



UPSC &amp; STATE PCS CURRENT AFFAIRS · UJIYARI.COM

**DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS**

# Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill 2026 — Decriminalising 784 Provisions Across 79 Laws

9 April 2026 · **GS2** **GS3**

CURATED &amp; WRITTEN BY

**Bharat Choudhary**

UPSC Educator &amp; Content Creator

[linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)**ALSO FROM THE CREATOR****BharatNotes**Free UPSC notes, MCQs, PYQ analysis. **100% Free.**[bharatnotes.com](http://bharatnotes.com) →**ADVERTISE****Advertise with Ujiyari**

Reach thousands of UPSC aspirants daily.

[epicbharat@gmail.com](mailto:epicbharat@gmail.com)

# Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill 2026 — Decriminalising 784 Provisions Across 79 Laws

9 April 2026 · 4 min read · 1 tag

## On this Page

### 01 What Is Jan Vishwas?

### 02 Jan Vishwas Act 2023 vs. Jan...

### 03 What the 2026 Bill Does

- Category 1: Ease of Doing Business (717 provisions)
- Category 2: Ease of Living (67 provisions)
- Replacement Framework

### 04 Why This Matters for MSMEs

### 05 Historical Context: Regulatory Philosophy in India

### 06 Constitutional and Procedural Context

### 07 UPSC Relevance

- GS Paper 2 — Polity & Governance
- GS Paper 3 — Economy
- Mains Angle

### 08 Facts Corner

## WHY IN NEWS:

Parliament passed the **Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026** — Lok Sabha on April 1 and Rajya Sabha on April 2, 2026. The bill amends 784 provisions across 79 Central Acts administered by 20 Ministries, decriminalising technical and procedural offences by replacing prison terms with fines, warnings, and improvement notices.

## WHAT IS JAN VISHWAS?

The Jan Vishwas framework is a legislative initiative to **decriminalise minor regulatory offences** in Indian law — shifting from a culture of criminal enforcement for technical/procedural lapses to a civil and administrative compliance model. The philosophy: genuine criminals should face criminal law; businesses and individuals who make procedural mistakes should face proportionate civil penalties, not imprisonment.

The name “Jan Vishwas” (People’s Trust) signals the intent: **governance premised on trust rather than fear**.

## JAN VISHWAS ACT 2023 VS. JAN VISHWAS BILL 2026

PARAMETER	JAN VISHWAS BILL 2026	
Number of Acts covered	42 Central Acts	79 Central Acts
Provisions amended	183	784 (717 EoDB + 67 EoL)
Ministries involved	~10	23
Focus	Ease of doing business	Ease of doing business (717) + Ease of living (67)
Offences	Technical/procedural regulatory	Expanded scope including consumer protection, environment, food safety
Approach	Replace jail with fines	Replace jail with fines + warnings + improvement notices

## WHAT THE 2026 BILL DOES

### Category 1: Ease of Doing Business (717 provisions)

Provisions in business-facing laws where imprisonment was prescribed for administrative/technical violations — such as:

- Failure to file returns within prescribed deadlines
- Minor documentation lapses under companies law, factories law, labour codes
- Non-compliance with periodic reporting requirements
- Technical violations of licence conditions that cause no harm



## Category 2: Ease of Living (67 provisions)

Provisions affecting ordinary citizens in areas like:

- Consumer protection (delayed complaint resolution)
- Food adulteration (minor/technical offences)
- Drug and cosmetics documentation
- Environmental permits for small establishments

## Replacement Framework

Instead of imprisonment, offenders face:

- **Monetary penalties** — graduated by severity and repeat offences
- **Warnings** — for first-time minor violations
- **Improvement notices** — time-bound compliance windows
- **Compounding** — offenders can pay a settlement and close the matter

## WHY THIS MATTERS FOR MSMEs

India has an estimated **6.3 crore MSME units**. Many are operated by first-generation entrepreneurs with limited legal knowledge. The previous regime created:

- **Fear of arrest** for procedural lapses (e.g., late filing, wrong form)
- **Inspector raj** — small violations became tools for harassment
- **High litigation costs** — defending criminal cases is prohibitive for MSMEs
- **Stigma of criminal record** — disproportionate for technical errors

Jan Vishwas 2.0 removes the threat of imprisonment for ~784 categories of such violations, significantly improving the compliance environment.

## HISTORICAL CONTEXT: REGULATORY PHILOSOPHY IN INDIA

India's legal framework inherited numerous laws from the colonial era where criminal enforcement was the default tool of governance. The regulatory system was designed to enforce compliance through fear rather than incentivise voluntary adherence. Post-Independence reforms were piecemeal.

Key milestones in decriminalisation:

- **Companies Act 2013** — introduced compounding for minor offences



- **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016** — civil/administrative resolution over criminal
- **Jan Vishwas Act 2023** — first systematic decriminalisation exercise
- **Jan Vishwas 2026** — second and expanded iteration

## CONSTITUTIONAL AND PROCEDURAL CONTEXT

The bill is a **money bill** in character for some provisions but broadly categorised as an **ordinary bill** passed by both Houses. It:

- Amends multiple parent Acts through a single legislative instrument (omnibus legislation)
- Does not affect the **Indian Penal Code (IPC) / Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)** — criminal law core is untouched
- Retains criminal provisions for **wilful fraud, deliberate evasion, and repeat serious violations**
- **Parliament’s legislative competence:** Union List subjects and Concurrent List subjects covered by Central Acts

## UPSC RELEVANCE

### GS Paper 2 — Polity & Governance

- Legislative process — ordinary vs. money bill, both Houses
- Regulatory reforms — from **punitive** to compliance-based governance
- MSME policy, ease of doing business rankings, investor sentiment

### GS Paper 3 — Economy

- Business environment: regulatory burden, compliance costs, inspector raj
- India’s rank in Doing Business Index (World Bank — now Business Ready/B-READY)
- MSME sector — role in GDP, employment, exports

### Mains Angle

“Decriminalisation of minor regulatory offences through the Jan Vishwas framework represents a fundamental reorientation of India’s regulatory philosophy. Critically examine.” (GS2 + GS3)



## FACTS CORNER

ITEM	FACT
Full name	Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026
Lok Sabha passed	April 1, 2026
Rajya Sabha passed	April 2, 2026
Acts covered	79 Central Acts
Ministries involved	23
Total provisions amended	784 (717 EoDB + 67 EoL)
Jan Vishwas 2023 (original)	183 provisions in 42 Acts
Replacement instruments	Monetary penalties, warnings, improvement notices
Key proponent	Piyush Goyal (Commerce and Industry)
India MSME units	~6.3 crore registered MSMEs
B-READY (World Bank)	Successor to Doing Business Index; assesses regulatory quality

← **PREVIOUS ARTICLE**

**US-Iran Ceasefire 2026 — Strait of Hormuz, India's Energy...**

**NEXT ARTICLE** →

**Amul Crosses ₹1 Lakh Crore Turnover — India's Cooperative...**





CURATED &amp; WRITTEN BY

## Bharat Choudhary

UPSC Educator &amp; Content Creator

[linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)[Read Full Article on Ujiyari →](#)<https://ujiyari.com/daily/2026/04/09/jan-vishwas-amendment-2026-decriminalisation/>

### ALSO FROM THE CREATOR

## BharatNotes

Free UPSC study platform — subject-wise notes across all 4 GS papers, Prelims MCQs, Mains answer frameworks, PYQ analysis & progress tracking. **100% Free • No Login Required.**

[Start Preparing → bharatnotes.com](https://bharatnotes.com)

### 📌 OPPORTUNITY

## Advertise with Ujiyari

Reach **thousands of serious UPSC & State PCS aspirants** daily through our PDFs, website, and social channels.

**Ideal for:** Coaching institutes • EdTech platforms • Book publishers • Exam prep apps

[✉ epicbharat@gmail.com](mailto:epicbharat@gmail.com)

Write to us for rates & media kit

Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs · [ujiyari.com](https://ujiyari.com) · [bharatnotes.com](https://bharatnotes.com)

