

Note on The Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023

- ❖ DPIIT is the nodal department for coordinating the exercise of Ease of Doing Business with a focus towards reduction in compliance burden. Decriminalization of minor, technical and procedural defaults is one of the important pillars of this exercise.
- ❖ A presentation was made by Secretary DPIIT in the meeting of the **Council of Ministers** on 29.06.2022, wherein need for decriminalization of **minor, technical and procedural defaults** was emphasized. Subsequently, a review meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary on 09.07.2022, and **DPIIT was mandated to prepare a Draft Cabinet Note** for the purpose of preparation of a **Common Amendment Bill** for rationalization/decriminalization of provisions carrying minor, technical and procedural defaults under different Acts/Rules administered by various Ministries/Departments.
- ❖ The **Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2022** proposed to amend 182 provisions across 42 Acts, administered by 19 Ministries/Departments was prepared. Approval by the Cabinet for introduction of the Bill in the Parliament was obtained on 16th December 2022. It was **introduced in Lok Sabha on 22nd December 2022, wherein, it was referred to the Joint Committee of the Parliament on 23rd December 2022.**
- ❖ **The Report of the Committee was laid before Rajya Sabha on 17th March 2023 and Lok Sabha on 20th March 2023.**
- ❖ Accordingly, a total of **183 provisions** (8 more provisions proposed and 7 provisions retained considering the safety and health of General Public) are being proposed to be decriminalized in 42 Central Acts administered by 19 Ministries/Departments after recommendation of Joint Parliamentary Committee. Ministry/Department wise list of 42 Acts are attached at annexure-I. Various approaches have been adopted for decriminalization. It was ensured that degree and nature of punishment is commensurate with the severity of the offense.
- ❖ Bill was Passed in Lok Sabha on 27th July, 2023, Rajya Sabha on 02nd August 2023 and received the assent of the President on 11th August 2023.

Annexure-I**Ministry/Department-wise List of 42 Acts
(Covered under The Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023)**

Sl. No.	Name of Ministries / Departments	Name of the Acts
1.	D/o Agriculture, & Farmers Welfare	The Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937
2.	D/o Commerce	The Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972
3.		The Rubber Act, 1947
4.		The Tea Act, 1953
5.		The Spices Board Act, 1986
6.		D/o Consumer Affairs
7.	D/o Defence	The Cantonments Act 2006
8.	D/o Economic Affairs	The Government Securities Act, 2006
9.		The High Denomination Banknotes (Demonetization) Act, 1978
10.		The Public Debt Act, 1944
11.	M/o Electronics and Information Technology	The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016
12.		The Information Technology Act, 2000
13.	M/o Environment, Forest and Climate Change	The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
14.		The Environment Protection Act, 1986
15.		The Indian Forest Act, 1927
16.		The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1994
17.	D/o Financial Services	The Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961
18.		The Factoring Regulation Act, 2011
19.		The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981
20.		The National Housing Bank Act, 1987
21.		The Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007
22.	D/o Food & Public Distribution	The Food Corporations Act, 1964
23.		The Warehousing Corporation Act, 1962
24.	D/o Health & Family Welfare	The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940
25.		The Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006
26.		The Pharmacy Act, 1948
27.	M/o Housing & Urban Affairs	The Metro Railways (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002

Sl. No.	Name of Ministries / Departments	Name of the Acts
28.	M/o Information & Broadcasting	The Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867
29.		The Cinematography Act, 1952
30.		The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995
31.	M/o Ports, Shipping & Waterways	The Merchant Shipping Act, 1958
32.	D/o Posts	The Indian Post Office Act, 1898
33.	Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade	The Boilers Act, 1923
34.		The Copyright Act, 1957
35.		The Geographical Indications of Goods Act, 1999
36.		The Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951
37.		The Patents Act, 1970
38.		The Trade Marks Act, 1999
39.	M/o Railways	The Railways Act, 1989
40.	M/o Road Transport & Highways	The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988
41.	D/o Revenue	The Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002
42.	M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation	The Collection of Statistics Act, 2008