

THE INDIAN ELECTRICITY (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1986

No. 31 of 1986

[12th August, 1986.]

An Act further to amend the Indian Electricity Act, 1910.

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Thirty-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Indian Electricity (Amendment) Act, 1986.

Short
title.

9 of 1910.

2. For section 39 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), the following sections shall be substituted, namely:—

Substi-
tution of
new sec-
tions for
section 39.

“39. Whoever dishonestly abstracts, consumes or uses any energy shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine which shall not be less than one thousand rupees, or with both; and if it is proved that any artificial means or means not authorised by the licensee exist for the abstraction, consumption or use of energy by the consumer, it shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, that any abstraction, consumption or use of energy has been dishonestly caused by such consumer.

Theft of
energy.

45 of 1860.

39A. Whoever abets an offence punishable under section 39 or section 44 shall, notwithstanding anything contained in section 116 of the Indian Penal Code, be punished with punishment provided for the offence.”

Abetment.

3. In section 44 of the principal Act,—

(a) after clause (a), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

Amend-
ment of
section 44.

“(aa) unauthorisedly re-connects any meter referred to in sub-section (1) of section 26, or any meter, indicator or apparatus referred to in sub-section (7) of section 26, with any electric supply-line or other works, being the property of the licensee, through which energy may be supplied, when the said electric supply-line or other works has or have been cut or disconnected under sub-section (1) of section 24; or”;

(b) for the words "shall be punishable with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees", the words "shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees, or with both" shall be substituted;

(c) after the words, brackets and letter "such connection as is referred to in clause (a)", the words, brackets and letters "or such re-connection as is referred to in clause (aa)," shall be inserted;

(d) for the words "that such connection, communication", the words "that such connection, re-connection, communication" shall be substituted.

Amendment
of sections
47 and 48.

4. In sections 47 and 48 of the principal Act, for the word and figures "sections 39", the words, figures and letter "section 39, section 39A or section 40" shall be substituted.

Amendment
of section
49.

5. In section 49 of the principal Act, for the word and figures "sections 39, 40", the word, figures and letter "sections 39, 39A, 40" shall be substituted.

Amendment
of section
50.

6. In section 50 of the principal Act, after the words "the Government", the words "or a State Electricity Board" shall be inserted.