

Fifteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly

Bill No. 172

**THE KERALA CONSERVATION OF PADDY LAND
AND WETLAND (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2023**

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further to amend the Kerala Conservation of Paddy Land and Wetland Act, 2008.

Preamble.—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Kerala Conservation of Paddy Land and Wetland Act, 2008 for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

BE it enacted in the Seventy-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement.* —(1) This Act may be called the Kerala Conservation of Paddy Land and Wetland (Amendment) Act, 2023.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of section 2.*— In the Kerala Conservation of Paddy Land and Wetland Act, 2008 (28 of 2008), in section 2 after clause (xv), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(xv A) “Revenue Divisional Officer” means the officer appointed by the State Government as Revenue Divisional Officer and includes the officers not below the rank of Deputy Collector authorized by the Government, by general or special order, for performing all or any of the functions under this Act;”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Government have decided to appoint an officer, not below the rank of Deputy Collector for exercising the powers conferred upon the Revenue Divisional Officer either wholly or partly, in case Government specially authorised in this regard, in accordance with the Kerala Conservation of Paddy Land and Wetland Act, 2008 and rules related thereunder. Though the various provisions of the Act deals with the powers and functions of the Revenue Divisional Officer, the same has not been defined, hence the Government have decided to make suitable amendment in section 2 of the said Act for defining the word Revenue Divisional Officer.

2. The Bill seeks to achieve the above object.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill, if enacted and brought into operation, would not involve any additional expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause (xvA) of section 2 proposed to be inserted by clause 2 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to issue general or special order to authorize an officer not below the rank of Deputy Collector to exercise all or any of the powers of the Kerala Conservation of Paddy Land and Wetland Act, 2008.

The matters in respect of which rules may be made or notifications may be issued are matters of procedure and are of routine or administrative nature. Further, the rules or notifications after they are made, are subject to scrutiny by the Legislative Assembly. The delegation of legislative power is, therefore, of a normal character.

K. RAJAN.

