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PART IV—Bills introduced in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly; Reports of Select Committees presented or to be presented to that Assembly; and Bills published before introduction in that Assembly.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**LAW DEPARTMENT****Legislative****NOTIFICATION**

No. 263-L.—7th March, 2017.—The Governor having been pleased to order, under rule 66 of the Rules

of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly, the publication of the following Bill, together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons which accompanies it, in the *Kolkata Gazette*, the Bill and the Statement of Objects and Reasons are accordingly hereby published for general information:—

Bill No. 18 of 2017**THE WEST BENGAL LAND REFORMS
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017.****A****BILL**

to amend the West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1955.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1955, for the purposes and in the manner hereinafter appearing;

West Ben. Act
X of 1956.

It is hereby enacted in the Sixty-eighth Year of the Republic of India, by the Legislature of West Bengal, as follows:—

Short title and
commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the West Bengal Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 2017.

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

*The West Bengal Land Reforms
(Amendment) Bill, 2017.*

(Clauses 2, 3.)

Amendment of
section 4B.

2. In section 4B of the West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1955 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), shall be renumbered as sub-section (1) of that section and after sub-section (1) so renumbered, the following sub-section shall be inserted:—

“(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or in any other law for the time being in force or in any agreement, custom or usage or in any decree, judgement, decision or award of any court, tribunal or authority, where an intermediary has been allowed to retain land irrespective of area and classification and with or without any order under clause (g) of sub-section (1), read with sub-section (3), of section 6 of the West Bengal Estate Acquisition Act, 1953 (hereinafter referred to as the retainer), or where such retainer has already transferred such land or any part thereof to any person or institution or company who is in possession of such land or part thereof, by an instrument mentioned in sub-section (1) of section 5 of this Act, such retainer or transferee, as the case may be, shall be deemed to hold such land or part thereof as lessee directly under the State Government with effect from the date of vesting under the West Bengal Estate Acquisition Act, 1953, or from the date of such transfer, as the case may be, for any of the purposes as referred to in the first proviso to section 14Y excluding tea garden, in accordance with such terms and conditions as may be prescribed.”.

West Ben. Act
I of 1954.

Amendment of
section 14Z.

3. In section 14Z of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), after the third proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted:—

“Provided also that notwithstanding anything contrary contained in the second proviso, a retainer or transferee as mentioned in sub-section (2) of section 4B, has failed or fails to use the retained land for mill, factory or workshop, may further be permitted, by written order of the State Government, to retain as lessee so much of such land as in the opinion of the State Government is required for any of the purposes referred to in the first proviso to section 14Y excluding tea garden, in such manner as may be prescribed.”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

It is considered necessary and expedient to amend the West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1955 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), for the purpose of effective implementation of the provisions of the said Act, by way of inserting a new sub-section (2) in section 4B and a proviso after the third proviso to sub-section (1) of section 14Z of the said Act, with a view to defining the status of the retainer or transferee as lessee under the State Government in order to switch over to any other purposes referred to in

*The West Bengal Land Reforms
(Amendment) Bill, 2017.*

the first proviso to section 14Y excluding tea garden, apart from the mills, factories and workshops in connection with the retained land under sub-section (3) of section 6 of the West Bengal Estate Acquisition Act, 1953.

2. The Bill has been framed with the above objects in view.
3. There is no financial implication involved in the Bill.

KOLKATA:
The 7th March, 2017.

MAMATA BANERJEE,
Member-in-Charge.

By order of the Governor,
MADHUMATI MITRA,
*Secy. to the Govt. of West Bengal,
Law Department.*