereunder or prevents or attempts to prevent or does anything which he has reason to believe to prevent any person from appearing before, or being examined by, a Facilitator acting in pursuance of his duties under this Act, shall, on conviction, be punished with fine which may extend to two lakh rupees :				
	Provided that, total amount of fine shall not exceed two thousand rupees per worker employed.				
	32. to 39.	*	*	*	*

**MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATURE
SECRETARIAT**

[L. A. BILL No. XCVI OF 2025.]

**[A Bill to amend certain
enactments for decriminalising
and rationalising certain offences
to further enhance trust-based
governance for ease of living and
ease of doing business in the State
of Maharashtra.]**

**[SHRI DEVENDRA FADNAVIS,
Chief Minister.]**

**JITENDRA BHOLE,
Secretary-1,
Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.**

Government Press, Nagpur.