

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF GOA

THE GOA IRRIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

(Bill No. 17 of 2024)

(As introduced in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Goa)

GOA LEGISLATURE SECRETARIAT, ASSEMBLY HALL, PORVORIM, GOA JULY, 2024

The Goa Irrigation (Amendment) Bill, 2024

(Bill No. 17 of 2024)

Α

BILL

further to amend the Goa Irrigation Act, 1973 (Act No. 18 of 1973).

BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of Goa in the Seventy-fifth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

- 1. Short title and commencement.— (1) This 10 Act may be called the Goa Irrigation (Amendment) Act, 2024.
 - (2) It shall come into force at once.

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- Amendment of section 2.— In section 2 of the Goa Irrigation Act, 1973 (Act No. 18 of 1973)
 (hereinafter referred to as the "principal Act"), after clause (1), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—
 - "(1A) "Bulk user of water" means any person including an institution, a company or an establishment, whether Government or not, including restaurant, hotel, multi dwelling unit, water treatment plant, desalination plant, or any other commercial or industrial establishment, or an establishment dealing with activity of construction, whose consumption of water exceeds 30 cubic meters per day;".

3. Insertion of new section 85A.— After section 85 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely: —

"85A. Obligation of the Bulk user of water.— Every Bulk user of water shall treat sewage, before its release, by adopting the standards as specified by the Goa State Pollution Control Board, failing which, he shall be charged a penalty of Rs. 10/- per cubic meter of water supplied to him or part thereof.". 10

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Statement of Objects and Reasons

The Department of Water Resources of the Government supplies large quantity of water to the bulk users and such bulk users are duty bound to treat sewage, before it being released, so as to prevent contamination of water resources in the State. However, some bulk users do not treat sewage and release it untreated, which pollutes water bodies, fresh water and canal water. The Government has to undertake desilting of water bodies and irrigational canals every year by spending huge amount.

The Bill, therefore, seeks to charge penalty of Rs. 10/- per cubic meter of water supplied to bulk users or part thereof, who do not treat the water after its use and release untreated sewage, so that such amount collected by charging penalty can be utilized for improving/enhancing quality of water resources of the State.

This Bill seeks to achieve the above object.

Financial Memorandum

No financial implications are involved in this Bill, however, it would generate additional revenue which cannot be quantified at this stage.

Memorandum Regarding Delegated Legislation.

No delegated legislation is envisaged in this Bill.

Assembly Hall, Porvorim, Goa.
——— July, 2024 Namrata Ulman Secretary (Legislature)

ANNEXURE

Extract of Section 85 of the Goa Irrigation Act, 1973 (Act No - 18 of 1973)

Section 85. Obstruction to be removed and damage repaired.— Where and person is convicted under the Section 84, the court sentencing him any order he shall remove the obstruction or repair the damage in respect of which the conviction has been made within a period to be specified in such order. If such person neglects or refuses to obey such orders within a period specified, any Canal Officer duly empowered by the Government in this behalf may remove such obstructions, or repair such damage, and the cost of such removal or repair as certified by the said officer shall be recoverable from such persons as an arrear of land revenue.