

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT ACT 1844
ACT No III OF 1844
(Rep., Act 17 of 1862)

[2nd March, 1844.]

Passed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council, on the 2d March, 1844.

AN Act for legalizing the infliction of Corporal Punishment in cases of Petty Larceny Generally, and when committed by offenders of tender age.

I. Whereas it is expedient until adequate improvements in Prison Discipline can be effected, to substitute corporal punishment for imprisonment in the case of certain offences:

It is hereby enacted, in modification of C. 1, S. 2, Regulation II. of 1834, that it shall be competent to a Magistrate, on conviction in cases of thefts of property not exceeding in value the sum of Fifty Rupees, to sentence the person convicted to corporal punishment not exceeding thirty Stripes of a ratan.

II. And whereas it is also expedient, that offenders of tender age should be punished rather in the way of School discipline than of ordinary criminal justice:

It is hereby enacted, that it shall be competent to a Magistrate, and he is hereby required, on conviction in cases of theft of property not exceeding in value the sum of Fifty Rupees, if the person convicted shall appear to him by inspection or other evidence to be of such tender years as to require punishment rather in the way of School discipline than of ordinary criminal justice, to sentence such person to corporal punishment with a light ratan, not exceeding ten stripes.

III. And it is hereby enacted provided and enacted, that no female shall be subject to corporal punishment, and that in cases of infliction of corporal punishment, no other punishment shall be superadded, and that the punishment shall be inflicted on all occasions in the presence of the Magistrate.
