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GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
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TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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Part IV—Section 1

Tamil Nadu Bills

BILL INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TAMIL NADU

Under Rule 130 of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rules, the following Bill which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu on 3rd September 2026 is published together with Statement of Objects and Reasons for general information:-

L.A.Bill No. 17 of 2026

A Bill to amend the Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services Act, 2025.

BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Tamil Nadu in the Seventy-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services (Amendment) Act, 2026. Short title and commencement.

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

Tamil Nadu Act 37 of 2025.

Amendment of section 2.

2. In section 2 of the Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services Act, 2025 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), clauses (c) and (n) shall be omitted.

Amendment of section 24.

3. In section 24 of the principal Act, in sub-section (3), the expression "not below the rank of Station Officer" shall be omitted.

Amendment of section 31.

4. In section 31 of the principal Act, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(1) The owner or the occupier, who is either individually or jointly responsible for a building as classified under this Act, shall provide fire prevention and life safety measures therein, in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder. The owner or occupier of the building shall also provide therein the fire prevention and life safety measures prescribed under—

(a) the Tamil Nadu Combined Development and Building Rules, 2019;

(b) the guidelines issued by the Oil Industry Safety Directorate;

(c) the Petroleum Act, 1934 (Central Act 30 of 1934) and the rules made thereunder;

(d) the Explosives Act, 1884 (Central Act IV of 1884) and the rules made thereunder;

(e) any other guidelines issued by the Government or any other relevant authority; and

(f) any other law for the time being in force.".

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Bureau of Indian Standards, Department of Consumer Affairs vide its Gazette Notification, dated 30.04.2026, has withdrawn the National Building Code of India, 2016. Further, under the Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP) 2026 in respect of priority area No.5, namely, Construction Permit and Building Regulations, with reference to reform Nos.53, 54 and 55, it has been recommended to modernize fire and building norms by removing references to the National Building Code from building laws and to replace them with liberalized and modern standards.

2. The Government after careful consideration of the recommendations made under the Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP) 2026, have decided to amend the Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services Act, 2025 (Tamil Nadu Act 37 of 2025) suitably for the purpose.

3. The Bill seeks to give effect to the above decision.

C. JOSEPH VIJAY,
Chief Minister

Secretariat,
Chennai-9,
3rd September 2026.

R. SANTHI,
Secretary.

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