

ACT No. XIV OF 1916.

[PASSED BY THE INDIAN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.]

*(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 28th
September, 1916.)*

An Act to make provision in connection with
the present war with respect to bills of
exchange payable outside British India.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make provision in connection with the present war with respect to bills of exchange payable outside British India; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Short title
and duration.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Indian Bills of Exchange Act, 1916.

(2) It shall be in force during the continuance of the present war, and for a period of six months thereafter.

Delay in
presentment
of a bill for
payment due
to war.

2. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, or in any other enactment for the time being in force, delay in the presentment for payment of a bill of exchange, where the proper place for payment is outside British India, is excused if the delay is, or has been, due either directly or indirectly to circumstances arising out of the present war, or to the impracticability, owing to similar circumstances, of transmitting the bill to the place of payment with reasonable safety.

XXVI of
1881.

Bills lost
owing to the
war.

3. Where, in any suit or other proceeding founded upon a bill of exchange payable outside British India, there is reason to believe that the bill has been lost, and that the loss can reasonably be presumed to be due either directly or indirectly to circumstances arising out of the present war, the Court may allow

proof of

proof of the bill to be given by means of a copy thereof certified by a notary public, or by means of such other evidence as the Court thinks reasonable under the circumstances, and may pass a decree thereon notwithstanding any rule of law of the place where the bill is made payable :

Provided that such indemnity be given against the claims of other persons as the Court may require.