



KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY SIXTH SESSION

**THE KARNATAKA FIRE FORCE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025**

**(LA Bill No. 42 of 2025)**

**(As passed by the Karnataka Legislative Assembly)**

A Bill further to amend the Karnataka Fire Force Act, 1964.

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Karnataka Fire Force Act, 1964 (Karnataka Act 42 of 1964), for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

Be it enacted by the Karnataka State Legislature in the seventy sixth year of the Republic of India as follows:-

**1. Short title and commencement.-** (1) This Act may be called the Karnataka Fire Force (Amendment) Act, 2025.

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

**2. Amendment of section 15.-** In section 15 of the Karnataka Fire Force Act, 1964 (Karnataka Act 42 of 1964), after sub-section (2), the following provisos shall be inserted, namely:-

“Provided that, the fire cess shall be levied in the form of a surcharge at the rate of one percent on the property tax of newly constructed multi-storied buildings (A high rise building) as defined in section 13 of the Act, with effect from the date of commencement of the Karnataka Fire Force (Amendment) Act, 2025.

Provided further that, no fire cess shall be levied on any building vested in or under the control or possession of the State Government or the Central Government or any public authority owned by the State Government or the Central Government.”

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS****(As appended to at the time of introduction)**

It is considered necessary further to amend section 15 of the Karnataka Fire Force Act, 1964 (Karnataka Act 42 of 1964), to give effect to the proposals made in the para 441 of Budget Speech for the year 2024-2025 and to increase efficiency in Fire and Emergency Department by levying one percent fire cess on property tax of newly constructed multistoried buildings.

Hence, the Bill.

**FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM**

There is no extra expenditure involved in the proposed legislative measure.

**Dr. G. PARAMESHWARA**  
Minister for Home

**K.R. MAHALAKSHMI**  
Secretary  
Karnataka Legislative Council

**ANNEXURE**  
**EXTRACT FROM THE KARNATAKA FIRE FORCE ACT, 1964**  
**(KARNATAKA ACT 42 OF 1964)**

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**15. Levy of fire tax.—** (1) The State Government may levy a cess called fire tax on lands and buildings which are situated in any area in which this Act is in force and on which property tax by whatever name called is levied by any local authority in that area.

(2) The fire tax shall be levied in the form of a surcharge on the property tax at such rate not exceeding ten percent of such property tax as the State Government may, by notification, in the official Gazette, determine.

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