

AUTHORITATIVE TEXTS (CENTRAL LAWS) ACT, 1973

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS Authorised translations of the various Central laws in State official languages would be extremely useful to the general public and also for official purpose; of the States, which have adopted languages other than Hindi and English as official languages of their States. Therefore when the Official Language (Legislative) Commission was first constituted w 1961, it was also entrusted with the function of arranging for translation of Central Acts, Ordinances and RegulaUons into various official languages of the States. According to the existing arrangements, the translations in a State official language is prepared by or under the auspices of the Government of the State concerned and finalised by the bfficial Language (Legislative) Commission in consultation with the translating authority. In the absence of any legal provision for their authentication and publication, such translations can have no legal status and their utility would be limited. It is, therefore, necessary to make provision for the publication of authorised translations of Central Acts, Ordinances as also of orders, rules, regulations and bye-laws issued under the Constitution or under any Central Act, in State^official languages. Hence this Bill.-S.O.R.-Gaz. of Ind., 22-11-1972, Pt. II, S.2, Ext., P. 1153. Act 18 of 1988.- Under S.2 of the Authorised Translations (Central Laws) Act, .1973, a translation in any language, other than Hindi, specified in the Eighth Schedule

to the Constitution and published under the authority of the President of any Central Act or of any Ordinance promulgated by the President or of any order, rule, regulation or bye-law issued under the Constitution or under any Central Act shall be deemed to be the authorised translation thereof in such language. 2. S.5(1) of the Official Languages Act, 1963 provides for authoritative texts in Hindi of Central Act, etc. At present, there is no provision in Authorised Translations (Central Laws) Act, 1973 for providing authoritative texts of Central Act, etc., in the languages, other than Hindi, specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. As such, these cannot be quoted in Courts of law. There has also been a general demand for authoritative texts of Central Acts, etc., in the languages, other than Hindi, specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. The proposed amendment is being brought forward to fulfil this demand. This will enable the authoritative texts of Central Acts, etc., in the languages, other than Hindi, specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution to be quoted in the Courts of law and facilitate the use of these languages in Courts of law located in States where such languages are the official languages.- S.O.R.-Gaz. of Ind., 31-8-1987, Pt. II, S. 2, Ext.. P. 58 (No. 45).

1. Short title and commencement :-

(1) This may be called The ¹[Authoritative Texts] (Central Laws) Act, 1973

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(2) It shall come into force on such date² as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

1. Substituted for the words "Authorised Translations" by the Authorised Translations (Central Laws) Amendment Act (18 of 1988), S. 3 (31-3-1988).

2. 1-7-1981- Gaz. of Ind.. 18-6-81, Pt. II, S. 3(ii), Ext.. P. 790.

2. Authoritative texts of Central laws in certain languages

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A translation in any language (other than Hindi) specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution, published under the authority of the President in the Official Gazette,-

(a) of any Central Act or of any Ordinance promulgated by the President, or

(b) of any order, rule, regulation or bye-law issued under the

Constitution or under any Central Act, shall be deemed to be the ¹ [authoritative texts] thereof in such language.

1. Substituted for the words "authorised translations" by the Authorised Translations (central Laws) Amendment Act(18 of 1988), S. 4 (31-3-1988).

3. Power to make rules :-

(1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes this Act.

(2) Every rule made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the-session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be, so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.