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MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (Legislative Department) New Delhi, the 24th September, 2001/Asvina 2, 1923 (Saka)

The following Act of Parliament received the assent of the President on the 24th September, 2001, and is published for general information:-

THE REGISTRATION AND OTHER RELATED LAWS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2001 No. 48 of 2001

[24th September, 2001]

An Act further to amend the Registration Act, 1908, the Transfer of Property Act, 1882 and the Indian Stamp Act, 1899.

Be it enacted by parliament in the Forty-second year of the Republic of India as follows:-

CHAPTER I Preliminary

1. This Act may be called the Registration and other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2001.

CHAPTER II

Amendment of the Registration Act, 1908.

2. In the Registration Act, 1908 (hereafter in this Chapter referred to as the Registration Act), after section 16, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

"16A (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 16, the books provided under subsection (1) of that section may also be kept in computer floppies of diskettes or in any other electronic form in the manner and subject to the safeguards as may be prescribed by the Inspector-General with the sanction of the State Government.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or in any other law for the time being in force, a copy or extracts from the books kept under sub-section (1) given by the registering officer under 1 is hand and seal shall be deemed to be a copy given under section 57 for the purpose of sub-section (5) of that section."

3. In section 17 of the Registration Act.-

(a) after sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:-

"(1A) The Documents containing contracts to transfer for consideration. any immovable property for the purpose of section 53A of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882 shall be registered if they have been executed on or after the commencement of the Registration and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act. 2001 and if such documents are not registered on or after such commencement then, they shall have no effect for the purposes of the said section 53A"

(b) in sub-section (2), in clause (v), for the opening words "any document". the words, brackets, figure and letter "any document other than the documents specified in sub-section (1A)" shall be substituted.

4. In section 30 of the Registration Act, sub-section (2) shall be omitted.

5. After section 32 of the Registration Act. the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

"32A. Every person presenting any document at the proper registration office under section 32 shall affix his passport size photograph and fingerprints to the document.

Provided that where such document relates to the transfer of ownership of immovable property, the passport size photograph and fingerprints of each buyer and seller of such property mentioned in the document shall also be affixed to the document."

6. In section 49 of the Registration Act, in the proviso, the words, figures and letter "or as evidence of part performance of a contract for the purposes of section 53A of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882," shall be omitted.

7. In section 52 of the Registration Act, in sub-section (1), in clause (a), after teh words "and place of presentation", the words, figures and letter "the photographs and fingerprints affixed under section 32A" shall be inserted.

8. Section 67 of the Registration Act shall be omitted.

9. In section 69 of the Registration Act, in sub-section (1), after clause (a), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

"(aa) providing the manner in which and the safeguards subject to which the books may be kept in computer floppies of diskettes or in any other electronic form under sub-section (1) of section 16A;".

CHAPTER III Amendment of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882

10. In section 53A of the Transfer or Property Act, 1882, the words "the contract, though required to be registered, has not been registered, of," shall be omitted.

CHAPTER IV

Amendment of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899

11. In Schedule 1 to the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, -

(a) under column heading "Description of Instrument", in article No. 23, in Exemption, the portion beginning with the words "Assignment of Copyright" and ending with the word and figure "section 5." shall be numbered as clause (a) thereof, and after clause (a) as so numbered, the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

"(b) for the purpose of this article, the portion of duty paid in respect of a document falling under article No. 23A shall be excluded while computing the duty payable in respect of a corresponding document relating to the completion of the transaction in any Union territory under this article.".

(b) after article No. 23 and the entries relating thereto, the following article No. and the entries shall be inserted namely:-

Description of Instrument

"23A. CONVEYANCE IN THE NATURE OF PART PERFORMANCE-Contracts for the transfer of immovable property in the nature of part performance in any Union territory under section 53A of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882. Proper Stamp-duty

Ninety per cent. of the duty as a Conveyance (No. 23)".

12. Notwithstanding anything contained in sections 6 and 10, any -

(a) right of a transferor or any person claiming under him debarred under section 53A of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882 immediately before the commencement of this Act shall remain so debarred as if section 10 had not come into force in respect of such right; and

(b) unregistered document relating to the right referred to in clause (a) may be received as evidence of part performance of a contract for the purposes of section 53A of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882 as if section 6 had not come into force in respect of such document.

SUBHASH C. JAIN, Secretary to the Govt. of India.