

# BILL No. 18 of 1967

PUBLISHED 9TH SEPTEMBER, 1967

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CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1967.

Arrangement of Sections.

Section

1. Short title.
2. Amendment of section 49 of Chapter 326.

A BILL

Intituled

AN ACT to amend the Co-operative Societies Ordinance.

Enacted by the Parliament of Guyana:—

A.D. 1967.

1. This Act may be cited as the Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Act, 1966, and shall be construed and read as one with the Co-operative Societies Ordinance, hereinafter referred to as the Principal Ordinance, and all amendments thereto.

Short title.

Cap. 326.

2. Section 49 of the Principal Ordinance is hereby amended by the insertion of the following subsection as subsection (6) —

Amendment of section 49 of Chapter 326.

“(6) Notwithstanding anything contained in subsections (4) and (5) of this section, any decision of the Commissioner under subsection (2) or in appeal under subsection (3) of this section and any award of the arbitrator or arbitrators under subsection (2) of this section, where any such decision or award requires the payment of any sum of money, may be enforced before a magistrate under the Summary Jurisdiction (Petty Debt) Ordinance irrespective of the amount.”

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Section 49 of the Co-operative Societies Ordinance, Chapter 326, provides for the settlement by the Commissioner for Co-operative Development or by arbitration of disputes touching the business of registered co-operative societies and their members and certain other persons.

A decision of the Commissioner or an award of an arbitrator under this provision is enforceable in the same manner as a judgment of a civil court. Since the jurisdiction of a magistrate's court is limited to an amount of two hundred and fifty dollars, awards in excess of that sum which are made under the aforesaid provisions can be enforced only in the High Court of the Supreme Court of Judicature.

The purpose of section 49 of the Co-operative Societies Ordinance is to ensure a speedy and inexpensive means of settling disputes concerning the business of co-operative societies. Most of the awards made under this section involve the payment of sums in excess of two hundred and fifty dollars. The great number of matters already engaging the attention of the High Court as well as the cost of initiating proceedings therein restrict the speedy enforcement of such awards and it is considered desirable that provision be made for their enforcement in a magistrate's court.

This Bill seeks to provide accordingly.

L. F. S. BURNHAM,  
Prime Minister.

(Bill No. 18/1967).