

L. A. BILL No. XXIV OF 2026.

A BILL

*further to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, in its application
to the State of Maharashtra.*

(As passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 18th March, 2026.)

(As passed by the Legislative Council on the 23rd March, 2026.)

53 of
1972.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, in its application to the State of Maharashtra, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; it is hereby enacted in the Seventy-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows :—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Wild Life (Protection) (Maharashtra Amendment) Act, 2026. Short title and
commencement.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the State Government may, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, appoint.

Amendment of section 12 of 53 of 1972. 2. In section 12 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, in its application to the State of Maharashtra, in the proviso,— 53 of 1972.

(i) in clause (a), after the words and figure “in Schedule I” the words, figures and letter “excluding Leopard *Panthera pardus* specified in entry at serial No. 43 in Part A: MAMMALS in Schedule I,” shall be inserted;

(ii) in clause (b), after the words “any other wild animal” the words, figures and letter “including Leopard *Panthera pardus* specified in entry at serial No. 43 in Part A: MAMMALS in Schedule I,” shall be inserted.

**MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATURE
SECRETARIAT.**

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

**[A Bill further to amend the Wild Life
(Protection) Act, 1972, in its application
to the State of Maharashtra.]**

[SHRI GANESH NAIK,
Minister for Forest.]

**[As passed by the Legislative Assembly
on the 18th March, 2026.]**

**[As passed by the Legislative Council
on the 23rd March, 2026.]**

DR. VILAS ATHAWALE,
Secretary-3,
Maharashtra Legislative Council.