

Fifteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly
Bill No. 296

THE ABKARI (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026

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2026

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BILL

further to amend the Abkari Act, 1077.

Preamble.—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Abkari Act, 1077 (1 of 1077) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

BE it enacted in the Seventy-seventh year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Abkari (Amendment) Act, 2026.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of section 29.*—In section 29 of the Abkari Act, 1077 (1 of 1077), in sub-section (2), in clause (a), after the word “bread”, the words “and vinegar” shall be inserted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

When toddy is produced in large quantities, the excess toddy after sale is wasted. However, if value-added products like vinegar are produced from toddy, this wastage can be avoided. In the Abkari policy for the financial year 2023-2024 declared vide G.O.(Ms) No. 79/2023/Taxes dated 27th July 2023, the government have proclaimed to entrust institutions like “Kudumbashree”, which is a State Government’s participatory poverty eradication and women empowerment mission, with the responsibility of producing value-added products like vinegar from excess toddy after sale. Currently, there is no provision in the Abkari Act, 1077 (1 of 1077) to regulate the supply of toddy in order to enable the production of vinegar from toddy.

Now the Government have decided to amend clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 29 of the Abkari Act, 1077 (1 of 1077) to regulate the supply of toddy in order to enable the supply of toddy for the production of vinegar.

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.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

1. Clause 2 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules either prospectively or retrospectively to regulate the mode in which toddy may be supplied to persons who use it in the manufacture of vinegar.

2. The matters in respect of which rules are to be made are matters of procedure and are of routine or administrative in nature. Further, such rules after they are made are subject to the scrutiny of the Legislative Assembly. Thus, the delegation of legislative powers is of a normal character.

M. B. RAJESH.

EXTRACT FROM THE RELAVANT PORTIONS OF
THE ABKARI ACT (1 OF 1077)

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29. Power to make rules.—(1) The Government may, by notification in the Gazette either prospectively or retrospectively, make rules for the purposes of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provision, the Government may make rules.—

(a) regulating the mode in which toddy may be supplied to licensed vendors of the same, or to persons who distinct spirits from it or who use it in the manufacture of bread;

(b) for determining the number of licenses of each description to be granted in any local area;

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