

may extend to one month or with fine which may extend to three hundred (a) in clause (i), for the words "with imprisonment for a term which

10 sub-section (1),— III of 1959. III of 1959.

2. In section 163 of the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act, in Amendment (Amendment) Act, 2023.

1. This Act may be called the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Short title.

III of 1959. III of 1959. in the Seventy-fourth Year of the Republic of India, as follows:—

WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Maharashtra Village

further to amend the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act.

A BILL

L. A. BILL No. II OF 2023.

rupees or with both", the words "with fine which may extend to one thousand five hundred rupees" shall be substituted ;

(b) in clause (iv), for the words "with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both", the words "with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees" shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The State Government has, upon request of the Government of India, undertaken a comprehensive review of all State Acts and Rules framed thereunder to eliminate the risk of imprisonment for citizens for minor violations with the objective of enhancing Ease of Doing Business and Ease of Living of Citizens.

2. For the above purposes, the State Government had constituted a Committee of Secretaries under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary (Industries) to recommend deletion or mitigation of existing imprisonment provisions or providing for compounding of offences in the Maharashtra State Acts or Rules framed thereunder after consultation with the concerned administrative Departments and authorities or institutions thereunder.

Accordingly, after such review, the Government considered it expedient to amend imprisonment and fine provisions contained in sub-section (1) of section 163 of the Maharashtra Village Panchayat Act (III of 1959), suitably.

3. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objective.

Mumbai,
Dated the 26th February, 2023.
Minister for Rural Development.

GIRISH MAHAJAN,

ANNEXURE TO THE L. A. BILL No. II OF 2023—
THE MAHARASHTRA VILLAGE PANCHAYATS
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2023

(Extracts from the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act, 1958.)
(Mah. III of 1958)

1. to 162.

** ** ** **

163. (1) Whoever, within the limits of a village, allows any cattle which are his property or in his charge to stray in any street or to trespass upon any private or public property shall, on conviction, be punished—
(i) for the first offence, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month or with fine which may extend to three hundred rupees or with both ;
(ii) for a second or subsequent offence, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

Penalty for allowing cattle to stray in street or to trespass upon private or public property.

(2) to (4)

** ** ** **

164. to 188.

** ** ** **

SCHEDULES

** ** ** **

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATURE

SECRETARIAT

[L. A. BILL No. II OF 2023.]

[A Bill further to amend the Maharashtra
Village Panchayats Act.]

[SHRI GIRISH MAHAJAN,
Minister For Rural Development.]

RAJENDRA BHAGWAT,
Principal Secretary,
Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.