

**BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
STATE OF TAMIL NADU**

Under Rule 130 of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rules, the following Bill which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Tamil Nadu on 8th January, 2019 is published together with Statement of Objects and Reasons for general information:—

L.A. Bill No. 9 of 2019

A Bill further to amend the Tamil Nadu Forest Act, 1882.

BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Tamil Nadu in the Sixty-ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

Short title
and
commence-
ment.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Tamil Nadu Forest (Amendment) Act, 2019.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the State Government may, by notification, appoint.

Insertion of new
section 16-A.

2. After section 16 of the Tamil Nadu Forest Act, 1882, the following section shall be inserted, namely:---

Tamil Nadu
Act V of 1882.

“16-A. **Declaration of certain land to be a Reserved Forest.**---
Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the Government may, by notification, declare any land in a janmam estate, vested with the Government under the Gudalur Janmam Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act, 1969 (Tamil Nadu Act 24 of 1969) and determined as forest under that Act, as reserved forest.”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

According to section 3 of the Gudalur Janmam Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act, 1969 (Tamil Nadu Act 24 of 1969) on and from the date of commencement of the said Act, every janmam estate including all communal lands, waste lands, pasture lands, forest, etc., shall stand transferred to the Government and vest in them free of all encumbrances. Other provisions of the said Act deal with the procedure to carry out survey and settlement operations in Janmam estates and introduce ryotwari settlement therein.

2. As per section 53 of the said Act, if any question arises whether any land in a janmam estate is a forest or is situated in a forest, or as to the limits of the forest, it shall be determined by the Settlement Officer. If the Government resolves to declare the lands in janmam estates, which are determined by the Settlement Officer as forest, as reserved forest under the Tamil Nadu Forest Act, 1882 (Tamil Nadu Act V of 1882), the procedure laid down in the said Tamil Nadu Act V of 1882 have to be followed, which is like redoing the settlement proceedings. The Government have, therefore, decided to declare the land in janmam estates which are vested with the Government under the said Tamil Nadu Act 24 of 1969 and determined as forest under that Act, as reserved forest under the said Tamil Nadu Act V of 1882. The Government have also decided to amend the said Tamil Nadu Act V of 1882 suitably for the purpose.

3. The Bill seeks to give effect to the above decisions.

DINDIGUL C. SREENIVASAN,

Minister for Forests

K. SRINIVASAN,

Secretary.