

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

BILL NO. 14-PLA-2021

**THE PUNJAB VILLAGE COMMON LANDS (REGULATION) AMENDMENT
BILL, 2021**

A

BILL

further to amend the Punjab Village Common Lands
(Regulation) Act, 1961.

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Punjab in the
Seventy-second Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

Short title
and
commence-
ment.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab Village Common Lands
(Regulation) Amendment Act, 2021.

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

Amendment
of section 2
of Punjab
Act 18 of
1961.

2. In the Punjab Village Common Lands (Regulation) Act, 1961, in
section 2, in clause (g),-

(i) in sub-clause (1), for the words "excluding abadi deh", the
words and sign " but excludes abadi deh, unless
otherwise expressly provided in this Act" shall be
substituted; and

(ii) in sub-clause (4), at the end, the word "and" shall be
omitted and thereafter, the following sub-clause shall be
inserted, namely:-

"(4 a) vacant land or plot situated in abadi deh or gorah
deh not owned by any person; and".

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The State of Punjab is enacting a legislation to provide a mechanism for recording and maintaining the existing rights of the proprietors in the abadi deh area. The dwelling and residential houses including its open or enclosed court yards, besides, shops and other establishments, common areas, vacant lands, vacant plots and other sites are to be identified, demarcated, assigned a survey number and recorded in the names of the proprietors as on the appointed date i.e., 1st January, 2021.

Some parcel of lands and plots within the abadi deh of a revenue estate are not owned by anyone and such vacant lands or plots, therefore, vest in the State. These are mostly used by the inhabitants of the village for common purposes. Persons who though have no claim whatsoever to such vacant lands or plots within the abadi deh of a revenue estate are likely to represent as being owned by them by claiming to be in possession. This would result in loss of the lands and plots for common purposes, besides, encourage the usurpation of such lands by those who are not entitled.

The vacant lands or plots within the abadi deh area, which are not owned by any person, to prevent their misuse should like other shamlat lands vest in the panchayat, which would be in a position to oversee and look after these lands on day-to-day basis and prevent these being encroached upon or misused; besides, it would be accountable for its lapses, if any.

It is, therefore, with said object and purpose that the present Bill is being enacted.

Tripat Rajinder Singh Bajwa
Rural Development and
Panchayat Minister, Punjab.

CHANDIGARH:
THE 8TH MARCH, 2021

SHASHI LAKHANPAL MISHRA
SECRETARY.

N.B. - The above Bill was published in the Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 8th March, 2021 under the proviso to rule 121 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).