

**LACCADIVE, MINICOY AND AMINDIVI ISLANDS
(ALTERATION OF NAME) ACT, 1973**

34 of 1973

[26 August, 1973]

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS At the time of States reorganisation in 1956, the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi group of islands were constituted into a Union territory which was given the name "the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands". Since then there has been considerable improvement in the inter-island communication facilities and a feeling of oneness is growing among the inhabitants of these islands. In order to foster this feeling, the Administrator's Advisory Council which consists of representatives of the local people suggested that the islands may be collectively named as "Lakshadweep the name by which they were known in ancient times. The suggestion was later endorsed by the Home Minister's Advisory Committee for the Union territory. Accordingly, the Bill seeks to alter the name of the Union territory of the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands into "Lakshadweep". The Bill contains the necessary amendments to the provisions of the Constitution and the consequential provision. See Gaz. of India,

1972,Pt.II,S.2 Ext., p. 1734,

1. Short title and commencement :-

(1) This Act may be called the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands (Alteration of Name) Act, 1973.

(2) It shall come into force on such date ¹ as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

1. 1-11-1973 was so appointed, see Gaz. of India, 1973, Pt. II, S. 3(i), Ext., p. 1457.

2. Definitions :-

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,-

(a) "appointed day" means the date appointed under sub-section (2) of section 1 for the coming into force of this Act;

(b) "law" includes any enactment. Ordinance, regulation, order, bye-law, rule, scheme, notification or other instrument having the force of law in the whole or any part of the Union territory of the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands.

3. Alteration of name of the Union territory of the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands :-

As from the appointed day, ¹ the Union territory of the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands shall be known as the Union territory of Lakshadweep.

1. i.e. 1-11-1973-See S. 1 supra.

4. Amendment of Article 240 of the Constitution :-

In Article 240 of the Constitu- tion, in clause (1), for entry (b), the following entry shall be substituted, namely:-

"(b) Lakshadweep;"

.

5. Amendment of First Schedule to the Constitution :-

In the First Schedule to the Constitution, under the heading "II. THE UNION TERRITORIES", in entry 3, for the words "The Laccadive, Minicoy and- Amindivi Islands", the word "Lakshadweep" shall be substituted.

6. Power to adapt laws :-

(1) For the purpose of giving effect to the alteration of the name of

the Union territory of the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands by section 3 , the Central Government may, before the expiration of one year from the appointed day, by order, make such adaptation and modifications of any law made before the appointed day, whether by way of repeal or amendment as may be necessary or expedient, and thereupon every such law shall have effect subject to the adaptations and modifications so made.

(2) Nothing in sub-section (1) shall be deemed to prevent Parliament or other competent authority from repealing or amending any law adapted or modified by the Central Government under the said sub-section.

7. Power to construe laws :-

Notwithstanding that no provision or insufficient provision has been made under section 6 for the adaptation of a law made before the appointed day, any court, tribunal or authority required or empowered to enforce such law may construe the law in such manner, without affecting the substance, as may be necessary or proper in regard to the matter before the court, tribunal or authority.

8. Legal proceedings :-

Where immediately before the appointed day any legal proceedings are pending to which the Administrator of the Union territory of the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands is a party, or the Union of India represented by the said Administrator is a party, then, for the purposes of those proceedings, any reference to the Administrator of the Union territory of the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands shall be construed as a reference to the Administrator of the Union territory of Lakshadweep.