

**Thirteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly**

**Bill No. 304**

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**THE KERALA CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES  
(SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 2014**

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**Bill No. 304**

**THE KERALA CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES (SECOND AMENDMENT)  
BILL, 2014**

**A**

**BILL**

*further to amend the Kerala Co-operative Societies Act, 1969.*

*Preamble.*—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Kerala Co-operative Societies Act, 1969 for the purpose hereinafter appearing;

BE it enacted in the Sixty-fifth Year of the Republic of India, as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Kerala Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Act, 2014.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of section 68A.*—In section 68A of the Kerala Co-operative Societies Act, 1969 (21 of 1969), for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Government shall appoint an officer of the Co-operation Department, not below the rank of an Additional Registrar of Co-operative Societies as Vigilance Officer, to inquire into and investigate the cases of misappropriation, corruption and any other major irregularity in the societies, referred to him by the Registrar.”.

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

Section 68A of the Kerala Co-operative Societies Act, 1969 (21 of 1969) provides for appointment of an officer, not below the rank of Deputy Inspector General of Police as Vigilance Officer with the powers to inquire into and investigate the cases of misappropriation, corruption and any other major irregularity in the societies whenever referred to him by the Registrar. In order to achieve the above object, the Government has constituted the Vigilance Wing with a Vigilance Officer having jurisdiction all over the State. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies has reported that the functioning of the present Vigilance Wing is not effective to prevent corruptions and irregularities in the societies as expected. Government now considers that the present Vigilance Wing has to be strengthened and restructured by including the experienced officers of

Co-operation Department who are well aware of the provisions of the Kerala Co-operative Societies Act and the rules and orders made thereunder. Government intends to appoint an officer not below the rank of an Additional Registrar of Co-operative Societies as Vigilance Officer in the Vigilance Wing to investigate the cases of misappropriation, corruption or any other major irregularity in the societies. Therefore, the Government have decided to make suitable amendment to section 68A of the Kerala Co-operative Societies Act, 1969 (21 of 1969) for the above purpose.

The Bill seeks to achieve the above object.

#### FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill, if enacted and brought into operation, would not involve any additional expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State.

C. N. BALAKRISHNAN.

EXTRACT OF THE RELEVANT PORTIONS FROM THE  
KERALA CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES ACT, 1969

(21 OF 1969)

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68 A. *Vigilance Officer*.—(1) The Government shall appoint an officer, not below the rank of Deputy Inspector General of Police, as Vigilance Officer with powers to inquire into and investigate the cases of misappropriation, corruption and any other major irregularity in the societies as may be referred to him by the Registrar.

(2) The Vigilance Officer shall conduct the inquiry and investigation in such manner, as may be prescribed.

(3) The Vigilance Officer shall be under the administrative control of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies:

Provided that the powers of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies under this section shall not be conferred on any other person.

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