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SECRETARIAT OF THE ODISHA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY NOTIFICATION

The 25th September, 2023

No.5830/L.A.— The following Bill, which has been introduced in the Odisha Legislative Assembly on the 25th September, 2023 is here with published under rule-68 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Odisha Legislative Assembly for general information.

THE ODISHA LAND REFORMS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2023

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BILL

FURTHER TO AMEND THE ODISHA LAND REFORMS ACT, 1960.

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Odisha in the Seventyfourth Year of the Republic of India, as follows: —

Short title.

1. This Act may be called the Odisha Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 2023.

Amendment of Section 8-A.

2. In the Odisha Land Reforms Act, 1960, in Section 8-A, for sub-section Odisha Act 2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely: —

16 of 1960.

"(2)The conversion fees at the rate of one percentum of the market value shall be payable per acre of agricultural land situated at different places of the State, for conversion of its use to any purpose other than agriculture on and after the commencement of the Odisha Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 2023."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASON

Section 8-A of the Odisha Land Reforms Act, 1960 provides for conversion of agriculture land for non-agriculture purposes in the prescribed manner. Section 8-A of OLR Act has prescribed different rates of conversion fee for use of agricultural land for non-agriculture purpose on the basis of the location of the land. It prescribes that for lands located within all Municipal Corporations ,Municipal areas or areas within one-half kilometer on either side of National Highways , the rate is Rs.3.00 lakh per acre. For land in any area within one-fourth kilometer on either side of all State Highways, it is Rs.1.00 lakh per acre. In NACs or notified urban areas, it is Rs.75,000/-per acre. In areas covered by the Development Plans, it is Rs.30,000/- per acre, whereas it is 5% of the market value in places which are not covered above. There is lack of transparency on the matter among the field functionaries.

Accountant General, Odisha in 2021 has observed in periphery of urban areas and rural areas having semi urban growth, the people are paying more premiumin comparison to urban areas. In areas under Development Authorities, conversion charges are collected at a rate of Rs.30,000/- per acre only. Thus, this rate for urban areas, fixed in 2006, is on lower side in comparison to rural areas.

Therefore, in order to maintain uniformity and transparency in fixing conversion fees, it is proposed to amend the sub-section-2 of Section 8-A of OLR Act, 1960 by proposing 1% of the market value as the conversion fee for conversion of the land from agriculture to non-agriculture purpose.

The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

Sudam Marndi Member-in-Charge

DASHARATHI SATAPATHY
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