ASSAM ACT No.1 OF 1961

THE ASSAM CO-OPERATIVE LAND MORTGAGE BANK ACT, 1960

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THE ASSAM CO-OPERATIVE LAND MORTGAGE BANK ACT, 1960

An Act

to facilitate the working of the Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks in the State of Assam.

Preamble. Whereas it is expedient to facilitate the working of the Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks in the State of Assam with a view to providing for the grant of long-term loans to owners of land or other immovable property to enable them to discharge their debts; to carry out agricultural improvements and to promote thrift and self-help among them, in the manner hereinafter appearing:

It is hereby enacted in the Eleventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

- Short title, 1. (1) This Act may be called the Assam Co-opeextent and rative Land Mortgage Bank Act, 1960.
 - (2) It extends to the whole of the State of Assam
 - (3) It shall come into force on such date as the State Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint.
 - Definitions, 2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

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- (a) "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Assam Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank Limited.
- (b) "Central Mortgage Bank" means the Assam Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank Limited.
- (c) "Mortgage Bank", means a Co-operative Assam Act Land Mortgage Pank registered under the 1 of 1950. Assam Co-operative Societies' Act, 1949 and admitted as a member of the Central Mortgage Bank.
- (d) "Committee" means, in relation to Mortgage Bank, the Board of Directors or Board of Management or the Panchayat or the Committee of Management or the Governing Body to whom the management of its affairs'is entrusted.
- (e) "Prescribed" means prescribed by rule made by the State Government under this Act.
- (f) "Registrar" means a person appointed to Assam Act perform the duties of Registrar of Co- lof 1950. operative Societies under the Assam Co-operative Societies' Act of 1949.
- (g) "Sale Officer" means the Sale Officer appointed under Section 19 of this Act to attach and sell the property of defaulters or to execute any decree by attachment and sale of property.
- (h) "Trustee" means the Trustee appointed under Section 3 of this Act.

Appointment 3. (1) The Registrar, or where the State Government of Trustee appoint any other person in this behalf, such officer, and this appoint any other person in this behalf, such officer, powers and shall be the Trustee for the purpose of securing the functions. fulfilment of the obligations of the Central Mortgage Bank to the holders of debentures issued by the Board. (2) The powers and functions of the Trustee shall be governed by the provisions of this Act and by the instrument of trust executed between the Central Mortgage Bank and the Trustee as modified from time to time by mutual agreement between the Board and the Trustee. 4. The Trustee appointed under Section 3 shall be a Trustee to Corporation Sole by the name of the Trustee for the ration Solc. debentures and as such shall have perpetual succession and a common seal and in his Corporate name shall sue and be sued. 5. (1) With the previous sanction of the Trusteef Issue of de-the Board may, from time to time, issue debentures o the Board, one or more denominations for such periods as it may deem expedient, on the security of the mortgages and other assets transferred or deemed to have been transferred under Section 21 by the Mortgage Banks to the Central Mortgage Bank and other properties of Central Mortgage Bank. (2) Such debentures may contain a term fixing a period not exceeding ten years from the date of issue during which they shall be irredeemable or reserving to the Board the right to call in at any time any of the debentures in advance of the date fixed for redemption after giving to the debenture holder concerned not less than three months' notice in writing.

(3) The total amount due on the debentures issued by the Board and outstanding at any time shal not exceed the aggregate of (a) the amounts due on the mortgage and the value of the other assets transferred or deemed to have been transferred under Section 21 by the Mortgage Barks to the Central Mortgage Bank and subsisting at such time; and (b) the amounts paid under the mortgages aforesaid and remaining in the hands of the Board or of the Trustee at that time.

Charge of Debenture Holders on certain properties.

6. The holders of the debentures have a floating charge on—

(a) all such mortgages and assets as are referred to in clause (a) of sub-section (3) of Section 5;

(b) the amount paid under such mortgages and remaining in the hands of the Board or of the Trustee; and

(c) the other properties of the Central Mortgage Bank. Gaurantee 57. (1) The principal of and interest on, the Government of principal such maximum amount as may be fixed by State of, and in-Government and subject to such condition as it may terest on, think fit to impose, carry the guarantee of the State debentures. Government.

- (2) The State Government may subject to any law of the legislature of the State increase the maximum amount of any guarantee given under sub-section (1).
- (3) The State Government may, after consulting the Board and the Trustee:—
 - (a) by notification in the official Gazette; and
- (b) by notice of not less than fourteen days in such of the principal news papers in the State and of other States in India as the State Government may select in this behalf;

discontinue any guarantee given by it or restrict the maximum amount thereof or modify the conditions, subject to which it is given with effect from a specified date, not being earlier than six months from the date of publication of the notification in the official Gazette:

Provided that the withdrawal, restriction or modification of any guarantee shall not in any way affect the guarantee carried by any debenture issued prior to the date on which such withdrawal, restriction or modification takes effect.

(4) Every notification and notice referred to in sub-section (3) shalt where the maximum amount of guarantee is to be restricted or the conditions subject to which the guarantee is given are to be modified, set forth precisely the scope and effect of the restriction or modification, as the case may be.

Distraint when to be made:

8.(1) If any instalment payable under mortgage executed in favour of a Mortgage Bank or any part of such instalment has remained unpaid for more than one month from the date on which it fell due, the Committee may in addition to any other remedy available to the said Mortgage Bank, apply to the Registrar or to such person as the State Government may appoint in this behalf for the recovery of such instalment or part by distraint and sale of the produce of the mortgaged land including the standing crops thereon.

(2) On receipt of such application the Registrar or the person as the State Government may appoint Act IV of in this behalf may, notwithstanding anything contained in the Transfer of Procerty Act, 1882, take action in the manner as prescribed for the purpose of distraining and selling such produce:

Provided that no distraint shall be made after the expiry of twelve months from the date which the instalment fell due.

(3) The value of the property distrained shall be as nearly as possible, equal to the amount due and the expenses of the distraint and the cest of the sale.

Distraint how 9. (1) Before or at the time when a distraint is to be effected.

made under Section 8, the distrainer shall serve or cause to be served upon the defaulter a written demand specifying the amount for which the distraint is made.

- (2) The demand shall be dated and signed by the distrainer and shall be served upon the defaulter by delivering a copy to him or in his absence to some adult member of his family at his usual place of abode or to his authorised agent or when such service cannot be effected, by affixing a copy of the demand on some conspicuous part of his abode and of his land.
- perty distrained.

 10. (1) If, within 15 days from the date of service of demand referred to in Section 9, the defaulter does not pay the amount for which the distraint was effected, the distrainer may sell, in auction, the distrained property or such part thereof, as may in his opinion be necessary to satisfy the demand together with the expenses of the distraint and the cost of the sale.
 - (2) From the proceeds of such sale, a deduction shall be made at a rate not exceeding 6 naye paise in the rupee on account of the cost of the sale
 - (3) From the balance shall be deducted the expenses incurred by the distrainer on account of the distraint.
 - (4) The remainder, shall be applied to the discharge of the amount for which the distraint was made.
 - (5) The surplus, if any shall be delivered to the person whose property has been sold and he shall le given a receipt for the amount discharged from the proceeds of the sale.

Power of sale 11. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Act IV of when to be Transfer of Property Act, 1882, where a power of 1882 sale without the intervention of the court is expressly conferred on the Mortgage Bank by the mortgage deed, the Committee of such bank or any person authorised by such Committee in this behalf shall, in case of defalt of payment of the mortgage money or any part thereof, have power in addition to any other remedy available to the bank ro bring the mortgaged property to sale without the intervention of the court

(2) No such power shall be exercised unless and until-

- (a) the Board has previously authorised the exercise of the power conferred by subsection (1) after hearing the objections, if any of the mortgagor:
- (b) notice in writing requiring payment of such mortgage money or part has been served upon—

(i) the mortgagor;
 (ii) any person who has any interest in or charge upon the property mortgaged or in or upon the right to redeem the same;

- (iii) any surety for the payment of the mortgaged debt or any part thereof;
- (iv) any creditor of the mortgagor who has in a suit for the administration of his estate obtained a decree for sale of the mortgaged property; and
- (c) default has been made in payment of such mortgage money or part thereof for three months after such service.

Application for sale and by Section 11 and in confermity with the provisions manner of thereof, the Committee of a Mortgage Bank or any person duly authorised by such Committee may apply to the Sale Officer appointed in that behal under Section 19 to sell the mortgaged property or any part thereof and such officer shall aftergiving notice of 30 days in writing to all the persons referred to in Section 11, sell property in the manner prescribed.

(2) The sale shall be by public auction and shall be held in the village where the mortgaged property is situated or at the nearest place of public resort if the Sale Officer is of opinion that the property is likely to sell to better advantage there.

Application 13. (1) When a mortgaged property has been to set aside sold under the provisions of this Act, the mortgagor sale and or any person having a right or interest therein confirmation affected by the sale may, at any time, within thirty of sale in days from the date of sale, apply to the Committee default or of the Mortgage Bank concerned to have the sale of such ap-set aside on his depositing at the office of such plication Bank.

- (a) for payment to the Mortgage Bank, the amoun specified in the proclamation of sale together with subsequent interest and the costs, if any incurred by the bank in bringing the property to sale; and
- (b) for payment to the purchaser, sum equal to uch per cent of the purchase money as prescribed;
- (2) If such deposit is made, the Committee shall make an order setting aside the sale.
- (3) Where no application is made under subsection (1) or where such application is made and disallowed, the Committee shall apply to the Registrar or to the person appointed by the State in this behalf to make an order confirming the sale and on such officer's confirming the sale, it shall become absolute.

Distribution of proceeds of sale.

- 14. (1) The proceeds of every sale under the provisions of Sections 11, 12, 13 of this Act shall be applied by the Sale Officer, first in payment of all costs, charges and expenses actually incurred by him as incident to the sale or any proposed sale; secondly, in payment of all interest due on account of the mortgage in consequence whereof the mortgaged property was sold; thirdly, in payment of the principal money due on account of the mortgage; and lastly, in payment of the residue, if any, with the approval of the Registrar or the officer appointed by the State Government in this behalf to the person interested in the property sold or if there are more such persons than one then to such persons according to their respective interests upon their joint receipt.
- (2) Any person dissatisfied with the decision of the Sale Officer in regard to the distribution of the residue under sub-section (1) may, within thirty days of the communication to him of such decision, institute a suit to establish the right amount of interest he claims in a Civil Court within whose jurisdiction the property sold is situated.
- (3) The Sale Officer shall not distribute the residueunder sub-section (1) until thirty days have elapsed from the communication of his decision to all the persons concerned or if a suit has been instituted

within the said period of thirty days by any such person until the suit is disposed of or otherwise terminated and on such disposal or termination, the residue shall be distributed in accordance with the decision of the

Explanation: - In this sub-section "Court" means the Civil Court which would have jurisdiction to entertain a suit to enforce the mortgage and within the limits of whose jurisdiction the property sold is situated.

Certificate

15. Where a sale of mortgaged property has become to purchaser absolute, the Sale Officer shall grant a certificate specifying the property sold and the name of the person who, at the time of the sale, is declared to be the purchaser. Such certificate shall bear date and the day on which the sale became absolute.

Delivery of property to purchaser.

- 16. (1) Where the mortgaged property sold is in the actual possession of the mortgagor or of some person on his behalf or of some person claiming under a title other than a lease for a period not exceeding three years created by the mortgagor subsequent to the mortgage in favour of the Mortgage Bank and a certificate in respect thereof has been granted under Section 15, the court shall on the application of the purchaser, order delivery of the property to be made by putting such purchaser or his agent specially appointed in writing for the purpose in possession of the property.
- (2) Where the property sold is in the occupation of a tenant or other person entitled to occupy the same and a certificate in respect there-of has been granted under Section 15, the court shall, on the application of the purchaser, and after notice to such tenant or other person, order delivery to be made to the purchaser by affixing a copy of the certificate of sale in some conspicuous place on the property and proclaiming to the occupant and the public by beat of drum or other customary mode at some convenient place that the interest of the mortgagor has been transferred to the purchaser.
- (3) In regard to the cases dealt within subsections (1) and (2), the provisions of rules 97 to 103 of Order XXI of the first schedule to the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 shall, mutatis mutandis and so Act of 1908 far as may be, apply.

Explanation: - In this Section "Court" shall have the same meaning as in Section 14.

Appointment or Receiver and his power s

17. (1) The Board may on the application of a Mortgage Bank and under circumstances in which the power of sale conferred by Section 11 may be exercised, appoint in writing, a Receiver of the produce and income of the mortgaged property or any part thereof and such Receiver shall be entitled either to take possession of the property or collect its produce and income, as the case may be, to retain out of any money realised by him, his expenses of management including his remuneration, if any, as fixed by the Board, and to apply the balance in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 69-A of Act IV the Transfer of Property Act, 1882.

- (2) A Receiver appointed under sub-section (1) may, for sufficient cause and on application made by the mortgagor, be removed by the Board.
- (3) A vacancy in the office of the Receiver may be filled up by the Board.
- (4) Nothing in this Section shall empower the Board to appoint a Receiver when the mortgaged property is already in the possession of a Receiver appointed by a Civil Court.

purchaser ground of irregularity, etc.

18. Where any property is sold in the exercise or purchaser not to be purported exercise of a power of sale under the proquestioned vision of this Act, the title of the purchaser shall not be questioned on the ground that-

> (a) the circumstances required for authorising the sale had arisen; or

(b) due notice of the sale was not given; or (c) the power of sale was otherwise improperly or irregularly exercised;

but any person who has suffered any damage by an unauthorised, improper or irregular exercise of any such power shall have a remedy in damages against the Mortgage Bank. Such property, shall vest in the purchaser free from all encumbrances.

Appointment of Sale Officers.

19. The Registrar shall appoint Sale Officers for the purpose of conducting sale under the provisions of this Act.

Right of 20. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in mortgage Bank or of any law for the time being in force, it the Central shall be lawful for a Mortgage Bank or the Central Right of Mortgage Mortgage Bank to purchase any mortgaged property
Bank to sold under this Act and the property so purchased the mort shall be disposed of by such Bank by sale within such gaged pro- period as may be fixed by the Trustee. at perty sale.

(2) Nothing in the Assam Fixation of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1956 fixing a maximum limit of Assam agricultural holding shall apply to the acquisition of 1 of 1957 land by a Mortgage Bank or the Central Mortgage

Bank under sub-section (1).

Mortgages 21. The mortgages executed in favour of, and all executed in other assets transferred to a Mortgage Bank by the of members thereof shall, with effect from the date of to such execution or transfer (including those mort aged stand vested to a Mortgage Bank before commencement of this in Central Act) be deemed to have been transferred by such Mortgage Mortgage Banks to the Central Mortgage Bank and shall stand vested in the Trustee.

Powers of the 22. Where any property mortgaged to a Mortgage Bank where Bank is wholly or partially destroyed or the security property is is rendered insufficient and the mortgagor, having destroyed or been given a reasonable opportunity by the Committee security be of the Mortgage Bank, of providing further security sufficients enough to render the whole security sufficient of repaying such portion of the loan as may be determined by the Committee, has failed to provide such security or to repay such portion of the loan, the whole of the loan shall be deemed to fall due at once and the Committee shall be entitled to take action against the mortgagor under Section 8 or Section 11 for the recovery thereof.

> Explanation.—A security is insufficient within the meaning of this Section unless the value of the mortgaged property exceeds the amount for the time being due on the mortgage by such proportion as may be specified in the bye-laws of the Mortgage Bank.

23. (1) The Board or the Trustee may direct the Board or of Committee of a Mortgage Bank to take action against distrain and a defaulter under Section 8, Section 11 or Section 22 sale of pros and if the Committee neglects, or fails to do so, the perty, etc. Board or the Trustee may take such action.

- (2) Where such action is taken by the Board the provisions of this Act and of any rules made in this behalf shall apply in respect thereto as if all references to the Mortgage Bank and to its Committee in the said provisions were references to the Central Mortgage Bank and the Board respectively.
- (3) Where such action is taken by the Trustee, the provisions of this Act and of any rules made thereunder shall apply in respect thereto as if all references to Mortgage Bank or to its Committee in the said provisions were references to the Trustee.

IV of

24. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Act IV to Transfer of Property Act, 1882, or in any other law 1882. for the time being in force, a mortgagor shall not Mortgagors' power grant a lease of the mortgaged property for a period lease. exceeding three years.

(2) Any lease granted in contravention of the pro-

visions of sub-section (1) shall be void.

gagor.

Mortgage not to be 25. Notwithstanding anything contained in the questioned Provincial Insolvency Act of 1920 and in any law on insolven- relating to insolvency, a mortgage executed in favour cy of mort of a Mortgage Bank shall not be called in question on the ground that it was not executed in good faith for valuable consideration or on the ground that it was executed in order to give the Mortgage Bank a preference over the other creditors of the mortgagor.

Power of 26. Notwithstanding that a mortgage executed in mortgage favour of a Mortgage Bank has been transferred, or is ceive money deemed under the provision of Section 21 to have grant been transferred to the Central Mortgage Bank-

valid discharges notwithstanding Mortgage Bank.

(a) all moneys due under the mortgage may, in the of Mortgage absence of any specific direction to the contrary issued Deeds to the by the Board or Trustee and communicated to the Central mortgagor, be paid to the Mortgage Bank and such payment shall be valid as if the mortgage had not been so transferred; and

(b) the Mortgage Bank shall, in the absence of any specific direction to the contrary issued by the Board or Trustee and communicated to the Mortgage Bank be entitled to sue on the mortgage or take any other proceedings for the recovery of the moneys due under the mortgaged.

Priority of claims.

27. A mortgage executed in favour of a Mortgage Bank and Central Mortgage Bank shall have prio- Act X over certain rity over any claim of the Government arising from a loan under the Land Improvement Leans Act, 1883, Act X or the Agriculturist's Loans Act, 1884 granted after the execution of the mortgage.

28. Where a mortgage is executed in favour of a Mortgage Bank for payment of prior debts of Bank to pay the mortgagor, the Bank may, notwithstanding the prior debts of mortgagor provisions of Sections 75 and 76 of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882 by notice in writing, require Act want person to whom any such debt is due, to receive payment of such debt or part thereof from the Mortgage Bank at its registered office within such period as may be specified in the notice.

(2) Where any such person fails to receive such notice or such payment, such debt or part thereof as the case may be, shall cease to carry interest from the expiration of the period specified in the notice:

Provided that where there is a dispute as regards the amount of any such debt the person to whom such debt is due shall be bound to receive payment of the amount offered by the Mortgage Bank towards the debt, but such receipt shall not prejudice the right, if any, of such person, to recover the balance claimed by him

Registration Indian Registration Act, 1908 it shall not be neces- Act XVI of executed on sary for any officer of a Mortgage Bank or of the behalf of a Central Mortgage Bank to appear in person or by Mortgage agent at any registration office in any proceedings Bank or of connected with the registration of any instrument Bank or of the Central Mortgage Bank. as provided in Section 58 of that Act.

(2) Where any instrument is so executed, the registering officer to whom such istrument is presented for registration, may, if he thinks fit, refer to such officer as stated in sub-section (1) for information respecting the same, and on being satisfied of the execution thereof, shall register the instrument.

Proof of do- 30. Any Mortgage Bank or the Central Mortgage cuments of Bank may grant copies of any document obtained entries in and kept by it in the course of its business or of any entries in such document; and any copy so granted shall, where certified in such manner as may be prescribed, be admissible in evidence for any purpose in the same manner and to the same extent as the original document, or the entries therein, as the case may be.

31. The provisions of the Act shall apply also to Provisions of the Act the loans advanced by Mortgage Banks from funds shall apply which have not been borrowed from the Central wanced by Mortgage Bank.

Mortgage Banks from funds not

borro wed from the Central Mortg a g e Bank.

1883. ct XII of 1884.

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Act VI of 1882.

32. Whenever under the provisions of this Act notice is required to be given to any person in writing, notice. it shall be sufficient to send such notice by :-

> (i) Registered post with acknowledgement due, or (ii) personal service through official messenger or (iii) affixing a copy of the notice at the last known place of residence or business of the person concerned through any office bearer or employee of the Central Mortgage Bank or Mortgage Bank, as the case may be, with two witnesses when the person concerned refuses to accept the notice and sign the acknowledgement or he cannot be found.

Sections 102, 33. The provisions of Sections 102 and 103 of the 103 and 104 Transfer of Property Act, 1882, and of any rules made 1882. 33. The provisions of Sections 102 and 103 of the of the Trans-by the High Court under Section 104 of that Act for fer of Pro-perty Act, carrying out the purposes of the said Sections, shall 1882, to apply, so far as may, in respect of all notices to be to served under this Act. apply such notices

under Act.

34. At any sale of movable or immovable property Officer of held under the provisions of this Act in order to Bank and the Gentral Director, Secretary or other Officer of such Bank or Mortgage of the Central Mortgage Bank (except on behalf of and the Bank of which he is a Director or Secretary or an sale officers the Bank of which he is a Director or Secretary or an not to bid Officer) and no sale officer or other persons having any duty to perform in connection with such sale, shall either directly or indirectly bid for or acquire or attempt to acquire any interest in such property.

35. The Board may, if it thinks fit, delegate all or Delegation certain any of its powers under Sections 11, 17 and 23 to an powers by Executive Committee constituted by it and consisting of two or more of its members.

36. (1) The State Government may, by notifica-State tion in the official Gazette, make rules for carrying Government out the purposes of the Act. make Rules.

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely-

(a) the manner of effecting distraint ;

(b) the custody, preservation and sale of distrained property;

(c) the investigation of claims by other than the defaulter to any right or interest in the distrained property and for the postponement of the sale pending such investigation;

- (d) the immediate sale of perishable articles;
- (e) the due proclamation and conduct of the sale,
- (f) the recovery of the expenses of proclamation and sale;
 - (g) the deposit of the purchase money;
- (h) the re-sale of the property, if the purchase money is not deposited; and
- (i) any other matter which has to be, or may be, prescribed.
- (3) All rules made under this Section shall be laid for not less than fourteen days before the Assam Legislative Assembly as soon as possible after they are made, and shall be subject to such modifications as the Legislative Assembly may make during the Session in which they are so laid or the Session immediately following.

Power of the 37. (1) The Board may, subject to the approval Board to of the Trustee, make regulations not inconsistent with make Regue the provisions of this Act and the rules made there-under for enabling it to discharge its functions under this Act.

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such regulations may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:—

(a) fixing the period of debentures and the rate

of interest payable thereon;

- (b) calling in debentures after giving notice to debenture holders;
- (c) the issue of new debentures in place of debentures damaged or destroyed;
- (d) converting one class of debenture into another, bearing a different rate of interest;
- (e) the inspection of the account books and proceedings of Mortgage Banks;
- (f) the submission of returns and reports by Mortgage Banks in respect of their transaction;
- (g) the periodical settlement of accounts between Mortgage Bank and the payment of the amounts recovered by Mortgage Banks on mortgages transferred or deemed under the provisions of Section 21 to have been transferred to the Central Mortgage Bank;

- (h) specifying the form in which applications to Mortgage Banks for loans should be made and for the valuation of the properties offered as security for such loans;
- (i) the investment of moneys realised from mortgagor; and
- (j) generally for any other matter in respect of which the Board considers provision should be made for the purposes of this Act.
- (3) All such regulations shall be published in the official Gazette.

ASSAM ACT No.II OF 1961

THE GAUHATI UNIVERSITY (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1960

(As passed by the Assembly)

Received the assent of the Governor on the 6th January 1961

[Published in the Assam Gazette, Extraordinary, dated the 10th January, 1961]

An

Act

further to amend the Gauhati University Act, 1947

Gauhati University Act, 1947, hereinafter called the Principal Act, in the manner hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted in the Eleventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

- Short title. 1. (1) This Act may be called the Gauhati and commencement. University (Amendment) Act, 1960.
 - (2) It shall come into force on such date as the State Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint.

Amendment of Section 2 of Assam Act XVI of 1947.

- 2. In Section 2 of the Principal Act,-
- (1) the following shall be instead as clause (a) and the existing clause (a) shall be renumbered as clause (aa), namely:—

(a) 'Board of Secondary Education' means