



THE ASSAM GAZETTE

অসাধাৰণ

EXTRAORDINARY

প্ৰাপ্ত কৰ্তৃত্বৰ দ্বাৰা প্ৰকাশিত

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY

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No. 171 Dispur, Saturday, 31st March, 2018, 10th Chaitra, 1940 (S. E.)

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

NOTIFICATION

The 27th March, 2018

No. LLE 23/2018/479.- The following Bill introduced before the House on **27th March, 2018** together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons are to be published under Rule 71 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly for General information.

THE ASSAM FOREST REGULATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2018**A
BILL**

further to amend the Assam Forest Regulation, 1891.

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Assam Forest Regulation, 1891, hereinafter referred to as the principal Regulation, in the manner hereinafter appearing;

Regulation
VII of
1891

It is hereby enacted in the Sixty-ninth Year of the Republic of India, as follows :-

Short title,
extent and
commencement

1. (1) This Act may be called the Assam Forest Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2018.
- (2) It shall have the like extent as the principal Regulation.
- (3) It shall come into force at once.

Amendment
of section 3

2. In the principal Regulation, in section 3, in subsection (2), the word and punctuation mark "bamboos," shall be omitted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

1. The Assam Forest Regulation 1891 (Regulation 7 of 1891) has been enacted to consolidate the law relating to forests, forest produce and the duty leviable on timber in Assam.
2. The said Act, *inter alia*, in sub section (2) of section 3 defines "tree", which includes palms, bamboos, stumps, brush-wood and canes. The bamboo, though taxonomically a grass is treated as tree for the purpose of the said Act, and therefore, attracts the requirement of permit for transit under the said Act. Apart from the permit required within the State, the inter-State movement of bamboos also require permit when being in transit through other States. As a result, the farmers are facing hardships in getting the permits for felling and transit of bamboos within the State and also for outside the State, which has been identified as major impediment of the cultivation of bamboos by farmers on their land.
3. Similar provisions also exist in the Indian Forest Act 1927 and considering the above difficulties recently Government of India has amended the specific provision by exempting the Bamboo from the purview of the definition of 'tree'.
4. Accordingly, this Act proposes to amend the sub section (2) of section 3 of the said Act so as to omit the word "bamboos" from the definition of tree, in order to exempt bamboos grown on non-forest area from the requirement of permit for felling or transit under the said Act, and would encourage bamboo plantation by farmers resulting in the enhancement of their income from agricultural fields.

PRAMILA RANI BRAHMA,

Minister,

Environment and Forests Department.

M. K. DEKA,

Principal Secretary,

Assam Legislative Assembly.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

This Act has not imposed any additional financial burden on the State Government

MEMORANDUM OF DELEGATED LEGISLATION

This Act has not conferred any delegated power to the State Government

PRAMILA RANI BRAHMA,
Minister,
Environment and Forests Department.

Extract of the Section 3(2) Assam Forest Regulation 1891

3. Definition. In this regulation and in all rules made thereunder unless there is something repugnant in the subject or context-

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(2) "tree" includes palms, bamboos, stumps, brushwood and canes;

M. K. DEKA,
Principal Secretary,
Assam Legislative Assembly.