CONTENTS

PAGE

Table showing sections of Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and corresponding sections of Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 *I-15*

Section key to Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 *I-27*

PART I

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

SECTION

1. Short title, application and commencement *1*

2. Definitions *2*

PART II

CHAPTER II

RELEVANCY OF FACTS

3. Evidence may be given of facts in issue and relevant facts *14*

Closely connected facts

4. Relevancy of facts forming part of same transaction *15*

5. Facts which are occasion, cause or effect of facts in issue or relevant facts *17*

6. Motive, preparation and previous or subsequent conduct *18*

7. Facts necessary to explain or introduce fact in issue or relevant facts *20*

8. Things said or done by conspirator in reference to common design *22*

9. When facts not otherwise relevant become relevant *23*

10. Facts tending to enable Court to determine amount are relevant in suits for damages *24*

11. Facts relevant when right or custom is in question *25*

SECTION PAGE

12. Facts showing existence of state of mind, or of body or bodily feeling *26*

13. Facts bearing on question whether act was accidental or intentional *30*

14. Existence of course of business when relevant *31*

Admissions

15. Admission defined *32*

16. Admission by party to proceeding or his agent *32*

17. Admissions by persons whose position must be proved as against party to suit *33*

18. Admissions by persons expressly referred to by party to suit *34*

19. Proof of admissions against persons making them, and by or on their behalf *35*

20. When oral admissions as to contents of documents are relevant *38*

21. Admissions in civil cases when relevant *38*

22. Confession caused by inducement, threat, coercion or promise, when irrelevant in criminal proceeding *39*

23. Confession to police officer *41*

24. Consideration of proved confession affecting person making it and others jointly under trial for same offence *42*

25. Admissions not conclusive proof, but may estop *43*

Statements by persons who cannot be called as witnesses

26. Cases in which statement of relevant fact by person who is dead or cannot be found, etc., is relevant *43*

27. Relevancy of certain evidence for proving, in subsequent proceeding, truth of facts therein stated *49*

Statements made under special circumstances

28. Entries in books of account when relevant *51*

29. Relevancy of entry in public record or an electronic record made in performance of duty *52*

30. Relevancy of statements in maps, charts and plans *52*

31. Relevancy of statement as to fact of public nature contained in certain Acts or notifications *53*

SECTION PAGE

32. Relevancy of statements as to any law contained in law books including electronic or digital form *53*

How much of a statement is to be proved

33. What evidence to be given when statement forms part of a conversation, document, electronic record, book or series of letters or papers *54*

Judgments of courts when relevant

34. Previous judgments relevant to bar a second suit or trial *55*

35. Relevancy of certain judgments in probate, etc., jurisdiction *55*

36. Relevancy and effect of judgments, orders or decrees, other than those mentioned in section 35 *57*

37. Judgments, etc., other than those mentioned in sections 34, 35 and 36 when relevant *58*

38. Fraud or collusion in obtaining judgment, or incompetency of Court, may be proved *59*

Opinions of third persons when relevant

39. Opinions of experts *59*

40. Facts bearing upon opinions of experts *61*

41. Opinion as to handwriting and signature, when relevant *62*

42. Opinion as to existence of general custom or right, when relevant *63*

43. Opinion as to usages, tenets, etc., when relevant *64*

44. Opinion on relationship, when relevant *64*

45. Grounds of opinion, when relevant *65*

Character when relevant

46. In civil cases character to prove conduct imputed, irrelevant *66*

47. In criminal cases previous good character relevant *67*

48. Evidence of character or previous sexual experience not relevant in certain cases *67*

49. Previous bad character not relevant, except in reply *68*

50. Character as affecting damages *69*

SECTION PAGE

PART III

ON PROOF

CHAPTER III

FACTS WHICH NEED NOT BE PROVED

51. Fact judicially noticeable need not be proved *70*
52. Facts of which Court shall take judicial notice *70*
53. Facts admitted need not be proved *72*

CHAPTER IV

OF ORAL EVIDENCE

54. Proof of facts by oral evidence *73*
55. Oral evidence to be direct *73*

CHAPTER V

OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

56. Proof of contents of documents *75*
57. Primary evidence *75*
58. Secondary evidence *77*
59. Proof of documents by primary evidence *78*
60. Cases in which secondary evidence relating to documents may be given *79*
61. Electronic or digital record *81*
62. Special provisions as to evidence relating to electronic record *82*
63. Admissibility of electronic records *82*
64. Rules as to notice to produce *87*
65. Proof of signature and handwriting of person alleged to have signed or written document produced *89*
66. Proof as to electronic signature *89*
67. Proof of execution of document required by law to be attested *90*
68. Proof where no attesting witness found *91*
69. Admission of execution by party to attested document *92*
70. Proof when attesting witness denies execution *92*

SECTION PAGE

71. Proof of document not required by law to be attested *92*

72. Comparison of signature, writing or seal with others admitted or proved *93*

73. Proof as to verification of digital signature *94*

Public documents

74. Public and private documents *95*

75. Certified copies of public documents *96*

76. Proof of documents by production of certified copies *97*

77. Proof of other official documents *97*

Presumptions as to documents

78. Presumption as to genuineness of certified copies *99*

79. Presumption as to documents produced as record of evidence, etc. *100*

80. Presumption as to Gazettes, newspapers, and other documents *101*

81. Presumption as to Gazettes in electronic or digital record *101*

82. Presumption as to maps or plans made by authority of Government *102*

83. Presumption as to collections of laws and reports of decisions *103*

84. Presumption as to powers-of-attorney *104*

85. Presumption as to electronic agreements *104*

86. Presumption as to electronic records and electronic signatures *104*

87. Presumption as to Electronic Signature Certificates *105*

88. Presumption as to certified copies of foreign judicial records *106*

89. Presumption as to books, maps and charts *107*

90. Presumption as to electronic messages *108*

91. Presumption as to due execution, etc., of documents not produced *109*

92. Presumption as to documents thirty years old *110*

93. Presumption as to electronic records five years old *111*

SECTION PAGE

CHAPTER VI

OF THE EXCLUSION OF ORAL EVIDENCE BY DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

94. Evidence of terms of contracts, grants and other dispositions of property reduced to form of document *111*

95. Exclusion of evidence of oral agreement *114*

96. Exclusion of evidence to explain or amend ambiguous document *117*

97. Exclusion of evidence against application of document to existing facts *117*

98. Evidence as to document unmeaning in reference to existing facts *118*

99. Evidence as to application of language which can apply to one only of several persons *119*

100. Evidence as to application of language to one of two sets of facts, to neither of which the whole correctly applies *119*

101. Evidence as to meaning of illegible characters, etc. *120*

102. Who may give evidence of agreement varying terms of document *121*

103. Saving of provisions of Indian Succession Act relating to wills *121*

PART IV

PRODUCTION AND EFFECT OF EVIDENCE

CHAPTER VII

OF THE BURDEN OF PROOF

104. Burden of proof *123*

105. On whom burden of proof lies *124*

106. Burden of proof as to particular fact *125*

107. Burden of proving fact to be proved to make evidence admissible *125*

108. Burden of proving that case of accused comes within exceptions *126*

109. Burden of proving fact especially within knowledge *127*

110. Burden of proving death of person known to have been alive within thirty years *128*

SECTION PAGE

111. Burden of proving that person is alive who has not been heard of for seven years *128*

112. Burden of proof as to relationship in the cases of partners, landlord and tenant, principal and agent *129*

113. Burden of proof as to ownership *129*

114. Proof of good faith in transactions where one party is in relation of active confidence *130*

115. Presumption as to certain offences *130*

116. Birth during marriage, conclusive proof of legitimacy *132*

117. Presumption as to abetment of suicide by a married woman *132*

118. Presumption as to dowry death *133*

119. Court may presume existence of certain facts *134*

120. Presumption as to absence of consent in certain prosecution for rape *137*

CHAPTER VIII

ESTOPPEL

121. Estoppel *138*

122. Estoppel of tenant and of licensee of person in possession *138*

123. Estoppel of acceptor of bill of exchange, bailee or licensee *139*

CHAPTER IX

OF WITNESSES

124. Who may testify *140*

125. Witness unable to communicate verbally *140*

126. Competency of husband and wife as witnesses in certain cases *141*

127. Judges and Magistrates *142*

128. Communications during marriage *142*

129. Evidence as to affairs of State *143*

130. Official communications *144*

131. Information as to commission of offences *144*

132. Professional communications *145*

133. Privilege not waived by volunteering evidence *147*

134. Confidential communication with legal advisers *147*

SECTION PAGE

135. Production of title-deeds of witness not a party *148*

136. Production of documents or electronic records which another person, having possession, could refuse to produce *148*

137. Witness not excused from answering on ground that answer will criminate *149*

138. Accomplice *149*

139. Number of witnesses *150*

CHAPTER X

OF EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES

140. Order of production and examination of witnesses *150*

141. Judge to decide as to admissibility of evidence *151*

142. Examination of witnesses *152*

143. Order of examinations *154*

144. Cross-examination of person called to produce a document *155*

145. Witnesses to character *155*

146. Leading questions *155*

147. Evidence as to matters in writing *156*

148. Cross-examination as to previous statements in writing *157*

149. Questions lawful in cross-examination *158*

150. When witness to be compelled to answer *159*

151. Court to decide when question shall be asked and when witness compelled to answer *160*

152. Question not to be asked without reasonable grounds *161*

153. Procedure of Court in case of question being asked without reasonable grounds *162*

154. Indecent and scandalous questions *163*

155. Questions intended to insult or annoy *163*

156. Exclusion of evidence to contradict answers to questions testing veracity *164*

157. Question by party to his own witness *165*

158. Impeaching credit of witness *166*

159. Questions tending to corroborate evidence of relevant fact, admissible *167*

SECTION PAGE

160. Former statements of witness may be proved to corroborate later testimony as to same fact *168*

161. What matters may be proved in connection with proved statement relevant under section 26 or 27 *168*

162. Refreshing memory *169*

163. Testimony to facts stated in document mentioned in section 162 *170*

164. Right of adverse party as to writing used to refresh memory *171*

165. Production of documents *171*

166. Giving, as evidence, of document called for and produced on notice *172*

167. Using, as evidence, of document production of which was refused on notice *173*

168. Judge's power to put questions or order production *173*

CHAPTER XI

OF IMPROPER ADMISSION AND REJECTION OF EVIDENCE

169. No new trial for improper admission or rejection of evidence *175*

CHAPTER XII

REPEAL AND SAVINGS

170. Repeal and savings *175*

SCHEDULE *177*