
A BILL

further to amend the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, 1963.

WHEREAS both Houses of the State Legislature were not in session;

AND WHEREAS the Governor of Maharashtra was satisfied that circumstances existed which rendered it necessary for him to take immediate action further to amend the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, 1963, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; and, therefore, promulgated the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018, on the 3rd May 2018;

In pursuance of clause (3) of Article 348 of the Constitution of India, the following translation in English of the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (L. A. Bill No. XXXVI of 2018), introduced in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly on the 4th July 2018, is hereby published under the authority of the Governor.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra,

RAJENDRA G. BHAGWAT,
I/c Secretary (Legislation) to Government,
Law and Judiciary Department.
AND WHEREAS it is expedient to replace the said Ordinance by an Act of the State Legislature; it is hereby enacted in the Sixty-ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be called the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) (Amendment) Act, 2018.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 3rd May 2018.

2. In section 13 of the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, 1963, (hereinafter referred to as “the principal Act”), in sub-section (1), for clause (b), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:

“(b) two shall be elected by traders and commission agents, holding licenses for not less than one month to operate as such in the market area and who have made transactions amounting at least ten thousand rupees, in such area;”.

3. (1) The Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018, is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken (including any notification or order issued) under the corresponding provisions of the principal Act, as amended by the said Ordinance, shall be deemed to have been done, taken or issued, as the case may be, under the corresponding provisions of the principal Act, as amended by this Act.
STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, 1963 (Mah. XX of 1964), is enacted to develop and regulate the marketing of agricultural and certain other produce in market areas and markets including private markets and farmer consumer markets established therefor in the State, to confer powers upon the Market Committees constituted in connection with or acting for the purposes connected with such markets and to provide for the matters connected therewith.

2. The Central Government and the State Government have been consistently trying to get better prices for agricultural produce of the farmers. For the purpose, more licenses have been issued to the traders for having healthy competition in the auction of agricultural produce. If all traders who have licenses get right to vote, the number of traders would increase and eventually increase in the number of trading merchant would help the farmers to get better prices for their agricultural produce. Section 13 of the said Act provides for the composition of the Market Committee. Clause (b) of sub-section (1) of the said section 13 provided that the two members shall be elected by traders and commission agent, holding licenses for not less than two years to operate as such in the market area. In view of the requirement of two years in the said clause (b), it was noticed that large number of traders and commission agents holding licenses to operate as such in the market area were excluded from electing their representatives. Therefore, it was considered expedient to amend the said clause (b) with a view to change the criteria for enabling all such traders and commission agents holding licenses for not less than one month to operate as such in the market area and who have made transactions amounting at least ten thousand rupees, in such area to elect their representatives on the Market Committee. Due to the elections to the number of Market Committees were required to be held in the then near future as per the recent amendments to the said Act, it was necessary to amend the said clause (b) of the said Act expeditiously.

3. As both Houses of the State Legislature were not in session and the Governor of Maharashtra was satisfied that circumstances existed which rendered it necessary for him to take immediate action further to amend the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, 1963 (Mah. XX of 1964), for the purposes aforesaid, the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (Mah. Ord. XII of 2018), was promulgated by the Governor of Maharashtra on the 3rd May 2018.

4. The Bill is intended to replace the said Ordinance by an Act of the State Legislature.

Mumbai,

SUBHASH DESHMUKH,

Dated the 6th June 2018.

Minister for Marketing.