**The Indian Penal Code-**

The **Indian Penal Code** (**IPC**) is the official [criminal code](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Criminal_code) of [India](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/India). It is a comprehensive code intended to cover all substantive aspects of [criminal law](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Criminal_law). The code was drafted on the recommendations of first law commission of India established in 1834 under the [Charter Act of 1833](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charter_Act_of_1833) under the Chairmanship of [Lord](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lord) [Thomas Babington Macaulay](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Babington_Macaulay). It came into force in [British India](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_India) during the early [British Raj](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Raj) period in 1862. However, it did not apply automatically in the [Princely states](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princely_states), which had their own courts and [legal systems](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legal_system) until the 1940s. The Code has since been amended several times and is now supplemented by other criminal provisions.

After the [partition of the British Indian Empire](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partition_of_India), the Indian Penal Code was inherited by its successor states, the [Dominion of India](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominion_of_India) and the [Dominion of Pakistan](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominion_of_Pakistan), where it continues independently as the [Pakistan Penal Code](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pakistan_Penal_Code). After the separation of [Bangladesh](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangladesh) from Pakistan, the code [continued in force there](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Penal_Code,_1860_(Bangladesh)). The Code was also adopted by the British colonial authorities in [Colonial Burma](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colonial_Burma), [Ceylon](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ceylon) (modern Sri Lanka), the [Straits Settlements](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Straits_Settlements) (now part of Malaysia), [Singapore](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Singapore_in_the_Straits_Settlements) and [Brunei](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brunei), and remains the basis of the criminal codes in those countries.

**History**-

The draft of the Indian Penal Code was prepared by the First Law Commission, chaired by [Thomas Babington Macaulay](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Babington_Macaulay) in 1834 and was submitted to Governor-General of India Council in 1835. Based on a simplified codification of the law of England at the time, elements were also derived from the [Napoleonic Code](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Napoleonic_Code) and from [Edward Livingston](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Livingston)'s [Louisiana Civil Code](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louisiana_Civil_Code) of 1825. The first final draft of the Indian Penal Code was submitted to the Governor-General of India in Council in 1837, but the draft was again revised. The drafting was completed in 1850 and the Code was presented to the Legislative Council in 1856, but it did not take its place on the statute book of British India until a generation later, following the [Indian Rebellion of 1857](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Rebellion_of_1857). The draft then underwent a very careful revision at the hands of [Barnes Peacock](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barnes_Peacock), who later became the first Chief Justice of the [Calcutta High Court](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calcutta_High_Court), and the future [puisne judges](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Puisne_Judge" \o "Puisne Judge) of the Calcutta High Court, who were members of the Legislative Council, and was passed into law on 6 October 1860. The Code came into operation on 1 January 1862. Macaulay did not survive to see the penal code he wrote come into force, having died near the end of 1859. The code came into force in Jammu and Kashmir on 31 October 2019, by virtue of the [Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jammu_and_Kashmir_Reorganisation_Act,_2019), and replaced the state's [Ranbir Penal Code](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ranbir_Penal_Code" \o "Ranbir Penal Code).

**Objective**

The objective of this Act is to provide a general [penal code](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penal_law) for India. Though not the initial objective, the Act does not repeal the penal laws which were in force at the time of coming into force in India. This was done because the Code does not contain all the offences and it was possible that some offences might have still been left out of the Code, which were not intended to be exempted from penal consequences. Though this Code consolidates the whole of the law on the subject and is exhaustive on the matters in respect of which it declares the law, many more penal statutes governing various offences have been created in addition to the code