In pursuance of clause (3) of article 318 of the Constitution of India, the following translation in English of the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2014 (Mah. Ord. XVII of 2014), is hereby published under the authority of the Governor.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra,

M. A. SAYEED,
Secretary and R.I.A., to Government, Law and Judiciary Department.


REVENUE AND FORESTS DEPARTMENT
World Trade Centre, Centre-I, Cuffe Parade,
Mumbai 400 005, dated the 22nd August 2014.

MAHARASHTRA ORDINANCE No. XVII OF 2014.

AN ORDINANCE

further to amend the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966.

WHEREAS both Houses of the State Legislature are not in session;

AND WHEREAS the Governor of Maharashtra is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action further to amend the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966, for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of Article 213 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Maharashtra is hereby pleased to promulgate the following Ordinance, namely:

1. (1) This Ordinance may be called the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2014.

(2) It shall come into force at once.
2. In section 2 of the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966 (hereinafter referred to as "the said Code"), after clause (7), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:

"(7-A) "Data Bank" is a bank repository of information maintained at the concerned Collector office, conclusively certified by the District Head of the concerned Department and updated by him from time to time, which shall be used by the Collector for ascertaining the objection, if any, of the concerned Department, while granting permission for use of land for non-agricultural purposes under the Code;.”

3. After section 42 of the said Code, the following section shall be inserted, namely:

"42A. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 42,—

(a) no prior permission of the Collector shall be necessary for conversion of use of any land held as an Occupants—Class I for any purpose as defined in the sanctioned Development plan or draft Development plan prepared and published as per the provisions of the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966; however, the Planning Authority shall ascertain from the concerned revenue authority the Class of land, its occupancy and encumbrances, if any, thereupon, and after ascertaining the same, it shall grant the development permission as per the provisions of the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966;

(b) for conversion of use of any land held as an Occupants—Class II or land leased by the Government, for any purpose as defined in the sanctioned Development plan or draft Development plan prepared and published as per the provisions of the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966, the occupant shall apply to the Planning Authority for permission to change the use of land, and the Planning Authority shall direct the said occupant to obtain no objection certificate of the Collector for such change; the Collector shall examine the documents by which the land is granted and the relevant laws by which the concerned land is governed and, if permissible to grant no objection certificate, require the applicant to pay the Nazarana and the Government dues for that purpose; and on payment of the same, the Collector shall issue no objection certificate for change of use of such land; on receipt of such certificate, the concerned Planning Authority shall issue development permission as per the provisions of the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966.

(2) The person to whom permission is granted under clause (b) of sub-section (1) or the person who converts the use of land in view of clause (a) of sub-section (1) shall inform in writing to the village officer and the Tahsildar within thirty days from the date on which the change of use of land commenced.

(3) If the person fails to inform the village officer and the Tahsildar within the period specified in sub-section (2), he shall be liable to pay in addition to the non-agricultural assessment, a fine of rupees twenty-five thousand or forty times of the non-agricultural assessment, whichever is higher.
(d) (a) On receipt of the information in writing from the person, who obtained the development permission, and on payment of conversion tax at the rate mentioned in section 47A and the non-agricultural assessment therefor, it shall be incumbent upon the concerned revenue authority to grant him sanad in the form prescribed under the rules within a period of thirty days from payment thereof. In case of delay in issuing such sanad, the concerned authority shall record his reasons for the same.

Where there is any clerical or arithmetical error in the sanad arising from any accidental slip or omission, it shall be lawful for the concerned authority either of its own motion or on the application of a person affected by the error, to direct at any time the correction of any such error.

(b) While granting no objection certificate for the use of land under clause (b) of sub-section (1) or permission under the Code, the Collector shall grant the no objection certificate or permission relying upon the Data Bank prepared and certified by the concerned authorities at the District level.

(c) It shall be the responsibility of the District Head of the concerned Department to update the Data Bank, from time to time."

4. (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966, as amended by this Ordinance, the State Government may, as occasion arises, by order published in the Official Gazette, do anything not inconsistent with the provisions of the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966 as amended by this Ordinance, which appears to it to be necessary or expedient for the purpose of removing the difficulty.

(2) Every order made under sub-section (1) shall be laid, as soon as may be, after it is made, before each House of the State Legislature.
STATEMENT

Sections 41 to 54 of the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966 (Mah. XLI of 1966) provide for the regulation of use of lands. Section 42 of the said Code provides for permission of the Collector for non-agricultural use. Due to time consuming procedure for conversion of use of land, a tendency to use the land from one purpose to another purpose without permission of the Collector is rising and therefore, it is necessary to simplify the process of non-agricultural permission.

2. The Government of Maharashtra considers it expedient to provide that no prior permission of the Collector shall be necessary for conversion of use of any land held as an Occupants—Class I for any purpose as defined in the sanctioned Development plan or draft Development plan prepared and published as per the provisions of the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966 (Mah. XXXVII of 1966); however, the Planning Authority shall ascertain from the concerned revenue authority the Class of land, its occupancy and encumbrances, if any, thereupon, and after ascertaining the same, it shall grant the development permission as per the provisions of the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966.

It is also proposed to provide that for conversion of use of any land held as an Occupants—Class II or land leased by the Government, for any purpose as defined in the sanctioned Development plan or draft Development plan prepared and published as per the provisions of the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966, the occupant shall apply to the Planning Authority for permission to change the use of land, and the Planning Authority shall direct the said occupant to obtain no objection certificate of the Collector for such change; the Collector shall examine the documents by which the land is granted and the relevant laws by which the concerned land is governed and, if permissible to grant no objection certificate, require the applicant to pay the Nazarana and the Government dues for that purpose; and on payment of the same, the Collector shall issue no objection certificate for change of use of such land; on receipt of such certificate, the concerned Planning Authority shall issue development permission as per the provisions of the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966.

It is also proposed to provide that the person to whom permission is granted or the person who converts the use of land, shall inform the village officer and the Tahsildar in writing, within thirty days from the date on which the change of use of land commenced, and the quantum of punishment for non-communication of the same. It is also proposed to provide for granting sanad to the person changing the use of land and the period of thirty days for granting it and other procedure therefor.

3. The system of Date Bank, which is a repository of information maintained at the concerned Collector office, conclusively certified by the District Head of the concerned Department and updated by him, from time to time, is proposed to be introduced, shall be used by the Collector for granting no objection for non-agricultural permission under the Code so that, the process for granting permission for non-agricultural use of land will be simplified, there will be speedy disposal of such applications, and it will definitely curb the tendency of using the land to another purpose without permission of the Collector.
4. To achieve the above purposes, it is expedient to amend the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966 (Mah. XLI of 1966), suitably.

5. As both Houses of the State Legislature are not in session and the Governor of Maharashtra is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action further to amend the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966 (Mah. XLI of 1966), for the purposes aforesaid, this Ordinance is promulgated.

Mumbai,  
Dated the 22nd August 2014.  
K. SANKARANARAYANAN,  
Governor of Maharashtra.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra,

S. S. KSHATRIYA,  
Chief Secretary to Government.