GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

LAW DEPARTMENT

Legislative NOTIFICATION

No. 171-L.—16th February, 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. 7 of 2017

THE WEST BENGAL MUNICIPAL (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017.

A BILL

to amend the West Bengal Municipal Act, 1993.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the West Bengal Municipal Act, 1993, for the purposes and in the manner hereinafter appearing;

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

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

(2) This section shall come into force at once, and the remaining provisions of this Act shall come into force on such date as the State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.
The West Bengal Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 2017.

(Clauses 2-6.)

Amendment of section 54 of the West Ben. Act XXII of 1993.

2. In sub-section (3) of section 54 of the West Bengal Municipal Act, 1993 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), after the words “the State Government”, the words “and the order of such appointment shall be issued under the signature of the Executive Officer” shall be inserted.

Insertion of new section 69A after section 69.

3. After section 69 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted:—

69A. Subject to other provisions of this Act, payment from the Municipal Fund shall be made in such manner as may be prescribed, and the accounts referred to in section 68 shall be jointly operated by the Executive Officer and the Finance Officer of the Municipality or by such other Officers of the Municipality as may be prescribed.”.

Amendment of section 73A.

4. In section 73A of the principal Act,—

(a) for the words “twenty-five thousand”, the words “one lakh” shall be substituted;
(b) for the words “one lakh fifty thousand”, the words “five lakhs” shall be substituted;
(c) for the words “twenty-five lakh”, wherever they occur, the words “forty-five lakhs” shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 116.

5. In section 116 of the principal Act,—

(a) in sub-section (1), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
(b) in sub-section (2), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
(c) in sub-section (3), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
(d) in sub-section (4), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
(e) in sub-section (5), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
(f) in sub-section (6), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 122.

6. In section 122 of the principal Act,—

(a) in sub-section (2), in clause (c), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
(b) in sub-section (3), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
(c) in sub-section (4), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
(d) in sub-section (6), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted.
Amendment of section 151.

7. In section 151 of the principal Act,—
   (a) in sub-section (1), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
   (b) in sub-section (2), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;

Amendment of section 220.

8. In section 220 of the principal Act,—
   (a) in sub-section (1), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
   (b) in sub-section (2), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
   (c) in sub-section (3), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 263.

9. In section 263 of the principal Act,—
   (a) in sub-section (1), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
   (b) in sub-section (2), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted;
   (c) in sub-section (3), for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 409.

10. In section 409 of the principal Act,—
    (a) in clause (b) of sub-section (1), after the word “Chairman”, the words “or the Executive Officer” shall be inserted;
    (b) in sub-section (2),—
        (i) in clause (i), after the word “Chairman”, the words “or the Executive Officer” shall be inserted;
        (ii) in clause (ii), after the word “Chairman” wherever it occurs, the words “or the Executive Officer” shall be inserted;
    (c) in sub-section (3), after the word “Chairman”, the words “or the Executive Officer” shall be inserted.

Amendment of section 410.

11. In sub-section (3) of section 410 of the principal Act,—
    (a) in the first line, after the word “Chairman”, the words “or the Executive Officer” shall be inserted.
    (b) in the third line, after the words “the Chairman-in-Council”, the words “or the Executive Officer” shall be inserted.

Amendment of section 412.

12. In section 412 of the principal Act, for the word “Chairman”, the words “Executive Officer” shall be substituted.
STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

During the last five years or so there has been rapid execution of various developmental works by the Urban Local Bodies of the State. Consequently, there has been a sudden paradigm shift in the role being played by the Executive Officers in the Urban Local Bodies of the State. To keep pace with such rapid execution of developmental works, the Executive Officers have to shoulder additional responsibilities so that better civic services are provided by the Municipalities. The Executive Officers are also directly involved in a host of some new social activities and citizen friendly schemes being implemented by the State Government like Sobuj Sathi, Khadya Sathi, Kannyashree, Yuvashree etc. As the Executive Officers of the Urban Local Bodies have to play a pivotal role in these new trends of emerging developmental and social activities, accordingly it has been considered necessary and expedient to amend the West Bengal Municipal Act, 1993 (West Ben. Act XXII of 1993) providing provision for empowering the Executive Officers facilitating them to discharge their functions towards better civic administration.

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

3. There is no financial implication involved in giving effect to the provision of the Bill.

KOLKATA,
The 13th February, 2017.

FIRHAD HAKIM,
Member-in-Charge.

By order of the Governor,

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