

**PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA**

**Bill No. 33-PLA-2017**

**THE PUNJAB LAND REFORMS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017**

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BILL

*further to amend the Punjab Land Reforms Act, 1972.*

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 2017. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on and with effect from the 24th January, 1971 :

Provided that the provision being made by section 2 of this Act shall come into force at once.

2. In the Punjab Land Reforms Act, 1972, (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 3, in clause (8), the words “but shall not include land under banana or guava trees or land comprised in vineyard” shall be omitted. Amendment in section 3 of Punjab Act 10 of 1973.

3. In the principal Act, in section 27, for clause (j), the following clause (j) shall be substituted, namely :— Amendment in section 27 of Punjab Act 10 of 1973.

“(j) Land not covered under clause (h) and (i), acquired by a person for non-agricultural purposes such as housing, industrial, infrastructure projects, special economic zone (SEZ), tourism units (hotels and resorts), public utilities, warehousing, commercial, cultural, recreational, sports, religious, institutional :

Provided that where land is acquired for non-agricultural purposes as per provisions of clauses (h), (i) or (j), such person would be required to intimate such intention of change of land use for non-agricultural purposes to the Collector within one year from the date of publication of

the Punjab Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 2017 or within one year from the date of acquisition of such land and in such cases, the Collector, on receipt of such intimation, shall cause the necessary entries to be recorded in the revenue record to this effect.

*Explanation.*—For the purposes of clauses (h), (i) and (j) of this section :—

- (i) Where an agricultural activity is carried out primarily as an activity subservient to a non-agricultural activity or purpose of such person, in such cases, such land shall be deemed to have been acquired for non-agricultural purposes; and
- (ii) A person intending to carry out any development on land covered under these clauses, shall be required to obtain necessary permission under the Punjab Regional and Town Planning and Development Act, 1995 or the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Act, 1952, as may be applicable.”

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Punjab Government proposes to amend Section 3(8) of The Punjab Land Reforms Act, 1972 with immediate effect, in order to try to bring diversification in the pattern of agricultural production base from mono culture of wheat and paddy towards fruit and vegetables. There is an urgent need to promote fruit crops by all the legal means at the command of the State in order to increase income of farmers. Punjab Government also proposes to amend Section 27(j) of the said Act to amend the Punjab Land Reforms Act, 1972 retrospectively with effect from the "appointed date" (i.e. 24th January, 1971) so as to ensure that agricultural land which has been utilized for non-agricultural purposes like housing, industrial, infrastructure projects like SEZ, tourism units (hotels and resorts), public utilities, warehousing, commercial, cultural, recreational, sports, religious, institutional etc. for the social or economic development of the State are kept out of the purview of this Act. Similarly, those acquiring agricultural land for such *bona fide* non-agricultural uses in future are granted one year window from the date of publication of the Punjab Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 2017 or within one year from the date of acquisition of such land. Hence, the Punjab Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill 2017.

AMARINDER SINGH,  
Chief Minister, Punjab.

CHANDIGARH :  
The 28th November, 2017.

SHASHI LAKHANPAL MISHRA,  
Secretary.

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*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).