

Fourteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly

Bill No. 244

**THE KERALA HEADLOAD WORKERS
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2020**

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further to amend the Kerala Headload Workers Act, 1978.

Preamble.—*WHEREAS*, it is expedient further to amend the Kerala Headload Workers Act, 1978 (20 of 1980) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

BE it enacted in the Seventy first Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Kerala Headload Workers (Amendment) Act, 2020.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of section 7.*— In section 7 of the Kerala Headload Workers Act, 1978 (20 of 1980) (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act),—

(1) in sub-section (1), for the words and symbol “seventy-five kilograms”, the words and symbol “fifty-five kilograms” shall be substituted;

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

“(1A) No women and adolescent headload worker shall be required to carry on their head or person at a time any article or articles weighing more than thirty- five kilograms.”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

As per International Labour Organization Maximum Weight Convention No. 127 no worker shall be required or permitted to engage in the manual transport of a load which by reason of its weight is likely to jeopardize his health and safety and the International Labour Organization Maximum Weight Recommendation No.128 provides that the maximum permissible weight to be carried by an adult worker shall not be more than 55kg. In the case of women or adolescent workers the maximum permissible weight should substantially be reduced.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India has directed the State Government to take necessary action to ensure that the various recommendation of the Convention are fully complied with in so far as a State Legislations and Practices on the subject are concerned.

In order to give effect to the recommendation of International Labour Organization Convention, Government have decided to bring an amendment to section 7 of the Kerala Headload Workers Act 1978 (20 of 1980).

The Bill is intended to achieve the above object.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill, if enacted and brought into operation, would not involve any additional expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State.

T. P. RAMAKRISHNAN

EXTRACT OF THE RELEVANT PORTIONS FROM THE KERALA
HEADLOAD WORKERS ACT, 1978 (ACT 20 OF 1980)

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7. *Limitation of Employment.*—(1) No headload worker shall be required to carry on his head or person at a time any article or articles weighing more than seventy-five kilograms.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, no person who is more than sixty years of age shall be entitled to the benefits conferred on a headload worker under this Act.

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