

L. A. BILL No. LX OF 2026.

A BILL

*further to amend the Maharashtra Private Universities
(Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2023.*

Mah. 5 WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Maharashtra Private
VIII of Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2023, for the purposes
2024. hereinafter appearing; it is, hereby, enacted in the Seventy-seventh Year of the
Republic of India as follows :—

1. This Act may be called the Maharashtra Private Universities Short title.
10 (Establishment and Regulation) (Third Amendment) Act, 2026.

Amendment
of section 2 of
Mah. VIII of
2024.

2. In section 2 of the Maharashtra Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2023 (hereinafter referred to as “the principal Act”),—

Mah.
VIII of
2024.

(i) in clause (b), after the word “academic”, the words “Health Science” shall be inserted;

(ii) after clause (n), the following clause shall be inserted, namely :— 5

“(n-a) “Health Science Courses” means courses related to medical, dental, ayurveda, homoeopathy, unani, siddha, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, nursing, rehabilitation, paramedical courses and allied health sciences;”;

(iii) in clause (u), after the words “Council of Scientific and Indian Research”, the words “National Dental Commission, Indian Nursing Council, National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Profession, National Commission for System of Indian Medicine, Rehabilitation Council of India, National Commission for Homoeopathy and any other competent regulatory body for health science courses,” shall be inserted; 15

(iv) in clause (zb), for the words “a degree, diploma”, the words “a certificate, diploma, degree, postgraduate degree, fellowship, doctorate, post doctorate” shall be substituted;

Amendment
of section 3 of
Mah. VIII of
2024.

3. In section 3 of the principal Act, in sub-section (2), after clause (xxii), the following clause shall be inserted, namely :— 20

“(xxii-a) no objection certificate from the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences as per sub-section (1) of section 6 of the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences Act, 1998, in respect of Health Science courses :

Mah. X
of 1999

Provided that if no objection certificate is not received by the applicant sponsoring body from the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences within sixty days from the date of application, it shall be presumed that the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences has no objection and in such cases the acknowledgment of the request shall be submitted.”. 25

Insertion of
new section
4A in Mah.
VIII of 2024.

4. After section 4 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely :— 30

Eligibility for
establishment
of University
for health
science
courses.

“**4A.** Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, only the sponsoring body who has a recognized medical college having not less than twenty years’ experience in the field of health science education with National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) Accreditation Grade ‘A’ and above (Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) 3.01 and above) with Post Graduate Courses in at least fifty per cent. of its disciplines and operational for at least ten years shall be eligible for making application for establishment of University conducting Health Science Courses under this Act.”. 35 40

Amendment
of section 6 of
Mah. VIII of
2024.

5. In section 6 of the principal Act, in sub-section (5), for the words “conferment of degree, diploma or certificate”, the words “conferment of certificate, diploma, degree, postgraduate degree, fellowship, doctorate, post doctorate,” shall be substituted.

6. In section 7 of the principal Act, after sub-section (1), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely :—

Amendment
of section 7 of
Mah. VIII of
2024.

“Provided that, for Universities conducting Health Science Courses, there shall be separate secretary level committee consisting of secretaries of the Higher and Technical Education Department, Medical Education Department, Finance Department and Planning Department.”.

7. In section 9 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1),—

Amendment
of section 9 of
Mah. VIII of
2024.

(i) in clause (a), after the words “Information and Communication Technology”, the words and letter “,Health Sciences i.e. Medical, Dental, Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani, Siddha, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Nursing, Rehabilitation, Paramedical Courses and Allied Health Sciences” shall be inserted;

(ii) in clause (p), after the words and figures “Advocates Act, 1961”, the words and figures “or the National Medical Commission constituted under the National Medical Commission Act, 2019 or the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine constituted under the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, 2020 or the Council constituted under the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947 or the National Dental Commission constituted under the National Dental Commission Act, 2023 or the Rehabilitation Council of India constituted under the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992 or the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Profession constituted under the National Commission for Allied and Health Care Professions Act, 2021 or the National Commission for Homoeopathy constituted under the National Commission for Homoeopathy Act, 2020” shall be inserted.

8. In section 10 of the principal Act,—

Amendment
of section 10
of Mah. VIII
of 2024.

(i) in clause (ii), for the words “confer degrees, diplomas, certificates, awards, grades, credits and academic distinctions”, the words “confer certificates, diplomas, degrees, postgraduate degrees, fellowships, doctorates, post doctorates, awards, grades, credits and academic distinctions” shall be substituted;

(ii) in clause (xvi), for the words “or certificates” the words “,certificates, diplomas, degrees, postgraduate degrees, fellowships, doctorates or post doctorates” shall be substituted.

9. In section 13 of the principal Act, in sub-section (5), after the words “joint holder”, the words “and in case of Universities conducting Health Science Courses the Director of Medical Education and Research as joint holder” shall be inserted.

Amendment
of section 13
of Mah. VIII
of 2024.

10. In section 27 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), after clause (c), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely :—

Amendment
of section 27
of Mah. VIII
of 2024.

“Provided that, in case of the Universities conducting Health Science Courses, out of five persons there shall be two health science experts nominated by sponsoring body.”.

Amendment
of section 38
of Mah. VIII
of 2024.

11. In section 38 of the principal Act, in sub-section (2),—

(i) in clause (c), for the words “the degrees, diplomas, certificates”, the words “certificates, diplomas, degrees, postgraduate degrees, fellowships, doctorates, post doctorates” shall be substituted;

(ii) in clause (f), for the words “degrees and diplomas”, the words “certificates, diplomas, degrees, postgraduate degrees, fellowships, doctorates and post doctorates” shall be substituted. 5

Amendment
of section 41
of Mah. VIII
of 2024.

12. In section 41 of the principal Act,—

(i) in sub-section (2), after the first proviso the following proviso shall be inserted, namely :— 10

“Provided further that, admissions in Universities for Health Science Courses shall be made on the basis of National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) or any other entrance test as declared by the Central or State Government from time to time.”;

(ii) in sub-section (3), after the words, brackets and letters “Economically Weaker Sections (EWS)”, the words, brackets and letters “,Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC)” shall be inserted; 15

(iii) after sub-section (4), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely :—

“(5) For the Health Science Courses, the admissions shall be made through a common counselling process as decided by the concerned regulatory body.”. 20

Amendment
of section 51
of Mah. VIII
of 2024.

13. In section 51 of the principal Act, after sub-section (6), the following sub-section shall be added, namely :—

“(7) The State Government may,— 25

(a) seek compliance reports from the University;

(b) review continuation status based on the concerned regulatory body permissions;

(c) restrict admissions in case of withdrawal or suspension of permission by the concerned regulatory body.”. 30

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Maharashtra Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2023 (Mah. VIII of 2024) provides for establishment, incorporation and regulation of self-financed private universities in the State for development and advancement of higher education in the State of Maharashtra. Various private universities are established in the State with the objects to provide learning, teaching, research and development in Higher and Technical Education covering various professional disciplines such as engineering, technology, management, etc.

2. The healthcare requirements of public needs large number of medical and para-medical professionals of all disciplines of health sciences and allied courses. Health science courses have been started in private universities in other States in India. There are demands from many institutions to establish private health science universities in the State of Maharashtra. The Government considers it expedient to allow private institutes conducting health science courses having long standing experience and excellence, to establish private university in the State.

3. In order to ensure that only institutions with a demonstrated record of excellence in health science education are eligible, it is proposed that only sponsoring body who has a recognised medical college having not less than twenty years experience in the field of health science education with National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) Accreditation Grade 'A' and above (Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) 3.01 and above) with Post Graduate Courses in at least fifty per cent. of it's disciplines and operational for at least ten years are eligible for applying for establishing private medical universities conducting Health Science Courses under the said Act. It is, therefore, proposed to amend the said Act, suitably, to enable such institutions imparting health sciences education to establish Universities.

4. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

Mumbai,
Dated the 8th July, 2026.

CHANDRAKANT (DADA) PATIL,
Minister for Higher and
Technical Education.

ANNEXURE TO THE L. A. BILL No. LX OF 2026—
THE MAHARASHTRA PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES (ESTABLISHMENT
AND REGULATION) (THIRD AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026

(Extracts from the Maharashtra Private Universities
(Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2023)

(Mah. VIII of 2024)

1. * * * *
2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,— Definitions.
 (a) * * * *
 (b) “adjunct professor”, “adjunct associate professor” or “adjunct assistant professor” means a person from industry, trade, agriculture, commerce, social, cultural, academic or any other allied fields who is so designated during the period of collaboration or association with the university;
 (c) to (t) * * * *
 (u) “regulatory body” means a body established by the Central Government for laying down norms and conditions for ensuring academic standards of higher education, such as University Grants Commission, All India Council of Technical Education, National Council of Teacher Education, National Medical Commission, Pharmacy Council of India, National Council of Assessment and Accreditation, Indian Council of Agriculture Research, Distance Education Council, Council of Scientific and Indian Research, etc., and includes the Government;
 (v) to (za) * * * *
 (zb) “student” means a person enrolled in the university for taking a course of study for a degree, diploma or other academic distinctions instituted by the university, including a research degree;
 (zc) to (ze) * * * *
 3. (2) The Detailed Project Report (DPR) shall contain the following Detailed Project Report particulars, namely :— for establishing university.
 (i) to (xxi) * * * *
 (xxii) commitment to follow the norms of the regulatory bodies;
 (xxiii) and (xxiv) * * * *
 4. and 5. * * * *
 6. (1) to (4) * * * * Establishment and incorporation of university.
 (5) The university shall function as a non-affiliating unitary university established under this Act and it shall not affiliate any other college or institute for the award or conferment of degree, diploma or certificate to the students admitted therein.
 (6) and (7) * * * *

Secretary Level Committee.	7.	(1) The Secretary Level Committee consisting of Secretaries of the Higher and Technical Education Department, the Finance Department and the Planning Department shall, after establishing the university, verify whether the sponsoring body has complied with the undertakings submitted by it and the requirements relating to the operationalization of the university specified in the Letter of Intent and the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder.				
	(2) to (4)	*	*	*	*	
	8.	*	*	*	*	
Objects of university.	9.	(1) The objects of the university shall be as follows, namely :—				
		(a) to provide learning, teaching, capacity, capability and skills development and research and development in Higher and Technical Education covering Liberal Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Life Sciences and Biotechnologies, Nano-Sciences and Technologies, Professional Disciplines such as Engineering, Technology, Management, Law, Business and Commerce, Applied and Creative Arts, Vocational Education, Media, Information and Communication Technology and Education per se and their inter-disciplinary, multidisciplinary studies and development;				
	(b) to (o)	*	*	*	*	
		(p) to ensure that the standard of the degrees, diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions conferred by a university are not lower than those laid down by the All India Council for Technical Education established under the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987 or the National Council for Teacher Education established under the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993 or University Grants Commission established under the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 or the Pharmacy Council of India constituted under the Pharmacy Act, 1948 (8 of 1948) or the Bar Council of India constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961 or any other statutory body, as the case may be.				
	(2) and (3)	*	*	*	*	
Powers and functions of university.	10.	The university shall have the following powers and functions, namely :—				
	(i)	*	*	*	*	
		(ii) to institute and confer degrees, diplomas, certificates, awards, grades, credits and academic distinctions;				
	(iii) to (xv)	*	*	*	*	
		(xvi) to provide for dual degrees, diplomas or certificates vis-a-vis other universities on reciprocal basis within and outside the country, as per instructions of the State Government, Government of India and University Grants Commission ;				
	(xvii) to (xxxiii)	*	*	*	*	
	11. and 12.	*	*	*	*	
Endowment fund.	13.	(1) to (4)	*	*	*	*

(5) The amount of endowment fund shall be invested by the university until the dissolution of the university, by way of fixed deposit in the Nationalized Bank with Director of Higher Education as joint holder, subject to the condition that the amounts so invested from the fund shall not be withdrawn without the permission of the Government.

14. to 26. * * * *

27. (1) The Governing Body of the university shall consist of the following members, namely :— Governing Body.

(a) and (b) * * * *

(c) five persons, nominated by the sponsoring body out of whom two shall be eminent educationists;

(d) to (g) * * * *

(2) to (5) * * * *

28. to 37. * * * *

38. (1) * * * * First Ordinances.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the rules or Statutes made thereunder, the Board of Management may make such First Ordinances with the approval of the Governing Body as it deems appropriate for the furtherance of the objects of the university and such Ordinances may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely :—

(a) and (b) * * * *

(c) the award of the degrees, diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions, the minimum qualifications for the same and the means to be taken relating to the granting and obtaining of the same;

(d) and (e) * * * *

(f) fees to be charged for the various courses, examinations, degrees and diplomas of the university;

(g) to (k) * * * *

(3) * * * *

39. and 40. * * * *

41. (1) * * * * Admissions.

(2) Merit for admission in the university may be determined either on the basis of marks or grade obtained in the qualifying examination, for admission and achievements in co-curricular and extracurricular activities or on the basis of marks or grade obtained in the entrance test conducted at State level either by an association of the universities conducting similar courses or by any agency of the State :

Provided that, admission in professional and technical courses shall be made only through entrance test.

(3) Seats for admission in the university, for the students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, De-notified Tribes (Vimukta Jatis), Nomadic Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Special Backward Category and Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and students with disability, shall be reserved as per the policy of the State Government.

(4) * * * *

42. to 59. * * * *

SCHEDULES. * * * *

**MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATURE
SECRETARIAT**

[L. A. BILL No. LX OF 2026.]

**[A Bill further to amend
the Maharashtra Private Universities
(Establishment and Regulation)
Act, 2023.]**

**[SHRI CHANDRAKANT (DADA) PATIL,
Minister for Higher and Technical Education.]**

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