



# भारत का राजपत्र The Gazette of India

असाधारण

EXTRAORDINARY

भाग II — खण्ड 1

PART II — Section 1

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं० 3]

नई दिल्ली, शुक्रवार, जनवरी 1, 2016/पौष 11, 1937 (शक)

No. 3]

NEW DELHI, FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2016/PAUSHA 11, 1937 (SAKA)

इस भाग में भिन्न पृष्ठ संख्या दी जाती है जिसे कि यह अलग संकलन के रूप में रखा जा सके।  
Separate paging is given to this Part in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

## MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (Legislative Department)

New Delhi, the 1st January, 2016/Pausha 11, 1937 (Saka)

The following Act of Parliament received the assent of the President on the 31st December, 2015, and is hereby published for general information:—

### THE ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2015

No. 3 OF 2016

[31st December, 2015.]

An Act to amend the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2015.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 23rd October, 2015.

Short title  
and  
commence-  
ment.

26 of 1996.

2. In the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 2,—

Amendment  
of section 2.

(1) in sub-section (1),—

(A) for clause (e), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(e) “Court” means—

(i) in the case of an arbitration other than international commercial arbitration, the principal Civil Court of original

jurisdiction in a district, and includes the High Court in exercise of its ordinary original civil jurisdiction, having jurisdiction to decide the questions forming the subject-matter of the arbitration if the same had been the subject-matter of a suit, but does not include any Civil Court of a grade inferior to such principal Civil Court, or any Court of Small Causes;

(ii) in the case of international commercial arbitration, the High Court in exercise of its ordinary original civil jurisdiction, having jurisdiction to decide the questions forming the subject-matter of the arbitration if the same had been the subject-matter of a suit, and in other cases, a High Court having jurisdiction to hear appeals from decrees of courts subordinate to that High Court;

(B) in clause (f), in sub-clause (iii), the words "a company or" shall be omitted;

(H) in sub-section (2), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

"Provided that subject to an agreement to the contrary, the provisions of sections 9, 27 and clause (a) of sub-section (1) and sub-section (3) of section 37 shall also apply to international commercial arbitration, even if the place of arbitration is outside India, and an arbitral award made or to be made in such place is enforceable and recognised under the provisions of Part II of this Act."

Amendment  
of section 7.

3. In section 7 of the principal Act, in sub-section (4), in clause (b), after the words "or other means of telecommunication", the words "including communication through electronic means" shall be inserted.

Amendment  
of section 8.

4. In section 8 of the principal Act,—

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(1) A judicial authority, before which an action is brought in a matter which is the subject of an arbitration agreement shall, if a party to the arbitration agreement or any person claiming through or under him, so applies not later than the date of submitting his first statement on the substance of the dispute, then, notwithstanding any judgment, decree or order of the Supreme Court or any Court, refer the parties to arbitration unless it finds that *prima facie* no valid arbitration agreement exists."

(ii) in sub-section (2), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

"Provided that where the original arbitration agreement or a certified copy thereof is not available with the party applying for reference to arbitration under sub-section (1), and the said agreement or certified copy is retained by the other party to that agreement, then, the party so applying shall file such application along with a copy of the arbitration agreement and a petition praying the Court to call upon the other party to produce the original arbitration agreement or its duly certified copy before that Court."

Amendment  
of section 9.

5. Section 9 of the principal Act shall be renumbered as sub-section (1) thereof, and after sub-section (1) as so renumbered, the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

"(2) Where, before the commencement of the arbitral proceedings, a Court passes an order for any interim measure of protection under sub-section (1), the arbitral proceedings shall be commenced within a period of ninety days from the date of such order or within such further time as the Court may determine.

"(3) Once the arbitral tribunal has been constituted, the Court shall not entertain an application under sub-section (1), unless the Court finds that circumstances exist which may not render the remedy provided under section 17 efficacious."