

MCQ Question · mcqquestion.com

Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019

Free · Share

Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019

India’s Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act came into force on 10 January 2020. It followed the NALSA judgment of 2014. In March 2026 Parliament changed the law. The change alters how identity is certified.

At a glance

Four key facts on this topic

01 **10 Jan 2020** Act in force

02 **2014** NALSA judgment

03 **24 Mar 2026** Lok Sabha passes amendment

04 **2 years** maximum jail for abuse

The 2019 Act

1 Passage and start

1.1 When did the 2019 Act pass?

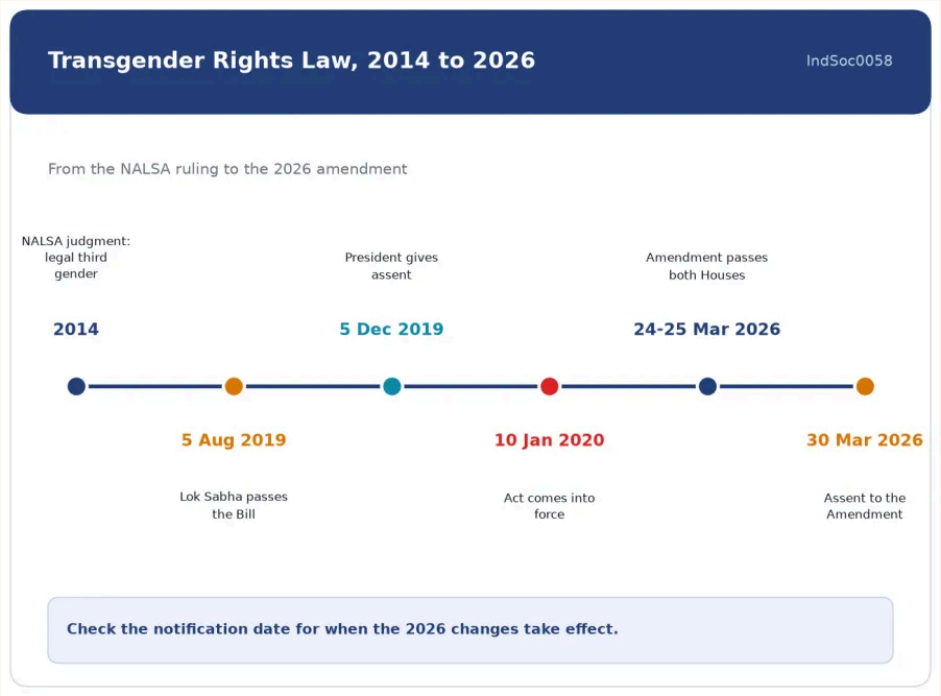
The Bill passed the Lok Sabha on **5 August 2019**. The Rajya Sabha passed it on **26 November 2019**.

Social Justice Minister Thaawarchand Gehlot moved it. The Rajya Sabha passed it by voice vote, without amendments.

1.2 When did it come into force?

It came into force on **10 January 2020**. The Central Government notified that date by S.O. 135(E).

Do not mix up the passage dates with this start date. Exam options often list all of them.



The Act passed in 2019, started in January 2020 and was amended in March 2026.

15. **Think it through:** Why does the start date differ from the passage date? See answer ↓

Quick check 1. True or false: The Act came into force on 10 January 2020. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Quick check 2. True or false: The Rajya Sabha passed the Bill on 5 August 2019. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Sources: prsindia.org; livelaw.in; scconline.com

2 Identity and certificate

2.1 Who counts as a transgender person?

The Act covers a person whose gender does not match the gender assigned at birth.

Section 4(2) gave a right to a **self-perceived gender identity**.

2.2 How does a person get a certificate?

The person applies to the **District Magistrate** for a certificate of identity.

No medical examination was needed at this stage.

2.3 When is surgery relevant?

A person who undergoes surgery to change gender can get a revised certificate.

So surgery was a route to a revised certificate, not a condition for the first one.

16. **Think it through:** Why does self-perception matter? See answer ↓

Quick check 3. True or false: Under the 2019 Act, a person applies to the District Magistrate for a certificate. *(True or False?)*

See answer ↓

Quick check 4. True or false: The 2019 Act made surgery compulsory for the first certificate. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Sources: prsindia.org

3 Rights and duties

3.1 What does the Act forbid?

It bars discrimination in **education, employment and healthcare**. It also covers public facilities, movement and residence.

Every establishment must designate a complaint officer.

3.2 Can a family send a person away?

A transgender person has a right of residence in the household. A court order is needed to place the person in a rehabilitation centre.

3.3 What must the government provide?

Recognised schools and clubs must include transgender people in studies and sport.

The government must provide health facilities. These include HIV test centres, surgeries, insurance and health care.

17. **Think it through:** Why a complaint officer? See answer ↓

Quick check 5. True or false: A court order is needed to place a transgender person in a rehabilitation centre. *(True or False?)*

See answer ↓

Quick check 6. True or false: The Act asks no establishment to name a complaint officer. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Sources: translaw.clpr.org.in

Offences and NALSA

4 Offences and the Council

4.1 What offences does it list?

It punishes forced or bonded labour, denial of access to a public place, removal from the household, and abuse.

The jail term is **six months to two years** plus a fine.

4.2 Is that penalty light?

Critics say yes. Other laws punish sexual assault with imprisonment of not less than seven years, up to life.

The 2019 Act’s maximum for abuse of a transgender person is two years.

4.3 What is the National Council?

The Act sets up the **National Council for Transgender Persons**. It gives advice to the Centre.

It also hears complaints and checks how policies work.

> 18. **Think it through:** Why does the penalty gap matter? See answer ↓

> **Quick check 7.** True or false: The 2019 Act's offences carry six months to two years in jail. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

> **Quick check 8.** True or false: The Act sets the same penalty as the minimum for sexual assault under other laws. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Sources: blog.ipleaders.in

5 NALSA and the 2014 Bill

5.1 What did NALSA decide?

In **NALSA v. Union of India (2014)** the Supreme Court legally recognised the “third gender”.

It upheld the right of every person to self-identify their gender.

5.2 What else did it say?

No transgender person should face a medical test that invades privacy.

The Court read dignity under Article 21 to include gender identity.

5.3 What did the 2014 Bill offer?

The 2014 Rights of Transgender Persons Bill proposed a **2% reservation** in education and government jobs.

It proposed two percent of seats in each course in government institutions.

The 2019 Act did not keep this reservation.

19. **Think it through:** Is the 2019 Act the same as NALSA? See answer ↓

Quick check 9. True or false: NALSA v. Union of India recognised a legal third gender. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Quick check 10. True or false: The 2019 Act kept the 2% reservation from the 2014 Bill. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Sources: translaw.clpr.org.in; gktoday.in; orinam.net

The 2026 Shift

6 The 2026 Amendment

6.1 How did the 2026 Amendment pass?

The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 13 March 2026. The Lok Sabha passed it on **24 March 2026** by voice vote.

The Rajya Sabha followed a day later. Assent came on 30 March.

6.2 What happened to the definition?

The Bill removes the old definition and lists categories instead.

It keeps socio-cultural identities such as kinner, hijra, aravani and jogta, and persons with variations at birth.

It removes trans man, trans woman and genderqueer, and persons with different sexual orientations.

6.3 How does a certificate work now?

The District Magistrate issues it after examining a **medical board**'s recommendation.

The board is headed by a Chief Medical Officer or Deputy CMO.

A new certificate is needed after surgery. The medical institution must inform the DM.

6.4 What stays the same?

A person can still change the first name on the birth certificate and other documents.

> 20. **Think it through:** What did the change do to self-perception?
> See answer ↓

> **Quick check 11.** True or false: The 2026 Amendment gives the medical board a role in the certificate. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

> **Quick check 12.** True or false: The 2026 Amendment added trans man and genderqueer as listed categories. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Sources: thequint.com; blog.ipleaders.in

7 New penalties and the debate

7.1 What are the new penalties?

Forcing a person to take a transgender identity by kidnapping or grievous hurt carries **10 years to life** for an adult victim.

For a child victim the penalty is life imprisonment and a fine of at least five lakh.

7.2 What about forced begging?

Forcing a person to present as transgender and beg or work as bonded labour carries 5 to 10 years for an adult.

For a child it is 10 to 14 years and a fine of at least three lakh.

7.3 What does the government say?

It says the earlier definition was vague. It says identity cannot rest on self-perception alone.

Minister Virendra Kumar said a precise definition was needed.

7.4 What do critics say?

The opposition called the Bill anti-transgender. It asked for a Select Committee review.

It argued the Bill violates Articles 14, 15, 19 and 21. Reports say community members were not asked.

7.5 Where does the law stand?

The Supreme Court issued notices on Article 32 petitions and referred the matter to a three-judge bench.

The Act is not stayed. It remains in force. Check the official notice for the exact start date of the amendment.

> 21. **Think it through:** Why check the notification date? See answer ↓

Quick check 13. True or false: The Supreme Court has stayed the 2026 Amendment. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Quick check 14. True or false: The Lok Sabha passed the 2026 Amendment by voice vote. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Sources: newsonair.gov.in

Exam Practice

Remember this

- **2019 Act:** LS 5 Aug 2019; RS 26 Nov 2019; in force 10 Jan 2020
- **Certificate:** DM issues it; surgery only for revised certificate
- **Offences:** 6 months to 2 years plus fine
- **NALSA:** 2014, legal third gender, self-identify
- **2026 change:** medical board; narrower definition

Explain it back: Which authority issued the 2019 certificate of identity?

Practice MCQs

1. When did the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 come into force?

A. 10 January 2020

B. 26 November 2019

C. 5 December 2019

D. 5 August 2019

See answer ↓

2. Under the Act, what is the maximum punishment for sexual abuse against a transgender person, and how does this compare to the minimum punishment for the same offence against a cisgender woman under the IPC?

A. 1 year max vs 3 years minimum

B. 5 years max vs 10 years minimum

C. 2 years max vs 2 years minimum (equal)

D. 2 years max vs 7 years minimum (up to life)

See answer ↓

3. What did an earlier 2014 draft bill propose for transgender persons, that the final 2019 Act ultimately dropped?

A. Automatic citizenship for stateless transgender persons

B. A 2% reservation in education and government employment

C. Free healthcare for life

D. A separate transgender voting constituency

See answer ↓

4. What legal recognition did the 2014 NALSA judgment grant to transgender people in India?

A. The right to vote at 16

B. Recognition as a legal "third gender"

C. Reserved seats in Parliament

D. Automatic citizenship

See answer ↓

5. SMILE's transgender welfare sub-scheme builds on a landmark 2014 Supreme Court judgment.

Which case first gave transgender persons legal recognition as a third gender in India?

A. Puttaswamy v. Union of India

B. Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India

C. Supriyo v. Union of India

D. NALSA v. Union of India

See answer ↓

Answer Key

1. **A.** The correct answer is **10 January 2020**. The Central Government notified 10 January 2020 as the day it came into force (S.O. 135(E)). The Lok Sabha passed the Bill on 5 August 2019 and the Rajya Sabha on 26 November 2019. Those are passage dates, not the start date. ↑ Q1
2. **D.** The correct answer is **2 years maximum against 7 years minimum (up to life)**. The 2019 Act punishes abuse of a transgender person with 6 months to 2 years in jail plus a fine. Other laws punish sexual assault with not less than seven years and up to life. Critics point to this gap. ↑ Q2
3. **B.** The correct answer is **a 2% reservation in education and government employment**. The 2014 Rights of Transgender Persons Bill proposed two percent reservation in education and in government jobs. The 2019 Act did not keep it. ↑ Q3
4. **B.** The correct answer is **recognition as a legal third gender**. In NALSA v. Union of India (2014) the Supreme Court legally recognised the third gender. It also upheld the right of every person to self-identify their gender. ↑ Q4
5. **D.** The correct answer is **NALSA v. Union of India**. This 2014 judgment first gave transgender persons legal recognition. ↑ Q5

Quick-check answers

1. **True.** The Centre notified that date. ↑ 1
2. **False.** The Lok Sabha passed it on 5 August. The Rajya Sabha passed it on 26 November 2019. ↑ 2
3. **True.** The DM issues the certificate of identity. ↑ 3
4. **False.** Surgery mattered only for a revised certificate. ↑ 4
5. **True.** The Act protects the right of residence. ↑ 5
6. **False.** Each establishment must designate one. ↑ 6
7. **True.** A fine applies too. ↑ 7
8. **False.** Other laws set not less than seven years. ↑ 8
9. **True.** It was decided in 2014. ↑ 9
10. **False.** The Act dropped it. ↑ 10
11. **True.** The DM acts on the board's recommendation. ↑ 11

12. **False.** It removed both. ↑ 12
13. **False.** It issued notices but has not stayed the Act. ↑ 13
14. **True.** That was on 24 March 2026. ↑ 14
15. **Think it through.** A law passed by Parliament still needs a notification to start. The Centre picked 10 January 2020 and published it. ↑ 15
16. **Think it through.** It lets a person state who they are. The state does not decide it for them. The 2026 Amendment changed this. ↑ 16
17. **Think it through.** A right is weak without a place to complain. The officer gives the person a first stop inside the workplace. ↑ 17
18. **Think it through.** A short maximum can signal that the harm is smaller. That is the core of the critics' argument. ↑ 18
19. **Think it through.** The Act followed NALSA but left out some of its ideas, such as the reservation proposed in 2014. ↑ 19
20. **Think it through.** Under the 2019 Act, Section 4(2) gave a right to self-perceived identity. The 2026 Amendment moved the decision to a medical board. ↑ 20
21. **Think it through.** Sources differ on when the amendment began. Some say the day of assent, 30 March 2026. Others cite a later notification. ↑ 21

Curated by Arsalan Zuberi · mcqquestion.com

Scan to read online

https://mcqquestion.com/articles/indsoc0058-transgender-persons-protection-of-rights-act-2019/