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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. 1312-L.—13th November, 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 and the Financial Memorandum which accompany it, in the *Kolkata Gazette*, the Bill, the Statement of Objects and Reasons and the Financial Memorandum are accordingly hereby published for general information:—

Bill No. 48 of 2017

THE WEST BENGAL ESTATES ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017.

A BILL

to amend the West Bengal Estates Acquisition Act, 1953.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the West Bengal Estates Acquisition Act, 1953, for the purposes and in the manner hereinafter appearing;

West Ben. Act I of 1954.

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 Estates Acquisition (Amendment) Act, 2017.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

The West Bengal Estates Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2017.

(Clause 2.)

Amendment of section 44 of West Ben. Act I of 1954. **2.** In sub-section (2a) of section 44 of the West Bengal Estates Acquisition Act, 1953, for the words "sixty years,", the words "seventy years," shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

The power of the officers specially empowered by the State Government to correct the record-of-rights *suo motu* under sub-section (2a) of section 44 of the West Bengal Estates Acquisition Act, 1953, is due to expire on the 1st day of November, 2017. This is the only section under which an erroneous record-of-rights may be corrected. The drive for detection of lands held clandestinely by big landowners is still continuing and the said section has become an important instrument for counteracting evasion of ceiling by unscrupulous owners. Moreover, there are a number of *mouzas* where records were finally published long ago and correction of entry has been found to be necessary by initiating *suo motu* proceeding under the said section. Besides, it is necessary to give effect to the orders of different Courts for starting the proceedings afresh after removal of old entries. In the circumstances as aforesaid, it has been felt necessary to amend sub-section (2a) of section 44 of the said Act, by way of extending the power to revise any entry in the record-of-rights *suo motu* by such specially empowered officers for a further period of ten years beyond the existing period of sixty years which is due to expire on the 1st day of November, 2017.

2. The Bill has been framed with the above object in view.

Kolkata: *The 9th November, 2017.*

MAMATA BANERJEE, Member-in-Charge.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM.

There is no financial implication involved in the Bill.

KOLKATA: The 9th November, 2017. MAMATA BANERJEE, Member-in-Charge.

By order of the Governor,

MADHUMATI MITRA, Secy. to the Govt. of West Bengal, Law Department.