

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

Bill No. 23-PLA-2018

THE PUNJAB SETTLEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL INDEBTEDNESS  
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2018

(Bill as passed by the Punjab Vidhan Sabha)

The following Bill was passed by the Punjab Vidhan Sabha :—

A

BILL

*further to amend the Punjab Settlement of Agricultural Indebtedness Act, 2016.*

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab Settlement of Agricultural Indebtedness (Amendment) Act, 2018. 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 Settlement of Agricultural Indebtedness Act, 2016 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 2, in clause (j), for the word “District”, the word “Divisional” shall be substituted. Amendment of section 2 of Punjab Act 15 of 2016.
3. In the principal Act, after section 3, the following section shall be inserted, namely :— Insertion of section 3-A in Punjab Act 15 of 2016.

“3-A. The Government shall notify the maximum amount of debt that can be advanced by the creditor to the debtor on per acre basis.”
4. In the principal Act, for section 5, the following section shall be substituted, namely :— Substitution of section 5 of Punjab Act 15 of 2016.

“5. (1) The Government shall establish a Divisional Agricultural Debt Settlement Forum (hereinafter referred to as Forum) at every division of the State to carry out the purposes of this Act within the territorial jurisdiction of such division.

(2) The forum shall consist of three members including a Chairman and two members, to be nominated by the Government.

- (3) The Chairman of the Forum shall be the Commissioner of the division and two *ex-officio* members to be nominated, by notification, one each from the Department of Agriculture and Revenue.
- (4) The Forum shall have the jurisdiction to make settlement between the debtor and his creditor if—
- (i) the loan has been taken by the debtor or provided by the creditor for agricultural purposes; and
  - (ii) the total debt of the debtor does not exceed rupees fifteen lacs.”.

CHANDIGARH :

The 7th September, 2018.

SHASHI LAKHANPAL MISHRA,  
Secretary.