The Punjab Rent (Amendment) Act, 2013

Act 33 of 2013

Keyword(s):
Rent

Amendment appended: 23 of 2014
The Punjab Rent (Amendment) Act, 2013

(Punjab Act No. 33 of 2013)

AN ACT

further to amend the Punjab Rent Act, 1995.

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Punjab in the Sixty-fourth Year of Republic of India, as follows:-

1. This Act may be called the Punjab Rent (Amendment) Act, 2013.

2. In the Punjab Rent Act, 1995, (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 2, clause (k) shall be omitted.

3. In the principal Act, for section 3, the following section shall be substituted, namely:-

"3. (1) Nothing in this Act shall apply-

(a) to any premises let out before the commencement of this Act;

(b) to any premises belonging to or let out to the State Government or the Government of India or a local authority;

(c) to any premises constructed on or after the commencement of this Act, for a period of fifteen years from the date of completion of construction;

Explanation 1.- The expression “date of completion of construction” shall mean the date of completion as intimated to the concerned authority or of assessment to property tax,
whichever is earlier, and, where the premises has been constructed in stages, the date on which the initial building was completed and an intimation thereof was sent to the concerned authority or was assessed to property tax, whichever is earlier.

Explanation II. - The expression “premises constructed” shall include—

(i) re-building of more than seventy five per cent of an existing building; and

(ii) additional construction to an existing building;

(d) to any premises let out to citizens of a foreign country or an embassy, High Commission, legation or commission of a foreign State or such international organization, as may be specified by the State Government, by notification in the Official Gazette;

(e) to any premises belonging to such religious, charitable or educational trust or class of trusts, as may be specified by the State Government, by notification in the Official Gazette;

(f) to any premises let out by a hire-purchaser, lessee or sub-lessee (by whatever name called), who has been allotted such premises by the Punjab Urban Development Authority or any other local authority by way of an agreement of hire-purchase, lease or sub-lease, even before the full ownership rights accrue to such hire-purchaser, lessee or sub-lessee, as the case may be.

(2) For non-residential premises, contract renting shall be admissible during the subsisting period of contract. Such premises shall be governed by the conditions of the contract and litigation under any other law shall not be permissible. A landlord violating the conditions laid down in the contract and agreed to by the parties shall not be entitled for rent for the period of violation and if the tenant violates the conditions, he shall be liable to pay double the rent for the period in question, in addition to immediate dispossession through the Rent Authority."

4. In the principal Act, in section 4, for sub-sections (2) and (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—
“(?) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Registration Act, 1908 (16 of 1908), every agreement referred to in sub-section (1) shall be in the Form specified in Schedule I to this Act and shall be registered with the Rent Authority concerned on payment of registration fee of rupees one thousand.”.

5. In the principal Act, for section 6, the following section shall be substituted, namely:

"6. The rent payable in relation to the premises shall be agreed payable rent between the landlord and the tenant:
Provided that the agreed rent shall be increased by five per cent of the last rent for two years and the third year increase shall be based upon the increase in the Consumer Price Index over the corresponding three years.

Example. - If the Consumer Price Index increases by eighteen per cent in three years, the rent for the fourth year shall be the rent for the first year multiplied by one point eighteen. This cycle shall continue.”

6. In the principal Act, section 7 shall be omitted.

7. In the principal Act, in section 9, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:

“(1) Where a landlord has, at any time, with or without the approval of the tenant, incurred expenditure for any improvement, addition or structural alteration in the premises not being expenditure on decoration or tenantable repairs necessary or usual for such premises, and the cost of that improvement, addition or alteration has not been taken into account in determining the rent of the premises, the landlord may lawfully increase the rent per year by an amount not exceeding ten per cent of such cost.”.

8. In the principal Act, in section 10, sub-section (3), shall be omitted

9. In the principal Act, sections 11 and 12 shall be omitted.
10. In the principal Act, in section 20, in sub-section (2), the words “whether before or after the commencement of this Act”, wherever occurring, shall be omitted.

11. In the principal Act, for section 24, the following section shall be substituted, namely:-

"24. (1) Where the landlord is-

Right to recover immediate possession of premises to accrue to widows, handicapped persons, old persons, freedom fighters and non-resident Indians.

(a) a widow and the premises let out by her, or her husband; or

(b) a handicapped person and the premises let out by him or her; or

(c) a person who is of the age of sixty-five years or more and the premises let out by him or her; or

(d) a freedom fighter, his widow or dependant son or daughter and the premises let out by him or her;

is required by him or her for his or her family or for any one ordinarily living with him or her for residential or non-residential use, he or she may apply to the Rent Authority for recovery of immediate possession of such premises.

(2) Where the landlord referred to in sub-section (1) has let out more than one premises, it shall be open to him or her to make an application under that sub-section in respect of any one residential and one non-residential premises each chosen by him or her.

Explanation. I. For the purposes of this section “handicapped person” shall mean a person who is, as being an assessee, entitled for the time being to the benefits of deduction under section 80U of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

Explanation. II. The right to recover possession under this section shall be exercisable only once in respect of each for residential and for non-residential use.

(3) Where an owner is a non-resident Indian and returns to India for permanent residence, he or she may apply to the Rent Authority for recovery of immediate possession of residential or and non-residential premises let out by him or her on or prior to the commencement of this
Act, which are required for his or her use, or for the use of any one ordinarily living with and dependent on him or her.

Explanation.—“non-resident Indian” means a person of Indian origin, who is either permanently or temporarily settled outside India, in either case—

(i) for or on taking up employment outside India; or

(ii) for carrying on a business or vocation outside India; or

(iii) for any other purpose, in such circumstances, as would indicate his intention to stay outside India for an uncertain period.”.

12. In the principal Act, for section 26, the following section shall be substituted, namely:

“26. Without the previous consent, in writing, of the landlord, no tenant shall—

(a) sub-let the whole or any part of the premises held as a tenant; or

(b) transfer or assign his right in the tenancy or any part thereof.”.

13. In the principal Act, in section 36,—

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint as many Rent Authorities as it thinks fit and define the limits within which each Rent Authority shall exercise the powers conferred and perform the duties imposed upon it by or under this Act.”; and

(ii) in sub-section (2), for the word “Government”, the words “State Government” shall be substituted.

14. In the principal Act, in section 37, for sub-section (6), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(6) An order made by a Rent Authority or the Tribunal under this Act, or an order passed in appeal, shall be executable by a Rent Authority designated by the Tribunal in this behalf and for this purpose the Rent Authority so designated shall have all the powers of a Civil Court.”.
15. In the principal Act, in section 39, for the words “Government of Punjab”, the words “State Government” shall be substituted.

16. In the principal Act, in section 48, in sub-section (1), for the words “Government of Punjab”, the words “State Government” shall be substituted.

17. In the principal Act, in section 51, in clause (b), the figures and signs “11, 12,” shall be omitted.

18. In the principal Act, in section 52, in sub-section (2), for the words “Government of Punjab”, the words “State Government” shall be substituted.

19. In the principal Act, in section 54, for proviso to sub-section (3), the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:-

“Provided that no appeal shall lie against an order or a decision of the Rent Authority made under section 21 or section 33.”.

20. In the principal Act, section 60 shall be omitted.

21. In the principal Act, in section 67,-

(i) sub-section (1) shall be omitted;

(ii) in sub-section (2), for the words “one hundred rupees”, the words “five hundred rupees” shall be substituted;

(iii) in sub-section (3), for the words “five thousand rupees”, the words “ten thousand rupees” shall be substituted;

(iv) in sub-section (4), for the words “five thousand rupees”, the words “ten thousand rupees” shall be substituted; and

(v) in sub-section (5), for the words “five thousand rupees”, the words “ten thousand rupees” shall be substituted.

22. In the principal Act, sections 71 and 72 shall be omitted.
23. In the principal Act, for section 75, the following section shall be substituted, namely:

"75. (1) On the commencement of this Act, the East Punjab Urban Rent Restriction Act, 1949 (East Punjab Act No.III of 1949), is hereby repealed:

Provided that such repeal shall not affect,—

(a) the previous operation of the Act so repealed or anything duly done or suffered thereunder;

(b) any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued or incurred under the Act so repealed;

(c) any penalty, forfeiture or punishment incurred in respect of any offence committed under the Act so repealed; and

(d) any investigation, legal proceeding or remedy in respect of any such right, privilege, obligation, liability, penalty, forfeiture, and any such investigation, legal proceeding or remedy may be instituted, continued or enforced and any such penalty, forfeiture or punishment may be imposed as if the repealing Act had not been passed.

(2) Notwithstanding the repeal of the East Punjab Urban Rent Restriction Act, 1949 (East Punjab Act No.III of 1949), under sub-section (1), all cases and other proceedings in respect of the premises, other than owned by a non-resident Indian, let out prior to the commencement of this Act shall be governed and disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Act so repealed."

24. In the principal Act, for SCHEDULE I, the following SCHEDULE shall be substituted, namely:

"SCHEDULE I

(See section 4)

Form of Agreement

(to be typed on Bond Paper in three copies, one each for the Landlord, the Tenant and the Rent Authority)."
AGREEMENT

This agreement is made between Owner/Authorised Attorney/Landlord of and lessee (tenant) on day of (month and year) for letting out of premises on the following terms and conditions, namely:

(i) The tenancy will be for a period of months/years.

(ii) The starting rent will be Rs. per months.

(iii) The maintenance charges at Rs. per month will also be paid along with rent.

(iv) The property tax will be paid by the tenant.

(v) The day to day repairs (Part 'B') of Schedule-ll will be the responsibility of the tenant.

(vi) The repairs to damages in part 'A' of Schedule-ll will be carried out by the landlord unless caused by the negligence of the tenant.

(vii) The rent and other payable charges will be paid by day of, month in advance/the following months.

(viii) The tenant will have the option to vacate the premises by giving three months notice.

(ix) The rent will be increased by five per cent per year on and the third increase will be proportionate to the increase in whole sale Consumer Price Index over the three years period to [Sec. 6].

(x) The tenant agrees to handover the vacant possession of the premises on the expiry of the period contracted, i.e. on day of month year .

(xi) The electricity and water bills will be paid by the tenant.

(xii) Both the landlord and the tenant agree to abide by the conditions of the Punjab Rent Act, 1995.

Tenant

Landlord
REGISTRATION

This agreement is presented for registration before me in the office of the Rent Authority by ___________ Landlord and ___________ Tenant jointly on day of ___________ Year at ___________.

The contents of this deed have been read over and explained to the executants, who admit the execution of this agreement to be correct as agreed to.

The agreement has been registered in this office at Sr. No. ___________ at pages ___________ and Book No. ___________.

Dated: ___________.

Rent Authority.

25. In the principal Act, SCHEDULE IV shall be omitted.


26. In the principal Act, SCHEDULE VIII shall be omitted.


27. In the principal Act, SCHEDULE XV shall be omitted.


H.P.S. MAHAL,
Secretary to Government of Punjab,
Department of Legal and Legislative Affairs.
PART I
GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, PUNJAB
NOTIFICATION
The 29th August, 2014

No. 24-Leg./2014.-The following Act of the Legislature of the State of Punjab received the assent of the Governor of Punjab on the 20th Day of August, 2014, is hereby published for general information:–

THE PUNJAB RENT (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2014
(Punjab Act No. 23 of 2014)
AN
ACT
further to amend the Punjab Rent Act, 1995.

Be it enacted by the legislature of the State of Punjab in the Sixty-fifth Year of Republic of India, as follows:–

1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab Rent (Amendment) Act, 2014.

(2) It shall come into force on and with effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Punjab Rent Act, 1995, (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 2,-

(i) for clause (a), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:–

“(a) “Appellate Authority” means the Appellate Authority appointed under sub-section (1) of section 50 of this Act;”;

and

(ii) clauses (b), (e) and (n) shall be omitted.

3. In the principal Act, in section 4, for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:–

“(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Registration Act, 1908 (16 of 1908), every agreement referred to in sub-section (1) shall be in the Form specified in Schedule I appended to this Act and shall be registered under and in accordance with the provisions of the

Amendment in section 2 of Punjab Act 13 of 2012.

Amendment in section 4 of Punjab Act 13 of 2012.
Registration Act 1908 by the authority specified thereunder, on payment of registration fee of rupees one thousand.”.

4. In the principal Act, in section 20, in sub-section (1), the sign and word “Tribunal” shall be omitted.

5. In the principal Act, in section 31, in sub-section (3), for the word “Tribunal”, the words “Appellate Authority” shall be substituted.

6. In the principal Act, in section 36, sub-section (3) shall be omitted.

7. In the principal Act, in section 37, for sub-section (6), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:–

“(6) An order made by a Rent Authority under this Act, or an order passed in appeal, shall be executable by a Rent Authority designated by the Appellate Authority in this behalf and for this purpose the Rent Authority so designated shall have all the powers of a Civil Court.”.

8. In the principal Act, in section 38,—

   (i) in sub-section (6), in clause (b), and

   (ii) in sub-section (7), in clause (d),

for the words “Chairman of the Tribunal”, the words “Appellate Authority” shall be substituted.

9. In the principal Act, in CHAPTER VI, for the heading “Punjab Rent Tribunal”, the heading “Appellate Authority” shall be substituted.

10. In the principal Act, sections 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48 and 49 shall be omitted.
In the principal Act, for section 50, the following section shall be substituted, namely:

“50. (1) Save as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, the State Government may, by a general or special order, by notification confer on such officers and authorities, as it may think fit, the powers of Appellate Authority in relation to,—

(a) all appeals against the orders of the Rent Authority under this Act;

(b) any other matter, except the registration of agreements referred to in sub-section (2) of section 4 of this Act, arising from the provisions of this Act; and

(c) review of its own orders and decisions.

(2) The Appellate Authority may, either *suo moto* or on application of any of the parties and after notice to the parties and after hearing such of them as it may desire to be heard, call for records of any case pending before the Rent Authority under this Act, and either itself try the case or give direction for disposal of the case to such Rent Authority.

(3) Any person aggrieved by an order passed or a decision made by a Rent Authority may, within thirty days from the date of such order or decision, prefer an appeal, in writing, to the Appellate Authority in the prescribed form and accompanied by certified copy of the order or decision appealed against:

Provided that an appeal may be entertained after the expiry of the said period of thirty days, if the appellant satisfies the Appellate Authority that he had sufficient cause for not preferring the appeal within the specified period.

(4) In computing the aforesaid period of thirty days, the time taken in obtaining certified copy of the order or decision to be appealed against shall be excluded.

(5) An appeal shall lie to the Appellate Authority from every order or decision of Rent Authority made under this Act both on question of law and facts:

Provided that no appeal shall lie against an order or decision of the Rent Authority made under section 21 or section 33 of this Act.
(6) On receipt of an appeal under sub-section (3), the Appellate Authority shall, if satisfied, after such inquiry as it may deem necessary that the appeal is a fit case for adjudication by it, entertain such appeal, but if the Appellate Authority is not so satisfied, it may summarily reject the appeal after recording its reason.

(7) The Appellate Authority shall endeavour to dispose of an appeal against the order or decision of the Rent Authority under clause (d), clause (e), or clause (q) of sub-section (2) of section 20 of sections 21, 22, 23, 24 or 31 within one month of filing of such appeal.

(8) The Appellate Authority shall have the power to effect conciliation between the parties in any case pending before it.”.

12. In the principal Act, section 51 shall be omitted.

13. In the principal Act, for section 52, the following section shall be substituted, namely:–

“52. (1) Subject to the other provisions of this Act, a person, aggrieved by any order pertaining to any matter within the jurisdiction of the Appellate Authority, may make an application to the Appellate Authority in the form specified in Schedule XIII appended to this Act for the redressal of his grievance.

(2) Every application under sub-section (1) shall be in such form and be accompanied by such affidavits, documents or any other evidence and by such fees in respect of the filing of such applications and by such other fees for the service or execution of processes under the provisions of the Court Fees Act 1870, as amended by the State Government from time to time.

(3) On receipt of an application under sub-section (1), the Appellate Authority shall, if satisfied after such inquiry as it may deem necessary that the application is a fit case for adjudication or trial by it, entertain such application but where the Appellate Authority is not so satisfied, it may summarily reject the application after recording its reasons.”.
14. In the principal Act, section 53 shall be omitted.

15. In the principal Act, for sections 54 and 55, the following sections shall be substituted, namely:–

“54. Notwithstanding anything contained in any other provisions of this Act or in any other law for the time being in force, no interim order (whether by way of injunction or stay) shall be made on, or in any proceeding relating to, an application or appeal unless,—

(a) copies of such application or appeal and of all documents in support of the plea for such interim order are furnished to the party against whom such application is made or appeal is preferred; and

(b) an opportunity is given to such party to be heard in the matter:

Provided that the Appellate Authority may dispense with the requirements of clauses (a) and (b) and make an interim order as an exceptional measure, if it is satisfied, for reasons to be recorded, in writing, that it is necessary so to do for preventing any loss being caused to the applicant or the appellant, as the case may be, which cannot be adequately compensated in money, but any such interim order shall, if it is not sooner vacated, cease to have effect on the expiry of a period of fourteen days from the date on which it is made unless the said requirements have been complied with before the expiry of that period or the Appellate Authority has continued the operation of the interim order.

55. A person making an application or preferring an appeal to the Appellate Authority under this Act may either appear in person or take the assistance of a legal practitioner of his choice to present his case before the Appellate Authority.”.
16. In the principal Act, sections 56, 57, 58, 59, 61, 62, 63 and 64 of Punjab Act 13 of 2012 shall be omitted.

17. In the principal Act, in section 65, for the word “Tribunal”, wherever occurring, the words “Appellate Authority” shall be substituted.

18. In the principal Act, in section 68, for the word “Tribunal”, the words “Appellate Authority” shall be substituted.

19. In the principal Act, in SCHEDULE-I, for the words “Rent Authority”, wherever occurring, the words “Registering Authority” shall be substituted.

20. In the principal Act, in SCHEDULE-XIII, for the heading, the following heading shall be substituted, namely:–

“Form of application for appeal to the Appellate Authority under section 52.”.

H.P.S. MAHAL,
Secretary to Government of Punjab,
Department of Legal and Legislative Affairs.

577/08-2014/Pb. Govt. Press, S.A.S. Nagar