

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

BILL NO. 12 -PLA-2023

THE SIKH GURDWARAS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2023

A

BILL

further to amend the Sikh Gurdwaras Act, 1925.

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Punjab in the Seventy-fourth year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Sikh Gurdwaras (Amendment) Act, 2023.

(2) It shall come into force on and with effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Sikh Gurdwaras Act, 1925, after section 125, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

"125-A. (1) It shall be the duty of the Board to propagate the Live telecast of Holy teachings of the Gurus by making uninterrupted Gurbani free of cost. (without any on screen running advertisements or commercials or distortion) live feed (Audio or Audio as well as Video) of Holy Gurbani from Sri Harmandir Sahib available free of cost to all media houses, outlets, platforms, channels etc., whoever wishes to broadcast it for broadcast anywhere (including all over the world).

(2) Anyone broadcasting Holy Gurbani from Sri Harmandir Sahib shall not run any advertisement at least thirty minutes prior to start of broadcast of Gurbani and thirty minutes after the broadcast of Gurbani is over.

Explanation.- The provisions of this section shall be applicable to broadcast of Holy Gurbani from Sri Harmandir Sahib, Amritsar which is situated within the territorial jurisdiction of the State of Punjab."

Short title and commencement.

Insertion of new section 125-A in Punjab Act VIII of 1925.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Shri Guru Granth Sahib contains the Bani of Sikh Gurus and Saints. It is highly desirable that teaching of the Gurus be propagated worldwide. Therefore, it is imperative that Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) should make Gurbani available free of cost to entire humanity and to ensure that the spread of Gurbani is not commercialized in any manner.

Bhagwant Mann,
Chief Minister, Punjab.

**CHANDIGARH:
THE 20th JUNE, 2023**

**RAM LOK KHATANA
SECRETARY.**

N.B. - The above Bill was published in the Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 20th June, 2023 under the proviso to rule 121 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).