

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT**

**West Bengal Act XII of 1987**

**THE SRI SRI LOKENATH COTTON MILLS LIMITED  
(ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF  
UNDERTAKINGS) ACT, 1987.**

*[Passed by the West Bengal Legislature.]*

[Assent of the Governor was first published in the *Calcutta Gazette*,  
*Extraordinary*, of the 18th November, 1987.]

*[18th November, 1987.]*

*An Act to provide for the acquisition and transfer, in the public interest,  
of the undertakings of the Sri Sri Lokenath Cotton Mills Limited, and  
for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.*

WHEREAS Sri Sri Lokenath Cotton Mills Limited had been engaged in the processing of cloth comprising bleaching of grey cloth and dyeing and printing of cloth;

AND WHEREAS Sri Sri Lokenath Cotton Mills Limited has been closed and such closure has been highly detrimental to the interest of the general public;

AND WHEREAS for the purpose of reconstructing and rehabilitating the undertakings of Sri Sri Lokenath Cotton Mills Limited so as to subserve the interests of the general public by utilising the production facilities and equipment of the undertakings of the Company and generating employment, it is necessary to acquire the undertakings of the Company;

It is hereby enacted in the Thirty-eighth Year of the Republic of India, by the Legislature of West Bengal, as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Sri Sri Lokenath Cotton Mills Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1987.

Short title  
and  
commence-  
ment.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 3rd day of October, 1987.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

Definitions.

(a) “appointed day” means the date on which this Act comes into force;

(b) “Company” means the Sri Sri Lokenath Cotton Mills Limited being a company as defined in the Companies Act, 1956, and having its registered office at 63, Radha Bazar Street, Calcutta-700 001;

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(Sections 3, 4.)

- (c) "existing Government company" means a Government company which is carrying on business on the appointed day;
- (d) "notification" means a notification published in the *Official Gazette*;
- (e) words and expressions used herein and not defined but defined in the Companies Act, 1956, shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in that Act. 1 of 1956.

3. On the appointed day, the undertakings of the Company, and the right, title and interest of the Company in relation to its undertakings, shall, by virtue of this Act, stand transferred to, and vest in, the State Government.

4. (1) The undertakings of the Company shall be deemed to include all assets, rights, lease-holds, powers, authorities and privileges, and all property, movable and immovable, including lands, buildings, reservoir, railway siding, factory sheds, plant and machinery, equipments, furniture and fixtures, electrical installations, and all other rights and interest in, or arising out of, such property as were immediately before the appointed day in the ownership, power or control of the Company, whether within or outside India.

(2) All property included as aforesaid in the undertakings which have vested in the State Government under section 3 shall, by force of such vesting, be freed and discharged from any trusts, obligations, mortgages, charges, liens and other encumbrances affecting it, and any attachment, injunction or any decree or order of any court restricting the use of such property in any manner shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.

(3) If, on the appointed day, any suit, appeal or other proceeding of whatever nature in relation to any property or asset which has vested in the State Government under section 3, instituted or preferred by or against the Company, is pending, the same shall not abate, be discontinued or be, in any way, prejudicially affected by reason of the transfer of the undertakings of the Company or of anything contained in this Act but the suit, appeal or other proceeding may be continued, prosecuted or enforced by or against the State Government or, where the undertakings of the Company are directed under section 5 to vest in an existing Government company, by or against the existing Government company.

Transfer to,  
and vesting  
in, the State  
Government  
of the  
undertakings  
of the  
Company.

General  
effect of  
vesting.

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(Sections 5-7.)

5. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 3, the State Government may, if it is satisfied that an existing Government company is willing to comply, or has complied, with such terms and conditions as that Government may think fit to impose, direct, by notification, that the undertakings of the Company, and the right, title and interest of the Company in relation to its undertakings which have vested in the State Government under section 3, shall, instead of continuing to vest in the State Government, vest in that existing Government company either on the date of publication of the notification or on such earlier or later date (not being a date earlier than the appointed day) as may be specified in the notification.

Power of  
State  
Government  
to direct  
vesting of the  
undertakings  
of the  
Company in  
an existing  
Government  
company.

(2) Where the right, title and interest of the Company in relation to its undertakings vest under sub-section (1) in an existing Government company, on and from the date of such vesting,—

- (a) that existing Government company shall be deemed to have become, and shall be deemed to be, the owner in relation to such undertakings, and
- (b) the rights and liabilities of the State Government in relation to such undertakings shall be deemed to have become, and shall be deemed to be, the rights and liabilities, respectively, of that existing Government company.

6. (1) For the transfer to, and vesting in, the State Government, under section 3, of the undertakings of the Company and the right, title and interest of the Company in relation to its undertakings, there shall be given by the State Government to the Company in cash, as a one-time settlement, a sum of rupees six lakhs and eighty-three thousand within such time as the State Government may by notification specify.

Payment of  
amount.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby declared that the liabilities of the Company in relation to the undertakings which have vested in the State Government under section 3, shall be met from the amount referred to in sub-section (1).

(3) Every person having a claim to the amount as aforesaid or any part thereof shall prefer such claim before the Commissioner of Payments appointed under section 7 within such period as the State Government may by notification specify.

7. The State Government shall, for the purpose of disbursing the amount payable under section 6, by notification, appoint a Commissioner of Payments.

Appointment  
of Commi-  
ssioner of  
Payments.

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(Sections 8-11.)

Management  
etc. of the  
undertakings  
of the  
Company.

8. (1) The general superintendence, direction, control and management of the undertakings of the Company, the right, title and interest in relation to which have vested in the State Government under section 3, shall, when a direction has been given by the State Government under sub-section (1) of section 5, vest, on and from the date specified in such direction, in existing Government company specified therein, and thereupon the existing Government company so specified shall be entitled to exercise to the exclusion of all other persons, all such powers and do all such things as the Company is authorised to exercise and do in relation to its undertakings.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), the existing Government company as aforesaid may, on such terms and conditions as it may determine and with the prior approval of the State Government, nominate, for management of the undertakings, any co-operative society registered or deemed to be registered under the West Bengal Co-operative Societies Act, 1983, and thereupon such co-operative society shall carry on the management on behalf of the existing Government company in accordance with such regulations as may be made by the State Government in this behalf.

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Act XLV of  
1983.

Duty to  
deliver  
possession of  
the underta-  
kings.

9. (1) Notwithstanding any decree, judgement or order of any court or anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, the Company or any other person, in whose possession or custody or under whose control the undertakings of the Company (which have vested in the State Government or in any existing Government company under this Act) or any part thereof may be, shall deliver possession of the undertakings of the Company or such part thereof as may be in his possession, custody or control to the State Government or the existing Government company, as the case may be.

(2) The State Government or the existing Government company may take, or cause to be taken, all necessary steps for securing the possession of the undertakings which have vested in the State Government or the existing Government company under this Act.

Act to have  
overriding  
effect.

10. The provisions of this Act shall have effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other law for the time being in force or in any instrument having effect by virtue of any law other than this Act or in any decree or order of any court, tribunal or other authority.

Protection of  
action taken  
in good faith.

11. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against the State Government or any officer of that Government or the existing Government company for anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done under this Act.

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(Sections 12-14.)

12. (1) The State Government may, by notification, make regulations with regard to the matter specified in sub-section (2) of section 8.

Power to  
make  
regulations.

(2) Every regulation made by the State Government under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before the State Legislature, 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, the State Legislature agrees in making any modifications in the regulation or the State Legislature agrees that the regulation should not be made, the regulation 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 regulation.

13. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the State Government may, by order not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, remove the difficulty:

Power to  
remove  
difficulties.

Provided that no such order shall be made after the expiry of a period of two years from the date of publication of this Act in the *Official Gazette*.

14. (1) The Sri Sri Lokenath Cotton Mills Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Ordinance, 1987 is hereby repealed.

Repeal and  
saving.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been validly done or taken under this Act.

West Ben.  
Ord. III of  
1987.