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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. 546-L.— 7th June, 2022.—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. 9 of 2022**

**THE WEST BENGAL UNIVERSITY LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022.**

**A**

**BILL**

*to amend the Calcutta University Act, 1979, the North Bengal University Act, 1981, the Burdwan University Act, 1981, the Vidyasagar University Act, 1981, the Kalyani University Act, 1981, the West Bengal State University (Barasat, North 24-Parganas) Act, 2007, the Gour Banga University Act, 2007, the Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University Act, 2010, the Jadavpur University Act, 1981, the Rabindra Bharati Act, 1981, the Netaji Subhash Open University Act, 1997, the Presidency University Act, 2010, the Coochbehar Panchanan Barma University Act, 2012, the Kazi Nazrul University Act, 2012, the Diamond Harbour Women's University Act, 2012, the Bankura University Act, 2013, the Raiganj University Act, 2014, the West Bengal University of Teachers' Training, Education Planning and Administration Act, 2014, the Sanskrit College and*



*The West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022.**(Clause 1.)*

*University, West Bengal Act, 2015, the Rani Rashmoni Green University Act, 2017, the Biswa Bangla Biswabidyalay Act, 2017, the Sadhu Ram Chand Murmu University of Jhargram Act, 2017, the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 2017, the Murshidabad University Act, 2018, the Dakshin Dinajpur University Act, 2018, the Greenfield University Act, 2018, the Alipurduar University Act, 2018, the Kanyashree University Act, 2018, the Harichand Guruchand University Act, 2018, the Hindi University, West Bengal Act, 2019 and the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology, West Bengal Act, 2000.*

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Calcutta University Act, 1979, the North Bengal University Act, 1981, the Burdwan University Act, 1981, the Vidyasagar University Act, 1981, the Kalyani University Act, 1981, the West Bengal State University (Barasat, North 24-Parganas) Act, 2007, the Gour Banga University Act, 2007, the Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University Act, 2010, the Jadavpur University Act, 1981, the Rabindra Bharati Act, 1981, the Netaji Subhash Open University Act, 1997, the Presidency University Act, 2010, the Coochbehar Panchanan Barma University Act, 2012, the Kazi Nazrul University Act, 2012, the Diamond Harbour Women's University Act, 2012, the Bankura University Act, 2013, the Raiganj University Act, 2014, the West Bengal University of Teachers' Training, Education Planning and Administration Act, 2014, the Sanskrit College and University, West Bengal Act, 2015, the Rani Rashmoni Green University Act, 2017, the Biswa Bangla Biswabidyalay Act, 2017, the Sadhu Ram Chand Murmu University of Jhargram Act, 2017, the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 2017, the Murshidabad University Act, 2018, the Dakshin Dinajpur University Act, 2018, the Greenfield University Act, 2018, the Alipurduar University Act, 2018, the Kanyashree University Act, 2018, the Harichand Guruchand University Act, 2018, the Hindi University, West Bengal Act, 2019 and the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology, West Bengal Act, 2000, for the purposes and in the manner hereinafter appearing;

West Ben. Act XXXVIII of 1979.  
West Ben. Act XXV of 1981.  
West Ben. Act XXIII of 1981.  
West Ben. Act XVIII of 1981.  
West Ben. Act XL of 1981.  
West Ben. Act XXVIII of 2007.  
West Ben. Act XXVI of 2007.  
West Ben. Act XII of 2010.  
West Ben. Act XXIV of 1981.  
West Ben. Act XXXVI of 1981.  
West Ben. Act XIX of 1997.  
West Ben. Act XIII of 2010.  
West Ben. Act XXI of 2012.  
West Ben. Act XIX of 2012.  
West Ben. Act XXXVII of 2012.  
West Ben. Act XIX of 2013.  
West Ben. Act XXVI of 2014.  
West Ben. Act XXI of 2014.  
West Ben. Act XXXIII of 2015.  
West Ben. Act L of 2017.  
West Ben. Act XLVII of 2017.  
West Ben. Act XLVIII of 2017.  
West Ben. Act LI of 2017.  
West Ben. Act XVIII of 2018.  
West Ben. Act XIX of 2018.  
West Ben. Act XVI of 2018.  
West Ben. Act XVII of 2018.  
West Ben. Act XXVIII of 2018.  
West Ben. Act XXVII of 2018.  
West Ben. Act XXI of 2019.  
West Ben. Act XV of 2000.

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Act, 2022.

Short title and commencement.



*The West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022.**(Clauses 2–9.)*

(2) It shall come into effect at once.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXXVIII of  
1979.

2. In the Calcutta University Act, 1979, in section 7, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Senate and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Senate.”

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXV of 1981.

3. In the North Bengal University Act, 1981, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXIII of 1981.

4. In the Burdwan University Act, 1981, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XVIII of 1981.

5. In the Vidyasagar University Act, 1981, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XL of 1981.

6. In the Kalyani University Act, 1981, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXVIII of 2007.

7. In the West Bengal State University (Barasat, North 24-Parganas) Act, 2007, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXVI of 2007.

8. In the Gour Banga University Act, 2007, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XII of 2010.

9. In the Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University Act, 2010, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”



*The West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022.**(Clauses 10–18.)*Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXIV of 1981.

**10.** In the Jadavpur University Act, 1981, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXXVI of 1981.

**11.** In the Rabindra Bharati Act, 1981, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XIX of 1997.

**12.** In the Netaji Subhas Open University Act, 1997, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XIII of 2010.

**13.** In the Presidency University Act, 2010, in section 6, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Governing Board and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Governing Board.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXI of 2012.

**14.** In the Coochbehar Panchanan Barma University Act, 2012, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XIX of 2012.

**15.** In the Kazi Nazrul University Act, 2012, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXXVII of 2012.

**16.** In the Diamond Harbour Women's University Act, 2012, in section 7, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XIX of 2013.

**17.** In the Bankura University Act, 2013, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXVI of 2014.

**18.** In the Raiganj University Act, 2014, in section 8, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.



*The West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022.**(Clauses 19–26.)*Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXI of 2014.

**19.** In the West Bengal University of Teachers' Training, Education Planning and Administration Act, 2014, in section 9, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXXIII of 2015.

**20.** In the Sanskrit College and University, West Bengal Act, 2015, in section 7, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Governing Board and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Governing Board.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
L of 2017.

**21.** In the Rani Rashmoni Green University Act, 2017, in section 10, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Governing Board and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Governing Board.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XLVII of 2017.

**22.** In the Biswa Bangla Biswabidyalay Act, 2017, in section 10, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Governing Board and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Governing Board.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XLVII of 2017.

**23.** In the Sadhu Ram Chand Murmu University of Jhargram Act, 2017, in section 10, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
LI of 2017.

**24.** In the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 2017, in section 10, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XVIII of 2018.

**25.** In the Murshidabad University Act, 2018, in section 10, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XIX of 2018.

**26.** In the Dakshin Dinajpur University Act, 2018, in section 10, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.



*The West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022.**(Clauses 27–32.)*Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXVI of 2018.

27. In the Darjeeling Hills University Act, 2018, in section 10, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XVII of 2018.

28. In the Alipurduar University Act, 2018, in section 10, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXVIII of 2018.

29. In the Kanyashree University Act, 2018, in section 10, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Governing Board and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Governing Board.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXVII of 2018.

30. In the Harichand Guruchand University Act, 2018, in section 10, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Court.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XXI of 2019.

31. In the Hindi University, West Bengal Act, 2019, in section 10, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University. He shall be the head of the University and the President of the Governing Board and shall, when present, preside over the meetings of the Governing Board.”.

Amendment of  
West Ben. Act  
XV of 2000.

32. In the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology, West Bengal Act, 2000, in section 10, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall, by virtue of his office, be the Chancellor of the University.”.

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.**

The State Government has established and incorporated 31 State-aided Universities under the administrative control of the Higher Education Department in view of raising rich quality of higher education amongst the students of the State as well as of the Country. The Hon'ble Governor of the State of West Bengal is the Chancellor of all the State-aided Universities by virtue of his post.

2. The constituting Acts of each University has provided some statutory duties and functions upon the Hon'ble Chancellor of the University. It is not out of place to mention that Hon'ble Governor holding the Constitutional post has to discharge various Constitutional functions as enshrined under the Constitution.



*The West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022.*

3. It is not out of place to mention that the Punchi Commission in its report recommended that to be able to discharge the Constitutional obligations fairly and impartially, the Governor should not be burdened with positions and powers which are not envisaged under the Constitution and which may expose the office to controversies or public criticism. Making the Governor the Chancellor of the Universities and thereby conferring powers on him which may have had some relevance historically has ceased to be so with the change of the circumstances. The Commission is also of the view that Governor should not be assigned functions casually under any Statutes. His role should be confined to the Constitutional provisions only.

4. It has therefore been considered necessary and imperative that the constituting Acts of the Universities shall be amended so that the Hon'ble Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal shall be the Chancellor of all State-aided Universities for the purposes of the said Acts.

5. The Bill has been prepared to achieve the above objective.

6. There is no financial implication involved in giving effect to the provisions of the Bill.

KOLKATA,

*The 6th June, 2022.*

BRATYA BASU,

*Member-in-charge.*

By order of the Governor,

PARTHA SARATHI SEN,  
*Pr. Secy. to the Govt. of West Bengal,  
Law Department.*