

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

Bill No. 4-PLA-2016

THE PUNJAB RURAL DEVELOPMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016

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BILL

further to amend the Punjab Rural Development Act, 1987.

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab Rural Development (Amendment) Act, 2016. 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 Rural Development Act, 1987, after section 6, the following section shall be inserted, namely :— Insertion of new section 6-A in Punjab Act 6 of 1987.

“6-A. Subject to the control of the Secretary to Government of Punjab, Department of Finance, who shall be the
 Audit of Fund final audit authority, the accounts of the Fund shall be audited, as far as possible once in a year or half yearly, as the Government may direct, by or under the orders of the Examiner, Local Fund Accounts, Punjab”.

3. (1) The Punjab Rural Development (Amendment) Ordinance, 2016 (Punjab Ordinance No. 2 of 2016), is hereby repealed. Repeal and Saving.

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

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Punjab Rural Development Act, 1987 has been enacted with a view to accelerate rural development, augment agricultural production, improve facilities to the dealers and purchasers of agricultural produce to provide for relief for loss of agricultural produce due to natural calamities. The Punjab Rural Development Board established under the Act has been functioning and operating the Punjab Rural Development Fund for the last many years.

2.0 In order to ensure fair and proper use of the fund in a transparent manner, an Ordinance was issued,—*vide* Notification No. 3-Leg./2016 of 25th February, 2016 to amend the Act *ibid* to provide for statutory audit thereof by the Examiner, Local Fund Accounts, Punjab. The Ordinance is now being converted into an Act.

TOTA SINGH,
Minister for Agriculture, Punjab.

CHANDIGARH :
The 11th March, 2016.

SHASHI LAKHANPAL MISHRA,
Secretary.

N.B.— The above Bill was published in the *Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary)*, dated the 11th March, 2016 under the proviso to rule 121 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).