

# West Bengal Act XXVII of 1964

## THE WEST BENGAL GRAMDAN ACT, 1964.

[Passed by the West Bengal Legislature.]

[Assent of the President was first published in the *Calcutta Gazette, Extra-ordinary*, of the 4th January, 1965.]

[4th January, 1965.]

*An Act to provide for the establishment of gramdan villages and for matters ancillary thereto.*

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the establishment of *gramdan* villages in pursuance of the *Bhudan Yagna* movement as initiated by Acharya Vinoba Bhave and matters ancillary thereto;

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

### CHAPTER I.

#### Preliminary.

1. (1) This Act may be called the West Bengal *Gramdan* Act, 1964.

Short title, extent and commencement.

(2) It extends to the whole of West Bengal.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

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

(a) “adult” means a person who has completed twenty-one years of age;

(b) “allottee” means a person to whom land has been allotted for cultivation by a *Gram Parishad* under section 17;

(c) “*bargadar*” means a person who under the system generally known as *adhi*, *barga* or *bhag* cultivates the land of another person on condition of delivering a share of the produce of such land to that person;

(d) “common land” in a village means waste land owned by the State Government and includes land used or reserved for use for the common purposes of the village;

(e) “donor” means a person who has donated land by way of *gramdan* under section 4 or section 7;

(f) “family” means a set of persons of near relationship to one another living together in commonality and includes the dependants of such persons living with them;

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(g) "gramdan" means a donation of land situated in a village which is made voluntarily for the purposes of this Act;

(h) "gramdan village" means a village or a part of a village declared to be a *gramdan* village under section 5;

(i) "Gram Panchayat" means a *Gram Panchayat* constituted under the West Bengal *Panchayat* Act, 1957;

(j) "Gram Parishad" means a *Gram Parishad* established under section 8;

(k) "head of family" means the senior male member of a family who manages its affairs;

(l) "land" does not include homestead land;

(m) "landless persons" includes a person owning land not exceeding such limit as may be determined by the *Gram Parishad* of the *gramdan* village concerned;

(n) "owner" means—

- (i) in relation to land held by a tenant with permanent or alienable interest in the land, the tenant;
- (ii) in relation to land held under a grant, lease or assignment from the State Government, the holder; and
- (iii) in relation to any other land, the person to whom the land belongs;

(o) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act;

(p) "prescribed authority" means an authority appointed by the State Government, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, for all or any of the purposes of this Act;

(q) "regulations" means regulations made by a *Gram Parishad* under this Act;

(r) "village" means an area defined, surveyed and recorded as a distinct and separate village in the revenue records of the district in which it is situate.

(2) The expression signifying 'residing' in a village or a part of a village means residing ordinarily in such village or such part, and the expression 'resident' shall be construed accordingly.

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(*Chapter I.—Preliminary.—Section 3.—Chapter II.—The Gramdan Village.—Section 4.*)

3. The provisions of this Act shall have effect notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other law for the time being in force. Act to override other laws.

## CHAPTER II.

### *The Gramdan Village.*

4. (1) If any owner of land, not being a minor, desires to donate by way of *gramdan* all his lands in a village, he may file a declaration in the prescribed form before the prescribed authority. Donation of land by way of gramdan.

(2) A declaration under sub-section (1) shall not be valid unless it is made—

- (a) in the case of land subject to mortgage, by the mortgagor and the mortgagee jointly; and
- (b) in the case of land held under a grant, lease or assignment from the State Government not conferring permanent or alienable interest, with the previous approval of the State Government.

(3) Every declaration under sub-section (1) shall be published in such manner as may be prescribed together with a notice in the prescribed form requiring all persons interested in the land, in respect of which the declaration has been made, to submit their objections, if any, in writing to the prescribed authority within forty-five days of the publication of the declaration.

(4) On the expiry of the period specified in sub-section (3), the prescribed authority may, after considering the objections, if any, and after making such further enquiries as it may think fit, by order, either confirm the declaration or refuse to confirm it.

(5) Any person aggrieved by an order of the prescribed authority under sub-section (4) may file an appeal from such order to the appellate authority prescribed in this behalf within sixty days from the date of the order, and subject to the decision of the appeal the order of the prescribed authority shall be final.

(6) A declaration which the prescribed authority has, by order, refused to confirm under sub-section (4) shall be of no force or effect.

(7) Where any land has been donated by way of *gramdan* before the commencement of this Act, any person may file a statement in the prescribed form before the prescribed authority giving particulars in respect of such land, and thereupon, the provisions of sub-sections (3), (4), (5) and (6) shall, so far as may be, apply to such statement.

(8) No owner of land who has filed a declaration in respect of his land under sub-section (7) shall be competent to transfer, or create any encumbrance on, the land unless

## (Chapter II.—The Gramdan Village.—Sections 5, 6.)

and until an order under sub-section (4) refusing to confirm the declaration, or an order under sub-section (3) of section 5 declaring the village in which the land is situated to be not qualified to be a *gramdan* village, has been made, whichever is earlier. Any transfer made or encumbrance created in contravention of this sub-section shall be void and inoperative.

Declaration of village as *gramdan* village.

## 5. (1) Where in a village or a part of a village—

- (a) the total area of lands in respect of which declarations filed under section 4 have been confirmed is not less than fifty-one *per cent.* of the total area of lands in such village or such part owned by the residents thereof;
- (b) the number of persons whose declarations under section 4 have been confirmed is not less than seventy-five *per cent.* of the total number of persons owning land and residing in such village or such part; and
- (c) not less than seventy-five *per cent.* of the heads of families residing in such village or such part have declared in the prescribed form and manner to participate in a community based on *gramdan*;

the prescribed authority may, after making an inquiry in such manner as may be prescribed, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, declare such village or such part to be a *gramdan* village with effect from the date specified in such notification:

Provided that no part of a village shall be declared to be a *gramdan* village under this sub-section unless the number of persons residing therein is one hundred or more.

(2) A copy of a notification under sub-section (1) shall be displayed in a prominent place in the village and in conspicuous places in the offices of the Collector of the district and the Subdivisional Officer of the subdivision within which the village is situated, and the substance of every such notification shall be published in the prescribed manner.

(3) If the conditions mentioned in sub-section (1) are not satisfied within such time as may be prescribed, the prescribed authority may declare in the manner prescribed that the village or the part of the village, as the case may be, is not qualified to be a *gramdan* village and thereupon every declaration under section 4 shall, notwithstanding that it had been confirmed under sub-section (4) of that section, cease to have effect.

Effect of declaration as *gramdan* village.

6. (1) With effect from the date from which a village or a part of a village is declared to be a *gramdan* village by notification under sub-section (1) of section 5—

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(*Chapter II.—The Gramdan Village.—Section 7.—Chapter III.—The Gram Parishad.—Section 8.*)

(a) all rights, title and interests of persons whose declarations have been confirmed under section 4 in respect of the lands covered by such declarations shall stand transferred to and vest in the *Gram Parishad* established for the *gramdan* village;

(b) the *Gram Parishad* shall be liable to pay the land revenue or rent and other cesses and rates in respect of the lands vesting in the *Gram Parishad* falling due on, before or after the date of such vesting and shall also be liable for any mortgage subsisting in respect of such lands on the date of such vesting:

Provided, however, that the *Gram Parishad* shall be entitled to recover, in such instalments as it may fix, all amounts paid by it on account of any mortgage existing on such lands from the persons who donated such lands.

(2) The State Government may from time to time, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, transfer to the *Gram Parishad* for management, such common lands in the village as may be specified in the notification on such terms and conditions as may be specified therein. The State Government may also, in the like manner, cancel such notification whereupon all the rights of the *Gram Parishad* over such common lands shall cease.

7. (1) Any owner of land, not being a minor, holding land in a *gramdan* village for which a *Gram Parishad* has been established may, by declaration made to the prescribed authority in the prescribed manner, donate all his lands in the *gramdan* village, and upon the declaration being confirmed in the manner referred to in sub-section (2), the right, title and interest of the donor in respect of the lands donated shall be deemed to have been duly transferred to and shall vest in the *Gram Parishad*.

Donation  
of land  
in a  
*gramdan*  
village.

(2) The provisions of sub-sections (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) of section 4 shall apply to a declaration under this section, as they apply to a declaration under sub-section (1) of section 4:

Provided that no declaration shall be confirmed by the prescribed authority without the approval of the *gram Parishad*.

## CHAPTER III.

### The *Gram Parishad*.

8. (1) The State Government shall, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, establish, with effect from the date specified in the notification under sub-section (1) of section 5, a *Gram Parishad* for the *gramdan* village.

Establish-  
ment and  
incorpo-  
ration of  
*Gram*  
*Parishad*.

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## (Chapter III.—The Gram Parishad.—Sections: 9—13.)

(2) The *Gram Parishad* shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal with power to enter into contracts and, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and shall by its name sue and be sued.

Composition of the Gram Parishad.

8. Every adult residing in the *gramdan* village shall be a member of the *Gram Parishad*:

Provided that a person shall be disqualified for being a member of the *Gram Parishad*, if he—

(i) is not a citizen of India, or

(ii) has been adjudged by a competent Court to be of unsound mind.

Register of members.

10. (1) On the establishment of a *Gram Parishad* the prescribed authority shall cause to be prepared a register in the prescribed form of all members of the *Gram Parishad*.

(2) The register prepared under sub-section (1) shall be revised and brought up to date at such intervals and in such manner as may be prescribed.

President of Gram Parishad.

11. (1) A *Gram Parishad* shall elect in the prescribed manner a President from among its members.

(2) The President shall perform such functions, exercise such powers and discharge such duties as may be provided by regulations.

(3) The term of office of the President shall be three years.

(4) A *Gram Parishad* may in such circumstances and in such manner as may be prescribed remove the President from office.

Committees of Gram Parishad.

12. (1) A *Gram Parishad* may constitute—

(a) standing committees for performing such functions of the *Gram Parishad* as may be provided by regulations;

(b) *ad hoc* committees for inquiring into or reporting and advising on any matter which the *Gram Parishad* may refer to them.

(2) A *Gram Parishad* may dissolve or reconstitute committees referred to in sub-section (1) in such circumstances and in such manner as may be provided by regulations.

Secretary and other officers of Gram Parishad.

13. A *Gram Parishad* may appoint—

(a) a Secretary who shall exercise such powers and discharge such duties as may be provided by regulations or as may be delegated to him by the President;

(b) such other officers and servants as may be necessary for the due performance of the functions of the *Gram Parishad*.

(Chapter III.—The Gram Parishad.—Sections 14—18.)

14. Notwithstanding anything contained elsewhere in this Act, a person shall be disqualified for—

- (a) being elected President of the *Gram Parishad*, or
- (b) being appointed member of any standing committee or *ad hoc* committee constituted by the *Gram Parishad*, or
- (c) being appointed Secretary of the *Gram Parishad*,

if such person has been convicted by a Court of an offence which is declared by the State Government to be an offence involving moral turpitude, unless the State Government has, on sufficient cause being shown, removed the disqualification by an order made in this behalf.

Disqualification for being elected President or appointed member of committee or Secretary.

15. Subject to the provisions of the rules, if any, made in this behalf, the business of a *Gram Parishad* and its committees shall be conducted in such manner as may be provided by regulations.

Conduct of business.

16. (1) A *Gram Parishad* shall constitute a land pool with not less than five *per cent.* of the total area of lands vested in it for the benefit of the landless persons residing in the *gramdan* village.

Land pool.

(2) A portion of land donated by each donor shall be treated as his contribution to the land pool.

(3) The *Gram Parishad* shall determine the extent of contribution of land by a donor to the land pool and in doing so shall have regard to the total area of the land donated by him.

17. (1) A *Gram Parishad* shall allot for cultivation to each donor all the lands donated by him excluding the portion of the land contributed to the land pool.

Allotment of land.

(2) A *Gram Parishad* may allot from the land pool land for cultivation to such landless persons residing in the *gramdan* village as it thinks fit.

(3) An allottee under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) shall be liable to pay such rent and other charges to the *Gram Parishad* as may be fixed by it.

18. An allotment of land in the *gramdan* village by the *Gram Parishad* shall be subject to the following conditions, namely:—

Conditions of allotment of land.

(a) the allottee shall cultivate the land personally or through a *bargadar* who must be a resident of the *gramdan* village:

Provided that if the land has been under cultivation by a *bargadar*, who is not a resident of the *gramdan* village, from before the commencement of this Act, it may continue to be cultivated by such *bargadar*:

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(Chapter III.—*The Gram Parishad.—Sections 19—20.*)

Provided further that if at the time of the allotment the land has been under cultivation by a *bargadar*, whether he is a resident of the *gramdan* village or not, his cultivation shall not be terminated by the allottee except on the grounds and in the manner mentioned in section 17 of the West Bengal Land Reforms

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*Explanation.*—An allottee shall not be deemed to have cultivated the land personally unless he or any member of his family puts in labour on the land in any process of cultivation;

- (b) the interest of the allottee in the land allotted shall be heritable in the same manner as other immovable property, but no transfer by the allottee of such interest shall be valid unless made to a member of the *Gram Parishad*, and with the consent of the *Gram Parishad*;
- (c) the allottee may surrender the land to the *Gram Parishad* for consideration on such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by them.

Power to evict allottee.

19. If any allottee of land contravenes the provisions of clause (a) of section 18, or fails without sufficient cause to cultivate the land for two consecutive years, the *Gram Parishad* may make an application to the prescribed authority for cancelling the allotment, and the prescribed authority may, after such inquiry as it deems fit, cancel the allotment and restore possession of the land to the *Gram Parishad* after ejecting the allottee or any other person in possession therefrom.

Annual contribution to Gram Parishad.

20. (1) Subject to the provisions of sub-section (2)—

- (a) every allottee shall contribute annually to the *Gram Parishad* one-fortieth part of the produce of the land allotted to him, if such land is cultivated by him personally, or one-thirtieth part of his share of such produce, if such land is cultivated through a *bargadar*;
- (b) if an allottee who resides in the *gramdan* village owns any land outside such village, he shall, in addition to the contribution referred to in clause (a), contribute annually to the *Gram Parishad* one-fiftieth part of the produce of such land, if such land is cultivated by him personally, or one-fortieth part of his share of such produce, if such land is cultivated through a *bargadar*;

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(Chapter III.—The Gram Parishad.—Section 21.)

- (o) if a member of the *Gram Parishad*, who has made the declaration referred to in clause (c) of sub-section (1) of section 5, cultivates as a *bargadar* any land in the *gramdan* village or outside it, he shall contribute annually to the *Gram Parishad* one-thirtieth part of his share of the produce of such land; and
- (d) if a member of the *Gram Parishad*, who has made the declaration referred to in clause (c) of sub-section (1) of section 5, is not required to make any contribution under clause (a), clause (b) or clause (c), he shall contribute annually to the *Gram Parishad* one-thirtieth part of his total net annual income in such monthly or quarterly instalments as may be convenient to him.

- (2) The *Gram Parishad* may, if it thinks fit to do so after considering the circumstances of any person liable to make a contribution under sub-section (1), reduce the rate or quantum of the contribution to be made by him to the *Gram Parishad*.

**21.** (1) The *Gram Parishad* shall have power to manage the lands vested in it and to do all other things incidental thereto in the interest and for the benefit of the members of the *Gram Parishad*.

Powers and functions of the *Gram Parishad*.

- (2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, the *Gram Parishad* may—
  - (a) arrange for the proper cultivation of the lands;
  - (b) set apart lands for the common purposes of the village;
  - (c) grant loans to the allottees of lands for purposes of cultivation;
  - (d) take measures for the improvement of lands and reclamation of waste lands including measures for the improvement of methods of cultivation;
  - (e) consolidate lands in the *gramdan* village by exchange of lands or otherwise;
  - (f) undertake any agricultural or non-agricultural enterprise in the interest of the residents of the *gramdan* village;
  - (g) apportion the produce of or income from the lands between the allottees and the *Gram Parishad*; and
  - (h) perform such other functions as may be authorised by the State Government by notification in the *Official Gazette*.

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(*Chapter III.—The Gram Parishad.—Section 22.—Chapter IV.—The Gram Adalat.—Sections 23, 24.—Chapter V.—The Gram Nidhi.—Sections 25, 26.*)

Power of  
Gram  
Parishad  
to  
recover  
dues.

22. Any sum due to a *Gram Parishad* shall be recoverable upon requisition by the *Gram Parishad* as an arrear of land revenue.

#### CHAPTER IV.

##### The *Gram Adalat*.

Gram  
Adalat.

23. (1) The State Government may establish a *Gram Adalat* for a *gramdan* village consisting of such number of members of the *Gram Parishad* and in such manner as may be prescribed.

(2) The *Gram Adalat* shall have power to try and dispose of—

(a) any dispute of a civil nature between residents of the *gramdan* village which the parties have, by a written agreement, referred to the *Gram Adalat* for decision;

(b) any dispute regarding allotment of land by the *Gram Parishad* or the apportionment of produce of land between the *Gram Parishad* and an allottee.

(3) No other Court shall have jurisdiction to try any suit in respect of a dispute referred to in clause (a) or clause (b) of sub-section (2).

(4) The procedure to be followed by the *Gram Adalat* and the fees to be levied by it shall be prescribed by rules made under this Act.

Revision.

24. The District Judge having jurisdiction over a *gramdan* village may of his own motion, or on the application of any party, call for the record of a case decided by the *Gram Adalat* of the *gramdan* village, and if it appears to him that a failure of justice has occurred, he may make such order in the case as he thinks fit.

#### CHAPTER V.

##### The *Gram Nidhi*.

Gram  
Nidhi.

25. Every *Gram Parishad* shall have a fund to be called the *Gram Nidhi* and all moneys received by the *Gram Parishad* on any account whatsoever shall be credited to, and all expenditure incurred by the *Gram Parishad* shall be paid out of, such fund.

Applica-  
tion of  
*Gram  
Nidhi*.

26. Subject to the provisions of this Act, the *Gram Nidhi* shall be applied by the *Gram Parishad* for purposes of this Act including the maintenance of destitute children and poor and disabled persons residing in the *gramdan* village.

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(*Chapter V.—The Gram Nidhi.—Sections 27—29.—Chapter VI.—Miscellaneous—Sections 30, 31.*)

27. A *Gram Parishad* may receive grants, donations, bequests, gifts or loans from the Central or the State Government or any local authority or any person for all or any of the purposes of this Act.

28. Subject to such rules as may be made in this behalf, the *Gram Parishad* shall have power to borrow money on the security of the *Gram Nidhi* or any property other than land belonging to it for any of the purposes for which the *Gram Nidhi* may be applied.

29. The accounts of the *Gram Nidhi* shall be kept and audited in such manner as may be prescribed.

Accounts and audit.

## CHAPTER VI.

### Miscellaneous.

30. (1) The State Government may, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, remit—

Power of State Government to remit certain duties, fees, etc.

(a) the stamp duty with which, under the law for the time being in force, any declaration of donation under section 4 or section 7 is chargeable;

(b) the stamp duty (other than stamp duties falling within entry 91 or entry 96 in List I in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution) in respect of any instrument executed by, or on behalf of, a *Gram Parishad* in cases where, but for such remission, the *Gram Parishad* would be liable to pay the stamp duty chargeable under any law for the time being in force in respect of such instrument; and

(c) any fee payable by a *Gram Parishad* or any owner who donates land under section 4 or section 7 under any law for the time being in force for the registration of documents.

(2) The State Government may by general or special order in the case of any *Gram Parishad* remit any other duty, tax or fee payable by such *Gram Parishad* under any law for the time being in force which the State Government is competent to remit.

31. (1) The State Government may, at the request of a *Gram Parishad* and after consultation with the *Gram Panchayat* having jurisdiction over the *gramdan* village of the *Gram Parishad* concerned, declare, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, that the *Gram Parishad* shall exercise all the powers and perform all the duties and functions of the *Gram Panchayat* under the West Bengal *Panchayat Act*, 1957, or exercise such of the powers and perform such of the duties and functions of the *Gram Panchayat* as may be specified in the notification, in relation to the *gramdan* village.

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## (Chapter VI.—Miscellaneous.—Section 32.)

(2) Upon the issue of a notification under sub-section (1) the following consequences shall ensue:—

(a) if all the powers and duties and functions of the *Gram Panchayat* are to be exercised and performed by the *Gram Parishad*—

(i) the *Gram Panchayat* which functioned immediately before the notification shall, in relation to the *gramdan* village, cease to function therein;

(ii) the *Gram Parishad* shall exercise all the powers and perform all the duties and functions of the *Gram Panchayat* in relation to the *gramdan* village;

(iii) the provisions of the West Bengal *Panchayat* Act, 1957, shall, subject to such restrictions and modifications as the State Government may specify in the notification, apply to the *Gram Parishad* as if it were a *Gram Panchayat* constituted under the said Act for the *gramdan* village;

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(b) in any other case—

(i) the *Gram Panchayat* shall cease to exercise the powers and perform the duties and functions specified in the notification in relation to the *gramdan* village;

(ii) the powers, duties and functions so specified shall be exercised and performed by the *Gram Parishad* in relation to the *gramdan* village;

(iii) the provisions of the West Bengal *Panchayat* Act, 1957, shall, subject to restrictions and modifications specified in the notification, apply to the *Gram Parishad* as if it were a *Gram Panchayat* constituted under the said Act for the *gramdan* village for the specified purposes.

(3) Any notification issued under sub-section (1) may contain such supplemental, incidental and consequential provisions as the State Government may deem necessary.

Super-  
session  
of Gram  
Parishad.

32. (1) If, in the opinion of the State Government, a *Gram Parishad*—

(a) is not competent to perform, or persistently makes default in performing, the duties imposed upon it by this Act, or

(b) has exceeded or abused the powers conferred upon it by this Act, or

(c) is not functioning in a manner consistent with the provisions of this Act or the rules framed thereunder,

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*(Chapter VI.—Miscellaneous.—Section 33.)*

the State Government may, after giving the *Gram Parishad* an opportunity of being heard, supersede it, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, for such period, not exceeding one year at a time, as the State Government may think fit.

(2) Upon supersession of a *Gram Parishad* under sub-section (1)—

- (a) the President and members of all committees constituted by the *Gram Parishad* shall vacate their office;
- (b) all the powers and duties of the *Gram Parishad* shall be exercised and performed by such person or persons as the State Government may from time to time appoint in this behalf;
- (c) all properties vested in the *Gram Parishad* and the *Gram Nidhi* shall, during the period of supersession, be vested in the State Government;
- (d) the *Gram Adalat* established for the *gramdan* village shall cease to function and all pending suits and cases shall stand transferred to courts of competent jurisdiction.

(3) The State Government may, if it considers necessary so to do, extend or modify the period of supersession specified in the notification:

Provided that the period of supersession shall not be extended by more than one year at a time.

(4) On the expiration of the period of supersession as originally specified or extended, the *Gram Parishad* shall resume its functions and elect its President and constitute its committees, and the State Government shall establish the *Gram Adalat* in the manner provided in this Act.

(5) The income derived from the *gramdan* village during the period of supersession shall be used in defraying the costs of management and liquidating the liabilities of the *Gram Parishad* and the balance, if any, shall be credited to the *Gram Nidhi*.

**33.** (1) The State Government may, after previous publication, make rules to carry out the purposes of this Act. Power to 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 form of declarations under this Act and the documents to be filed along with them;
- (b) the authorities before which declarations and objections under this Act shall be filed;

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- (c) the manner of inquiries and the hearing and disposal of objections under this Act;
- (d) the manner of preferring appeals, the authorities to whom they may be preferred and the procedure for hearing and disposal of such appeals;
- (e) the revision of the register of members;
- (f) the issue, service and execution of summons, notices and other processes of a *Gram Parishad* and *Gram Adalat*;
- (g) the procedure to be followed by a *Gram Adalat* for hearing of cases and for execution of decisions and orders;
- (h) the fees to be levied by *Gram Adalat*;
- (i) the manner in which and conditions under which a *Gram Parishad* may borrow money;
- (j) the maintenance and auditing of the accounts of the *Gram Nidhi*; and
- (k) any other matter required to be prescribed or provided or made by rules.

Power to make regulations.

34. (1) The *Gram Parishad* may, with the previous approval of the State Government, make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act or the rules made thereunder, for discharging its functions under this Act.

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

- (a) the meetings of the *Gram Parishad*, the conduct of business thereat and the procedure for the disposal of its business;
- (b) the election of the President;
- (c) the powers and duties of the President and the Secretary;
- (d) the circumstances and the manner in which the President may be removed from office;
- (e) the constitution of standing and *ad hoc* committees, their powers and duties and terms of office, the conduct of business by committees, and the circumstances and the manner in which a committee may be dissolved or reconstituted;
- (f) the appointment, remuneration and conditions of service of the Secretary and other officers and servants of the *Gram Parishad*;

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- (g) the principles to be followed in determining contribution of land by a donor to the land pool;
- (h) the principles to be followed in the allotment of land and the levy of rent, fees or other charges for such allotment;
- (i) any other matter for which provision is necessary for the purpose of enabling the *Gram Parishad* to perform its functions under this Act.