

The Notaries (Amendment) Bill, 2021

A Bill further to amend the Notaries Act, 1952		
<p>1(1) This Act may be called the Notaries (Amendment) Act, 2021</p> <p>(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint, and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act.</p>		Short title and commencement
<p>2. In the Notaries Act, 1952, after sub-section (2) of Section 5, the following provisos shall be added:-</p> <p>“Provided that after the commencement of the Notaries (Amendment) Act, 2021, no application for renewal of certificate of practice of any notary shall be considered for more than two terms, of five years each, after initial appointment of five years.</p> <p>Provided further that only those applications for renewal of certificate of practice of Notaries for successive renewal of third or more term received by the appropriate Government and whose validity expires prior to coming into force of the Notaries (Amendment) Act, 2021, may be considered for renewal.</p> <p>Provided also that the renewal of certificates, issued prior to coming into force of the Notaries (Amendment) Act, 2021 shall be valid till expiry of such renewed terms.”</p>		Amendment of Section 5
<p>3. In the Notaries Act, 1952, after Section 8, the following Section shall be inserted –</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“8A. Digitization of notarial work:</p> <p>The records of notarial work undertaken by Notaries shall also be maintained by the Notary in digital format in the manner as may be prescribed.”</p>		Digitization of notarial work
<p>4. In the Notaries Act, 1952, after Section 9, the following Section shall be inserted –</p>		Power to suspend certificate of practice.

	<p>“ 9A. Power to suspend certificate of practice: On receipt of a complaint or otherwise , if appropriate government has reasons to believe that any notary is involved in professional or other misconduct, it may suspend the certificate of practice of such notary for such period as deemed appropriate for conduct of inquiry .</p> <p>Provided that before suspending the certificate of practice, reasonable opportunity of hearing may be given to such notary.”</p>	
	<p>5. In the Notaries Act, 1952, after clause (h) of sub-section (2) of Section 15, the following clause shall be added:-</p> <p>“(ha) the format and manner in which the digital records of notarial work undertaken by Notaries shall be maintained under Section 8A</p>	<p>Amendment to Section 15</p>