

Title: Need to suitably amend Anand Marriage Act for registering Sikh marriages

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN (SANGRUR): Sir, the Anand Marriage Act, 1909 is a five-clause Act, which was enacted to legalise the sikh marriage ceremony of Anand Karaj. The operative clause 2 reads, "All marriages which may be or may have been duly solemnised according to the Sikh marriage ceremony called: Anand shall be deemed to have been with effect from the date of solemnisation of each respectively, good and valid in law."

The devout Sikh, man and woman, finds it abhorrent to register his marriage under the provisions of the Hindu Marriage Act or the Special Marriage Act.

Through you, Sir, we, the Sikhs, want the enforcement of our law and the following provisions of the law to be brought into force:

1. The provisions of the Anand Marriage Act are expanded to incorporate clauses for registration of marriages for Sikhs resident in India as well as non-resident Sikhs.
2. The Sikh marriage should be governed exclusively under this Act only, and
3. A committee of experts should be immediately appointed by the Ministry of Law and Justice to formulate the expansion of the above Act.