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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. 957-L.— 8th August, 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. 38 of 2017**THE WEST BENGAL LAND REFORMS
(SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017.****A
BILL**

to amend the West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1956.

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 (Second 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
(Second Amendment) Bill, 2017.*

(Clauses 2-4.)

Amendment of section 22 in West Ben. Act X of 1956.

2. In sub-section (1) of section 22 of the West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1955 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), for the words "liable to pay revenue for his plot of land", the words "liable to pay revenue for his plot of land, other than the plot of land used for agricultural purpose" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 23.

3. In section 23 of the principal Act, in Table,—

- (1) clause (a) in column (2) and the entry relating that to in column (3) against serial No. 1 in column (1), shall be omitted;
- (2) in clause (a) in column (2) against serial No. 2 in column (1), for the words "for the purpose of agriculture and activities allied to agriculture", the words "for the purpose of activities allied to agriculture" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 24.

4. In clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 24 of the principal Act, after the second proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted:—

"Provided also that notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or any other law for the time being in force, where the revenue under the Act in respect of agricultural land, is nil, the liability of the *raiyat* to pay any cess imposed on him under the Cess Act, 1880, or the West Bengal Primary Education Act, 1973, or the West Bengal Rural Employment and Production Act, 1976, or any other law for the time being in force, is also nil."

Ben. Act IX of 1880.
West Ben. Act XLIII of 1973.
West Ben. Act XIV of 1976.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

It is considered necessary and expedient to provide for full exemption of land revenue (*Khazna*), cess and surcharge in respect of agricultural land of a *raiyat* with a view to ameliorating the distress of the farmers and to bring relief to agricultural sector in the State.

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

KOLKATA:
The 7th August, 2017.

MAMATA BANERJEE,
Member-in-Charge.

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