

Protection of Human Rights Amendment Act

May 15, 2020

What is the Protection of Human Rights Act?

- It is an Act to provide for the constitution of a National Human Rights Commission, State Human Rights Commissions in States and Human Rights Courts for better protection of human rights and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

What are the amendments made in the Act?

- that a person who has been a **Judge of the Supreme Court is also made eligible** to be appointed as Chairperson of the Commission in addition to the person who has been the Chief Justice of India;
- to increase the Members of the Commission from **two to three** of which, one shall be a **woman**;
- to include Chairperson of the National Commission for Backward Classes, Chairperson of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights and the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities as deemed Members of the Commission;
- to reduce the term of the Chairperson and Members of the Commission and the State Commissions from **five to three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment**;
- to provide that a person who has been a **Judge of a High Court is also made eligible** to be appointed as Chairperson of the **State Commission** in addition to the person who has been the Chief Justice of the High Court; and,
- To confer upon State Commissions, the functions relating to human rights being discharged by the Union territories, other than the Union territory of Delhi,

this will be dealt with by the Commission.