

**Bill No. 85 of 2021**

THE JUVENILE JUSTICE (CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN)  
AMENDMENT BILL, 2021

By

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH, MP

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BILL

*further to amend the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children)  
Act, 2015*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-second Year of the Republic of  
India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of  
Children) Amendment Act, 2021.

Short title  
and  
commencement.

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

2. In section 75 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, for the words “Whoever, having the actual charge of, or control over, a child, assaults, abandons, abuses, exposes or wilfully neglects the child or causes or procures the child to be assaulted, abandoned, abused, exposed or neglected in a manner likely to cause such child unnecessary mental or physical suffering, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine of one lakh rupees or with both:”, the words “Whoever, having the actual charge of, or control over, or responsibility of, a child, assaults, abandons, abuses, exposes or wilfully neglects the child or causes or procures the child to be assaulted, abandoned, abused, exposed or neglected in any manner likely to cause such child any psychological or physical trauma or suffering, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine of ten lakh rupees or with both:” shall be substituted.

2 of 2016

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## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015, is an important gatekeeper legislation that protects the rights of children. It is designed to consolidate and amend the law relating to children alleged and found to be in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection by catering to their basic needs through proper care, protection, development, treatment, social re-integration, by adopting a child-friendly approach in the adjudication and disposal of matters in the best interest of children and for their rehabilitation through processes provided, and institutions and bodies established under the Act.

Despite the above law, there is alarming rise in cases of child abuse. It is, therefore, necessary to amend this Act.

The Bill, therefore, seeks to amend the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015, with a view to bring causing of psychological and physical trauma to a child within the meaning of cruelty to child and to enhance the quantum of term of imprisonment and time for offence of cruelty to child.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;  
*January 23, 2021*

KODIKUNNIL SURESH

*ANNEXURE*

[EXTRACT FROM THE JUVENILE JUSTICE (CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN)  
ACT, 2015]

[ACT No. 2 OF 2016]

\* \* \* \* \*

Punishment  
for  
cruelty  
to child.

75. Whoever, having the actual charge of, or control over, a child, assaults, abandons, abuses, exposes or wilfully neglects the child or causes or procures the child to be assaulted, abandoned, abused, exposed or neglected in a manner likely to cause such child unnecessary mental or physical suffering, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine of one lakh rupees or with both:

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*(Shri Kodikunnil Suresh, M.P.)*