

THE KERALA PRIVATE FORESTS (VESTING AND  
ASSIGNMENT) AMENDMENT BILL, 2023

(As Passed by the Assembly)

*A*

*BILL*

*further to amend the Kerala Private Forests (Vesting and Assignment) Act, 1971.*

*Preamble.*—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Kerala Private Forests (Vesting and Assignment) Act, 1971 (26 of 1971) 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 Private Forests (Vesting and Assignment) Amendment Act, 2023.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1971.

2. *Amendment of section 3.*—In section 3 of the Kerala Private Forests (Vesting and Assignment) Act, 1971 (26 of 1971) after sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(5) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Kerala Land Reforms Act, 1963 (1 of 1964) or in any other law for the time being in force or in any judgment, decree or order of any court or tribunal, a certificate of purchase issued under sub-section (1) of section 72K of the said Act shall not be a conclusive proof for the purposes of this Act for proving that the land held by a person or owner is under his personal cultivation or was held with intention to cultivate as

on the appointed day, but such certificate of purchase may be a relevant fact along with other facts, materials and documents for proving that the land was under his personal cultivation.

(6) Nothing contained in sub-section (1) shall apply in respect of private forests upto an extent of twenty ares with a house standing thereon, held by an owner for his residential purpose as on the appointed day.”

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