

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

Bill No. 29-PLA-2017

**THE PUNJAB AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MARKETS
(THIRD (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017**

A

BILL

further to amend the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1961.

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Punjab in the Sixty-eighth Year of the Republic of India as follows :—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets (Third Amendment) Act, 2017.

Short title and commencement

(2) It shall come into force on and with effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1961 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 23, in clause (i), for the words “two rupees”, the words “three rupees” shall be substituted.

Amendment in section 23 of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.

3. In the principal Act, in section 26, in clause (xxi), for the sign “.”, the word and sign “; and” shall be substituted and thereafter, the following clause shall be added, namely :—

Amendment in section 26 of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.

“(xxii) providing relief to debt stressed farmers of the State.”.

4. In the principal Act, in section 28,—

Amendment in section 28 of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.

(i) at the end of clause (xx), the word “and” shall be omitted; and

(ii) in clause (xxi), for the sign “.”, the word and sign “; and” shall be substituted and thereafter, the following clause shall be added, namely :—

“(xxii) providing relief to debt stressed farmers of the State.”.

5. (1) The Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 2017 (Punjab Ordinance No. 7 of 2017) and the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets (Fourth Amendment) Ordinance, 2017 (Punjab Ordinance No. 9 of 2017) are hereby repealed.

Repeal and saving.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the principal Act, as amended by the Ordinances referred to in sub-section (1), shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the principal Act, as amended by this Act.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Punjab is an Agricultural State and its economy is mainly dependent on agriculture. Market fee collected is spent on better marketing of agricultural produce and development of market infrastructure/its maintenance. New project such as multi commodity maize dryers, grading of agricultural produce, reaping chambers and cold storage are initiated. Repairing of link roads are also undertaken with this Market fee. With a view to diversify agriculture and to develop modern and scientific marketing infrastructure of international standard, more and more funds are required and it is also necessary that production of agricultural commodities and producers both should be secured and make use of market fees possible to provide relief to the distressed farmers in the State. To achieve these objectives, the Section 23(1) of “The Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1961” was amended *vide* (Ordinance No. 7 of 2017) which the Market Fee was increased from 2% to 3% and to utilize the Market Fee for providing relief to debt stricken farmers a provision was inserted in section 26 and 28 of “The Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1961”,—*vide* (Ordinance No. 9 of 2017). Now these ordinances are being converted into Bill.

CAPTAIN AMARINDER SINGH,
Chief Minister, Punjab.

CHANDIGARH :
The 28th November, 2017.

SHASHI LAKHANPAL MISHRA,
Secretary.

N.B.— The above Bill was published in the *Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary)*, dated the 28th November, 2017 under the proviso to rule 121 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).