

Andhra Pradesh Land Licensed Cultivators Act, 2011

(Act No. 18 of 2011)

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

SECTIONS

1. Short title, extent and commencement
2. Definitions
3. Issue of Loan Eligibility Card
4. Applicability in the Scheduled Areas
5. Appellate Authority
6. Nodal Agency
7. Protection of persons acting in good faith
8. Act to override other laws:
9. Bar of Jurisdiction of Civil Courts
10. Power to remove difficulty
11. Power to make rules
12. Repeal of Ordinance 1 of 2011

ANDHRA PRADESH LAND LICENSED CULTIVATORS ACT, 2011
(ACT NO. 18 OF 2011)

[23rd December, 2011]

AN ACT TO PROVIDE LOAN AND OTHER BENEFITS ELIGIBILITY CARD TO THE FARMERS, WHO RAISE CROPS WITH EXPRESS OR IMPLIED PERMISSION OF OWNER OR PATTADAR OF LAND, BUT HAVE NO RECORD FOR SUCH ENJOYMENT WITHOUT EFFECTING THE RIGHTS OF OWNERS, ENABLING THEM TO ACCESS CREDIT FROM THE PUBLIC FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND TO CLAIM BENEFITS OF INPUT SUBSIDY, CROP INSURANCE, COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE TO CROP AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH AND INCIDENTAL THERETO.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Andhra Pradesh in the Sixty-second Year of the Republic of India as follows:

1. Short title, extent and commencement:- (1) This Act may be called "The Andhra Pradesh Land Licensed Cultivators Act, 2011".

(2) It extends to the whole of the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(3) It shall be deemed to have come into force with effect on and from the 7th June, 2011.

2. Definitions - In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "*Agricultural Land*" means land, which is used or is capable of being used for the purposes of agriculture or crop, other than Government land or land assigned by the Government to the poor for agricultural purpose;

(2) "*Agricultural Year*" means the year commencing on the 1st day of May;

(3) "*Crop*" includes.

(i) all crops of food Grains, Pulses, Oil seeds, Vegetables, Jute, Cotton, Chillies, Sugarcane, Grass, Tobacco;

(ii) Horticulture, Spices;

(iii) Mulberry; and

(iv) any crop as may be notified by the Government.

(4) "*Eligibility Card*" means the Loan and Other Benefits Eligibility Card issued under Section 3;

(5) "*Government*" means the State Government of Andhra Pradesh;

(6) "*Member of the Family*" means spouse, sons, daughters and parents;

(7) "*Licensed cultivator of Land*" means and includes the farmers who cultivate the land of others with express or implied permission, either on payment of rent or any other means of consideration without exclusive possession, for one year or until the duration of crop whichever is later and whose names are not recorded in any of the revenue registers concerned to that particular land:

Provided that the licensed cultivator shall not be a member of the family of the owner or pattadar of the land concerned;

(8) "*Prescribed*" means prescribed by rules made by the Government under this Act;

(9) "*Revenue Officer*" means Deputy Tahsildar, Mandal Revenue Inspector and Village Revenue Officer as may be specified;

(10) "*Notification*" means the notification published in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette or the District Gazette and the word 'notified' shall be construed accordingly.

(11) The words and phrases which are used but not defined in this Act shall have same meaning as provided in the Andhra Pradesh Record of Rights in Land and Pattadar Pass Books Act, 1971.

3. Issue of Loan Eligibility Card:- (1) On and from the date of commencement of the Act, every licensed cultivator, who requires a Loan and Other Benefits Eligibility Card, shall be entitled to enter his name in the Register of Loan and Other Benefits in respect of concerned land, maintained for such period and in such manner as may be prescribed.

(2) On such entry in the records, every licensed cultivator shall be entitled for a Loan and Other Benefits Eligibility Card, to be issued by the Revenue Officer.

(3) The Eligibility Card issued to a cultivator, shall create only a right on the crop raised therein and no rights whatsoever shall accrue on the land.

(4) The licensed cultivator may be entitled to secure crop loan from any Public Financial Institution, crop insurance, input subsidy in his name and other claims of damage to the crop raised over the said land on the production of the Eligibility Card, subject to the norms governing these benefits, but it does not create or confer any right of possession, tenancy or interest of whatsoever nature over the land under the licensed cultivation.

(5) The licensed cultivators whose names are entered in the said record, specified in this section are entitled to possess an Eligibility Card ordinarily for the concerned year only but it may be for a further period depending on the duration of the crop raised together with the explicit or implicit permission of the owner of the land, enabling them to get benefits specified in the said card.

(6) The Public Financial Institutions may sanction crop loan only on production of Eligibility Card without insisting the production of any revenue record.

(7) The farmers who had occupancy right in land either under the Tenancy Laws or under the Andhra Pradesh Rights in Land and Pattadar Pass

Books Act, 1971, or other revenue laws and got their names recorded in concerned registers are excluded from the benefit under this Act.

(8) The Eligibility Card, issued shall ordinarily be valid for one agricultural year but it may be issued for longer period or renewed where long duration crops are taken up.

(9) The Revenue Officer shall furnish the list of card holders prepared in sub-section (2) to the Public Financial Institutions in advance for sanctioning Crop Loan.

(10) The Owner or Pattadar of land inspite of the land given on licensed cultivation is entitled to get loans, other than the crop loan, from Public Financial Institutions on security of said land.

4. Applicability in the Scheduled Areas:- In this Scheduled Areas of the State of Andhra Pradesh, this Act shall apply to Licensed cultivators who belong to Scheduled Tribes notified within the Agency area only.

5. Appellate Authority:- Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Revenue Officer in matters concerned with Eligibility Card, may prefer an appeal to Tahsildar of the Revenue Mandal in the prescribed manner and the appellate authority shall dispose of the appeal by summary enquiry within fifteen (15) days and its decision shall be final.

6. Nodal Agency:- The Chief Commissioner of Land Administration shall be the Nodal Agency for the purpose of this Act and the Agency may from time to time issue such orders and instructions as may be necessary to implement the provisions of the Act and the rules made there under and to achieve the object of the Act.

7. Protection of persons acting in good faith:- No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against any officer of the Government for anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done under this Act or the rules made there under.

8. Act to override other laws:- The provisions of this Act, shall have effect notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any other law for the time being in force, except the Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Areas Land Transfer Regulation, 1959.

9. Bar of Jurisdiction of Civil Courts:- No decision made or order passed or proceeding taken by any Officer or Authority or the Government under this Act, shall be called in question before a Civil Court in any suit, application or other proceeding and no injunction shall be granted by any Court in respect of any proceeding taken or about to be taken by such Officer or Authority or Government in presence of any power conferred by or under this Act.

10. Power to remove difficulty:- If any doubt or difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Government may, within a period of three years from the commencement of this Act, by order published in the Gazette, make such provision as appears to it to be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty.

11. Power to make rules:- (1) The Government may, by notification, make rules for carrying out all or any of the purposes of this Act.

(2) Every rule made under this Act shall, immediately after it is made, be laid before the Legislature of the State, if it is in session and if it is not in session, in the session immediately following for a total period of fourteen days which may be comprised in one Session or in two successive Sessions and if,

before the expiration of the Session in which it is so laid or the Session immediately following the Legislature of the State agrees in making any modification in the rule or in the annulment of the rule, the rule shall, from the date on which the modification or annulment is notified, have effect only in such modified form or shall stand annulled 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.

12. Repeal of Ordinance 1 of 2011:- The Andhra Pradesh Land Licensed Cultivators Ordinance, 2011 is hereby repealed.

A. SHANKAR NARAYANA,
Secretary to Government,
Legislative Affairs & Justice,
Law Department