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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. 992-L.— 17th 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. 47 of 2017

**THE WEST BENGAL LAND REFORMS
(THIRD 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 (Third 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
(Third Amendment) Bill, 2017.*

(Clause 2.)

Amendment of
section 4C.

2. In section 4C of the West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1955, to sub-section (6), the following proviso shall be added:—

“Provided that notwithstanding anything contrary contained in sub-section (6), if the State Government is of the opinion that it is necessary to do so in the public interest, the State Government may, by order, regularise any change, conversion or alteration in the area, character or mode of use of the plot of land, other than any plot of land having water body of any description or size, in accordance with the other provisions of this Act, on payment of such fee depending on the different character or mode of use of the plot of land, and in such manner, as may be prescribed.”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

It is considered necessary and expedient to make amendment in the West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1955 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), by way of amending sub-section (6) of section 4C of the said Act so that the State Government may, by order, regularise the change, conversion or alteration in the area, character or mode of use of any plot of land of any size, other than any plot of land having water body of any description or size, already made in violation of the provision of sub-section (2) of section 4C before coming into force of this amendment, on payment of such fee, depending on the different character or mode of use of the plot of land, and in such manner, as may be prescribed. This amendment is in order to ensure effective implementation of the said Act by way of protecting the interest of the *raiya*s who have been holding the said land for a long time and have already converted the character of land without due permission for different purposes like educational institutions, health care institutions, industrial or commercial units etc. This one time provision while providing legitimacy to such activities shall enable many of such activities especially the industrial sector to bring in additional investments for expansion and thus enhance employment opportunities and also contribute to state gross domestic product.

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

3. There is no financial implication involved in the Bill.

KOLKATA:

The 17th August, 2017.

MAMATA BANERJEE,

Member-in-Charge.

By order of the Governor,

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