

L. A. BILL No. II OF 2023.

A BILL

further to amend the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act.

(As passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 28th February, 2023.)

5 WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Maharashtra Village
III Panchayats Act, for the purposes hereinafter appearing ; it is hereby enacted
of 1959. in the Seventy-fourth Year of the Republic of India, as follows :—

1. This Act may be called the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Short title.
(Amendment) Act, 2023.

III 10 2. In section 163 of the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act, in Amendment
of 1959. sub-section (1),— of section 163
of III of 1959.

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

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

(b) in clause (i), 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 5 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 Panchayats Act (III of 1959), suitably.

3. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objective.

Mumbai,

Dated the 26th February, 2023.

GIRISH MAHAJAN,

Minister for Rural Development.

*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 1959)

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—

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

(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.

(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.]**

**[As passed by the Legislative Assembly
on the 28th February, 2023.]**

**RAJENDRA BHAGWAT,
Principal Secretary,
Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.**