

HARYANA VIDHAN SABHA

Bill No. 14— HLA of 2026

THE HARYANA STATE COMMISSION FOR MINORITIES BILL, 2026

A

BILL

to constitute a Commission for minorities in the State of Haryana with a view to protect and safeguard the interest of minority, to recommend additional social, economic, educational and cultural requirements of religious and linguistic minorities, to preserve secular traditions and to promote national integration and for the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Haryana in the Seventy-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Haryana State Commission for Minorities Act, 2026. Short title and commencement.
(2) It shall come into force on such date, as the Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.
 2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,- Definitions.
 - (a) “Chairperson” means the Chairperson of the Commission;
 - (b) “Commission” means the Haryana State Commission for Minorities constituted under section 3;
 - (c) “Government” means the Government of the State of Haryana;
 - (d) “member” means a member of the Commission and includes its Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary;
 - (e) “minority” means a community residing in the State of Haryana declared by the Government as minority community by notification in the Official Gazette, from time to time;
 - (f) “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act;
 - (g) “Vice-Chairperson” means the Vice-Chairperson of the Commission.
 3. (1) The Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute a body to be known as the Haryana State Commission for Minorities to exercise the powers conferred on and perform the functions assigned to it under this Act. Constitution of Commission.
(2) The Commission shall consist of,-
 - (a) a Chairperson, who shall be a person of eminence, having wide experience in social life and has worked, contributed in Government activities, to be nominated by the Government;
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(b) a Vice-Chairperson, who shall be a person of eminence, ability and integrity, having practical experience in matters relating to the welfare, protection of rights, social advancement, educational development, economic empowerment or cultural interests of the minority, to be nominated by the Government;

(c) five non-official members to be nominated by the Government from amongst the persons of eminence, ability and integrity representing all minority groups:

Provided that the Government may increase or decrease the number of members as per population of the minority community:

Provided further that all the members including the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson shall be from amongst the minority: and

(d) Secretary, who shall be appointed by the Government under section 7.

Term of office of member.

4. (1) The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and every member shall hold office for a term of three years from the date of assuming the charge.

(2) Whenever a vacancy occurs by removal of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson or a member, as the case may be, such a vacancy shall be filled up by the Government by nomination and such person nominated shall hold office for the remainder of his predecessor's term of office.

Resignation and removal of member.

5. (1) The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson or a member may at any time, by writing under his hand addressed to the Government, resign from his office.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section(1), the Government may, by order, remove the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson or a member, as the case may be, if he, -

- (a) becomes an undischarged insolvent; or
- (b) is convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for an offence which in the opinion of the Government involves moral turpitude; or
- (c) becomes of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court; or
- (d) refuses to act or becomes incapable of acting; or
- (e) is, without obtaining leave of absence from the Commission, absents from three consecutive meetings of the Commission; or
- (f) has, in the opinion of the Government, abused his position as Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson or a member, as the case may be, as to render that person's continuance in office detrimental to the interests of minorities or the public interest:

Provided that no person shall be removed except as in clause (a), (b) and (c) until that person has been given a reasonable opportunity of being heard.

6. The salary and allowances payable to and other terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and a member shall be such, as may be prescribed. Salary and allowances of member.
7. (1) The Government shall appoint an officer of the Haryana Civil Services Cadre, as a Secretary of the Commission. Secretary of Commission.
- (2) The Secretary shall cause the accounts of the Commission to be maintained and shall discharge the duties assigned to him by or under this Act.
- (3) The Secretary shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission and shall be responsible for the proper administration of the affairs of the Commission and its day-to-day management and shall, -
- (a) operate the grants of the Commission;
 - (b) discharge such other functions, which are conferred upon him by or under this Act or any other law for the time being in force; and
 - (c) delegate any of its functions or authority to a subordinate officer of the Commission.
8. (1) The Government shall provide the Commission with such staff, as may be required for proper functioning of the Commission under this Act. Staff of Commission.
- (2) The salary, allowances and conditions of service of the staff shall be such, as may be prescribed.
9. The salaries and allowances payable to the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and members and the administrative expenses, including salaries and allowances payable to staff of the Commission shall be paid out of the grants referred to in sub-section (2) of section 15. Salaries and allowances to be paid out of grants.
10. (1) The Commission shall regulate its own procedure with the prior approval of the Government. Procedure to be regulated by Commission.
- (2) All orders and decisions of the Commission shall be authenticated by the Secretary or any other officer of the Commission duly authorized by the Chairperson in this behalf.
11. No act, decision or proceeding of the Commission shall be questioned or shall be invalid merely on the ground of any vacancy or defect in the constitution of the Commission or any defect in the appointment of a person acting as Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson or a member or any irregularity in the procedure of the Commission, including issuing a notice for holding of a meeting, not affecting merits of the matter. Vacancy etc. not to invalidate proceedings of Commission.
12. (1) The Commission shall meet as and when necessary, at such time and place, as the Chairperson may think fit: Meeting of Commission.
- Provided that the Commission shall meet at least once in three months.
- (2) The Chairperson shall preside over the meeting of the Commission.
 - (3) One-half of the members shall form the quorum for a meeting.
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Functions of
Commission.

13. (1) The Commission shall perform the following functions, namely :-
- (a) to examine the working of various safeguards provided in the Constitution of India or the laws enacted by the Parliament or the laws passed by the State Legislature for the protection of minorities and to make recommendations to ensure effective implementation and enforcement of all the safeguards;
 - (b) to monitor the working of the safeguards provided in the Constitution of India, laws enacted by the Parliament or State Legislature, policies and schemes of the Government for minority;
 - (c) to conduct studies, research and analysis on the question of avoidance of discrimination against minority;
 - (d) to make assessment of the representation of minority in various services under the Government of Haryana and the means to achieve the desired level;
 - (e) to make recommendations for ensuring, maintaining and promoting communal harmony in the State of Haryana;
 - (f) to make periodical or special reports to the Government on any matter pertaining to the minority and in particular, difficulties confronted by them;
 - (g) to study any other matter, which in the opinion of the Commission, is important from the point of view of the welfare and development of minority and to make appropriate recommendations;
 - (h) to consider the grievances of the minority and to suggest appropriate solution from time to time;
 - (i) to look into specific complaints regarding deprivation of rights and safeguards of minority and take up such matters with the appropriate authorities;

Provided that if any matter specified in sub-section (1) is undertaken by the National Commission for Minorities constituted under section 3 of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 (Central Act 19 of 1992), the Commission shall cease to have jurisdiction in such matters.

(2) The Government shall cause the recommendations of the Commission to be laid before the State Legislature along with the memorandum explaining the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations and the reasons for non-acceptance, if any, of such recommendations:

Provided that in case of non-acceptance of any recommendations, the Commission shall have the right to be heard by the Government.

14. The Commission shall, while carrying out its functions under this Act, have the powers of a civil court and in particular, in respect of the following matters, namely: - Powers of Commission.

- (a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath;
- (b) requiring the discovery and production of any documents;
- (c) receiving evidence on affidavits;
- (d) requisitioning any public record or copy thereof from any office of the Government;
- (e) issuing commissions for the examination of witness and documents; and
- (f) any other matter, as may be prescribed.

15. (1) The Commission shall prepare every year a budget estimate of its income and expenditure for the financial year and shall forward it to the Government for approval. Budget of Commission and grants by Government.

(2) The Government shall, after due appropriation made by the State Legislature by law in this behalf, pay to the Commission by way of grants such sums of money, as the Government may think fit for being utilised for the purposes of this Act.

(3) The Commission may spend such sums, as it thinks fit for performing the functions under this Act, and such sums shall be treated as expenditures payable out of the grants referred to in sub-section (2).

16. (1) The Commission shall maintain proper accounts and other relevant record in such form, as may be prescribed. Accounts and audit.

(2) The accounts of the Commission shall be audited by an auditor deputed by the Director, Local Audit, Haryana after the close of each financial year and any expenditure in connection with such audit, shall be payable by the Commission.

(3) An auditor shall have access to all the accounts and other records of the Commission.

(4) The accounts of the Commission, as certified by an auditor, together with a copy of the audit report shall be forwarded to the Government by the Commission.

17. (1) The Commission shall prepare, in such form and at such time, for each financial year, as may be prescribed, its annual report giving a full account of its activities during the previous financial year and forward a copy thereof to the Government. Annual report.

(2) The Government shall cause the annual report to be laid before the State Legislature.

- Special report. 18. The Commission may submit to the Government a special report on any matter of public importance pertaining to the interests of the minority.
- Powers to utilize services of agencies. 19. The Commission may, for the purposes of conducting any examination of witness and documents under this Act, utilize the services of any agency of the Government with the prior approval of the Government.
- Protection of statement made to Commission. 20. No statement made by a person to the Commission in the course of giving evidence shall be used against him in any civil or criminal proceedings, except for prosecuting him for giving false evidence.
- Public servant. 21. The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, members and officers of the Commission shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of clause (28) of section 2 of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (Central Act 45 of 2023).
- Protection of action taken in good faith. 22. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceedings shall lie against the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, members or any officer performing functions under this Act or any official acting under the directions of such officer, for anything which is done in good faith or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act or any rules made thereunder.
- Research cell. 23. The Commission may, for carrying out the purposes of this Act, recommend the Government to establish a research cell.
- Power to make rules. 24. (1) The Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.
(2) Every rule made under this Act shall, as soon as may be, after it is made, be laid before the State Legislature.
- Power to remove difficulties. 25. (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Government may, in consultation with the Commission by order published in the Official Gazette, make such provision, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as appears to it to be necessary or expedient, for removing the difficulty:
Provided that no such order shall be made after the expiry of a period of two years from the date of commencement of this Act.
(2) Every order made under this section shall, as soon as may be, after it is made, be laid before the State Legislature.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Haryana State Commission for Minorities is proposed to be set up for providing an institutional arrangement at the State level for evaluating the safeguards provided in the Constitution and in laws for the protection of minorities, and for making recommendations to ensure effective implementation of such safeguards and laws in the State of Haryana.

2. A Commission with statutory status would infuse confidence among the minority communities about its working and effectiveness. It would also carry greater weight with the State Government, its Departments, Boards, Corporations, local authorities and other organisations concerned with the welfare and development of minorities.
3. It has, therefore, been decided to give statutory status to the Haryana State Commission for Minorities by the proposed legislation.
4. The Haryana State Commission for Minorities shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and such number of Members as may be provided under the Bill.
5. The main task of the Commission shall be to evaluate the progress of the development of minorities in the State, monitor the working of the safeguards provided in the Constitution and in laws enacted for the protection of the interests of minorities, and look into specific complaints regarding deprivation of rights and safeguards of minorities. The Commission shall also undertake studies, research and analysis on issues relating to the socio-economic and educational development of minorities and make recommendations for effective implementation of safeguards and for appropriate measures to be undertaken by the State Government.
6. The Bill seeks to achieve the aforesaid objects.

KRISHAN KUMAR BEDI

Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare of
SCs and BCs Antyodaya, SEWA, Minister, Haryana.

The Governor has, in pursuance of Clauses (1) and (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, recommended to the Haryana Legislative Assembly the introduction and consideration of the Bill.

Chandigarh :
The 26th August, 2026.

Dr. Virender Kumar Dahiya, IAS,
Secretary.

N.B.— The above Bill was published in the Haryana Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 26th August, 2026, under proviso to Rule 128 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Haryana Legislative Assembly.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

As per provision made in Section 15 of the proposed The Haryana State Commission for Minorities Bill, 2026, the Government may on an application made by the Administrator or the committee, as the case may be, give grant or advance to the Commission, on such terms and conditions, as the Government may specify for the purposes of managing the business and affairs of the Commission and its further development. However, advance or any grant cannot be forecasted at this stage.

**MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED
LEGISLATION**

Clause 24 of the proposed Bill empowers the State Government to frame Rules for carry out the purposes of the Act. This delegation of powers to the Executive is of a normal character. Hence, the memorandum regarding delegated Legislation as required under Rule 126 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Haryana Legislative Assembly.

