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Separate paging is given to this Part in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

IndiaCode

## MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
**(Legislative Department)**

*New Delhi, the* 21*st April,* 2018/*Vaisakha* 1, 1940 (*Saka*)

# THE CRIMINAL LAW (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 2018

NO. 2 OF 2018

Promulgated by the President in the Sixty-ninth Year of the Republic of India.

An Ordinance further to amend the Indian Penal Code, the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

WHEREAS Parliament is not in session and the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of article 123 of the Constitution, the President is pleased to promulgate the following Ordinance:—

## CHAPTER I

## PRELIMINARY

**1.** (1) This Ordinance may be called the Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

## CHAPTER II

## AMENDMENTS TO THE INDIAN PENAL CODE

Amendment of section 166A.

**2.** In the Indian Penal Code (hereafter in this Chapter referred to as the Penal Code), in section 166A, in clause (c), for the words, figures and letters "section 376B, section 376C, section 376D,", the words, figures and letters "section 376AB, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA, section 376DB," shall be substituted; 45 of 1860.

Amendment of section 228A.

**3.** In section 228A of the Penal Code, in sub-section (1),for the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D", the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376AB, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA, section 376DB" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 376.

**4.** In section 376 of the Penal Code,—

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words "shall not be less than seven years, but which may extend to imprisonment for life, and shall also be liable to fine", the words "shall not be less than ten years, but which may extend to imprisonment for life, and shall also be liable to fine" shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (2), clause (i) shall be omitted;

(c) after sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:–

"(3) Whoever, commits rape on a woman under sixteen years of age shall be punished with rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than twenty years, but which may extend to imprisonment for life, which shall mean imprisonment for the remainder of that person's natural life, and shall also be liable to fine:

Provided that such fine shall be just and reasonable to meet the medical expenses and rehabilitation of the victim:

Provided further that any fine imposed under this sub-section shall be paid to the victim.".

Insertion of new section 376AB.

**5.** After section 376A of the Penal Code, the following section shall be inserted , namely:— 45 of 1860.

"376AB. Whoever, commits rape on a woman under twelve years of age shall be punished with rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than twenty years, but which may extend to imprisonment for life, which shall mean imprisonment for the remainder of that person's natural life, and with fine or with death: Punishment for rape on woman under twelve years of age.

Provided that such fine shall be just and reasonable to meet the medical expenses and rehabilitation of the victim:

Provided further that any fine imposed under this section shall be paid to the victim.".

**6.** After section 376D of the Penal Code, the following sections shall be inserted , namely:— Insertion of new sections 376 DA and 376 DB.

"376DA. Where a woman under sixteen years of age is raped by one or more persons constituting a group or acting in furtherance of a common intention, each of those persons shall be deemed to have committed the offence of rape and shall be punished with imprisonment for life, which shall mean imprisonment for the remainder of that person's natural life, and with fine: Punishment for gang rape on woman under sixteen years of age.

Provided that such fine shall be just and reasonable to meet the medical expenses and rehabilitation of the victim:

Provided further that any fine imposed under this section shall be paid to the victim.

376DB. Where a woman under twelve years of age is raped by one or more persons constituting a group or acting in furtherance of a common intention, each of those persons shall be deemed to have committed the offence of rape and shall be punished with imprisonment for life which shall mean imprisonment for the remainder of that person's natural life, and with fine or with death: Punishment for gang rape on woman under twelve years of age.

Provided that such fine shall be just and reasonable to meet the medical expenses and rehabilitation of the victim:

Provided further that any fine imposed under this section shall be paid to the victim.".

## CHAPTER III
## AMENDMENTS TO THE INDIAN EVIDENCE ACT, 1872

Amendment to section 53.

**7.** In section 53A of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 (hereafter in this Chapter referred to as the Evidence Act), for the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D", the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376AB, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA, section 376DB" shall be substituted. 1 of 1872.

Amendment to section 146.

**8.** In section 146 of the Evidence Act, in the proviso, for the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D", the words, letters and figures "section 376A, section 376AB, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA, section 376DB" shall be substituted.

## CHAPTER IV
## AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, 1973

Amendment of section 26.

**9.** In the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (hereafter in this Chapter referred to as the Code of Criminal Procedure), in section 26, in clause (a), in the proviso, for the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D", the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376AB, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA, section 376DB" shall be substituted. 2 of 1974.

Amendment of section 154.

**10.** In section 154 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, in sub-section (1),—

(i) in the first proviso, for the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D,", the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376AB, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA,section 376DB," shall be substituted;

(ii) in the second proviso, in clause (a), for the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D,", the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376AB, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA, section 376DB," shall be substituted.

**Amendment of section 161.**

**11.** In section 161 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, in sub-section (3), in the second proviso, for the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D,", the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376AB, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA, section 376DB," shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 164.

**12.** In section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, in sub-section (5A), in clause (a), for the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D,", the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376AB, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA, section 376DB," shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 173.

**13.** In section 173 of the Code of Criminal Procedure,—

(i) in sub-section (1A), for the words "rape of a child may be completed within three months", the words, figures and letters "an offence under sections 376, 376A, 376AB, 376B, 376C, 376D, 376DA, 376DB or section 376E of the Indian Penal Code shall be completed within two months" shall be substituted;

45 of 1860.

(ii) in sub-section (2), in clause (i), in sub-clause (h), for the figures, letters and word "376A, 376B, 376C, section 376D", the figures and letters "376A, 376AB, 376B, 376C, 376D, 376DA, 376DB" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 197.

**14.** In section 197 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, in sub-section (1), in the *Explanation*, for the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376C, section 376D", the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376AB, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA, section 376DB" shall be substituted.

Amendment to section 309.

**15.** In section 309 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, in sub-section (1), in the proviso, for the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376B, section 376C or section 376D of the Indian Penal Code, the inquiry or trial shall, as far as possible", the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376AB, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA or section 376DB of the Indian Penal Code, the inquiry or trial shall" shall be substituted.

Amendment to section 327.

**16.** In section 327 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, in sub-section (2), for the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D", the words, figures and letters "section 376A, section 376AB, section

376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA, section 376DB" shall be substituted.

**Amendment to section 357B.**

**17.** In section 357B of the Code of Criminal Procedure, for the words, figures and letters "under section 326A or section 376D of the Indian Penal Code", the words, figures and letters "under section 326A, section 376AB, section 376D, section 376DA and section 376DB of the Indian Penal Code" shall be substituted. **45 of 1860.**

Amendment to section 357C.

**18.** In section 357C of the Code of Criminal Procedure, for the figures and letters "376A, 376B, 376C, 376D", the figures and letters "376A, 376AB, 376B, 376C, 376D, 376DA, 376DB" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 374.

**19.** In section 374 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, after sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

"(4) When an appeal has been filed against a sentence passed under section 376, section 376A, section 376AB, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA, section 376DB or section 376E of the Indian Penal Code, the appeal shall be disposed of within a period of six months from the date of filing of such appeal.".

Amendment of section 377.

**20.** In section 377 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, after sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

"(3) When an appeal has been filed against a sentence passed under section 376, section 376A, section 376AB, section 376B, section 376C, section 376D, section 376DA, section 376DB or section 376E of the Indian Penal Code, the appeal shall be disposed of within a period of six months from the date of filing of such appeal.".

Amendment of section 438.

**21.** In section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, after sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:–

"(4) Nothing in this section shall apply to any case involving the arrest of any person on accusation of having committed an offence under sub-section (3) of section 376 or section 376AB or section 376DA and section 376DB of the Indian Penal Code.".

Amendment of section 439.

**22.** In section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure,—

(a) in sub-section (1), after the first proviso, the following

proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

"Provided further that the High Court or the Court of Session shall, before granting bail to a person who is accused of an offence triable under sub-section (3) of section 376 or section 376AB or section 376DA or section 376DB of the Indian Penal Code, give notice of the application for bail to the Public Prosecutor within a period of fifteen days from the date of receipt of the notice of such application.";

45 of 1860.

(b) after sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

"(1A) The presence of the informant or any person authorised by him shall be obligatory at the time of hearing of the application for bail to the person under sub-section (3) of section 376 or section 376A or section 376DA or section 376DB of the Indian Penal Code.".

45 of 1860.

**23.** In the First Schedule to the Code of Criminal Procedure, under the heading "I.-OFFENCES UNDER THE INDIAN PENAL CODE",— Amendment of First Schedule.

(a) against section 376,—

(i) for the entry under column 3, the following entries shall be substituted, namely:—

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | "Rigorous imprisonment of not less than 10 years but which may extend to imprisonment for life and with fine"; | | | |

(ii) the following entries shall be inserted at the end, namely:—

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | "Persons committing offence of rape on a | Rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall | Cognizable | Non-bailable | Court of Session."; |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | woman under sixteen years of age. | not be less than 20 years but which may extend to imprisonment for life, which shall mean imprisonment for the remainder of that person's natural life and with fine. | | | |

(b) after the entries relating to section 376A, the following entries shall be inserted, namely:—

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| "376AB | Person committing an offence of rape on a woman under twelve years of age. | Rigorous imprisonment of not less than 20 years but which may extend to imprisonment for life which shall mean imprisonment for the remainder of that person's natural life and with fine or with death. | Cognizable | Non-bailable | Court of Session."; |

(c) after the entries relating to section 376D, the following entries shall be inserted, namely:—

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| "376DA | Gang rape on a woman under sixteen years of age. | Rigorous imprisonment for life which shall mean imprisonment for the remainder of that person's natural life and with fine. | Cognizable | Non-bailable | Court of Session. |

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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 376DB | Gang rape on woman under twelve years of age. | Imprisonment for life which shall mean imprisonment for the remainder of that person's natural life and with fine or with death. | Cognizable | Non-bailable | Court of Session.". |

## CHAPTER V

## AMENDMENT TO THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL OFFENCES ACT, 2012

**24.** In section 42 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, for the figures and letters "376A, 376C, 376D", the figures and letters "376A, 376AB, 376B, 376C, 376D, 376DA, 376DB" shall be substituted. Amendment of section 42 of Act No.32 of 2012.

RAM NATH KOVIND,
*President.*

———

DR. G. NARAYANA RAJU,
*Secretary to the Govt. of India.*

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