The Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund Act, 1974
Act 6 of 1974

Keyword(s):
Advocate Bar Council, Fund, Trustees Committee, Advocate, Bar Association, Vakalatnama

THE UTTAR PRADESH ADVOCATES WELFARE FUND

ACT, 1974

[U. P. ACT NO. 6 OF 1974]

STAR

(Authoritative English Text of the Uttar Pradesh Adhiwakta Kalyan Nidhi
Adhiniyam, 1974)

AN

ACT

to provide for the establishment and operation of a fund for the promotion of
welfare of Advocates in Uttar Pradesh.

It is hereby enacted in the Twenty-fifth year of Republic of India
as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund Act, 1974.

   (2) It extends to the whole of Uttar Pradesh.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

   (a) “Advocate” means an Advocate enrolled on the roll of the State
       Bar Council;

   (b) “State Bar Council” means the State Bar Council of Uttar Pradesh
       constituted under section 3 of the Advocates Act, 1961;

   (c) “Fund” means the Fund referred to in section 3;

   (d) “Trustees Committee” means the Committee constituted under
       section 3.
3. (1) For the following objects of general public utility, a charitable trust shall be created in respect of a Fund, to be constituted as hereinafter provided and to be called the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund, namely:

(a) obtaining from the Life Insurance Corporation of India a policy of group life insurance of Advocates up to the age of 60 years;

(b) the provision of buildings for halls and libraries, canteens and other facilities for District Bar Associations, or the making of contributions to District Bar Associations for the purposes of making such provision;

(c) the organization of other schemes for the welfare of needy Advocates; and

(d) such other objects as would, in the opinion of the Trustees Committee, improve the working conditions and facilities of Advocates.

(2) The Fund shall consist of—

(a) all monies transferred to it under section 4;

(b) all contributions made to it by the State Bar Council;

(c) any voluntary donation or contribution made to the Fund by any Advocate, including any sum received from the Life Insurance Corporation of India on the death of an Advocate insured under the group life insurance policy where such Advocate had nominated the Trustees Committee as the person to whom the money secured by the policy shall be paid in the event of his death;

(d) any grants made to the Fund by the State Government;

(e) any sum borrowed under section 5;

(f) any profits or dividends received from the Life Insurance Corporation of India in respect of the policy of group life insurance of Advocates;

(g) any interest or dividend or other return or any investment made in respect of any part of the Fund.

(3) The Fund shall vest in and be held and administered by a Trustees Committee to be named the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund Trustees Committee, of which the following shall be members, namely:

(a) The Advocate General of Uttar Pradesh ex-officio, who shall be Chairman;

(b) the Chairman, State Bar Council, ex-officio, or where that office is for the time being held by the Advocate General, an Advocate nominated by the State Bar Council;

(c) the Secretary to the State Government in the Judicial Department, ex-officio, who shall be Member-Secretary.

(4) A member nominated under clause (b) of sub-section (3) shall hold office for a term of three years, but he may at any time by writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman, resign his membership.

(5) The Trustees Committee shall be a body corporate with the name aforesaid, having perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to acquire and hold property, and may sue and be sued by that name.

(6) No act or proceeding of the Trustees Committee shall be questioned or deemed to be invalid by reason merely of any vacancy in or any defect in the constitution thereof.

4. As soon as may be after the commencement of this Act, an amount equivalent to the sums received by the State Bar Council on account of the deposits of stamp duty on certificates of enrolment paid by Advocates, together with interest actually earned thereon, shall be paid by it to the credit of the Fund, and such credit to the Fund shall discharge the State Bar Council of the liability in respect thereof to the State Government.

5. (1) The Trustees Committee may, from time to time, borrow any sum required for the purposes of this Act.

(2) The monies in the Fund may be deposited in any scheduled bank or invested by the Trustees Committee in loans and advances to any Corporation owned or controlled by the State Government, or in such other manner as the State Government may from time to time direct.
(3) The Fund shall be deemed to be a local fund and be audited by the Examiner, Local Fund Accounts, Uttar Pradesh.

6. All decisions and other instruments made and executed by the Trustees Committee may be authenticated by the signature of the Member-Secretary, who shall also have the power to operate any bank account on behalf of the said Committee.

7. The State Government may from time to time issue to the Trustees Committee such directions as in its opinion are necessary or expedient for carrying out the purposes of this Act, and it shall be the duty of the Trustees Committee to comply with such directions.

8. (1) The Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund Ordinance, 1974, is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal anything done or any action taken under the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or taken under this Act as if this Act had come into force on January 20, 1974.
No. 1973 (2) XVII-V-I—1(KA) 17-1988

Dated: Lucknow, October 15, 1988

In pursuance of the provisions of clause (3) of Article 348 of the Constitution of India, the Governor is pleased to order the publication of the following English translation of the Uttar Pradesh Adiviaka Kalyan Nihi (Sanskshodhan) Adhiniyam, 1988 (Uttar Pradesh Adhiniyam Sahitya 21 of 1988) as passed by the Uttar Pradesh legislature and assented to by the Governor on October 15, 1988.

THE UTTAR PRADESH ADVOCATES WELFARE FUND (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1988

(U. P. Act No. 21 or 1988)

[As passed by the U. P. Legislature]

An

ACT

to amend the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund Act, 1974

IT IS HEREBY enacted in the Thirty-ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be called the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) Act, 1988.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the State Government may, by notification, appoint in this behalf.

2. In section 2 of the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund Act, 1974, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, after clause (d), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely—

"(e) ‘Welfare Stamp’ means the stamp referred to in section 9;

(f) ‘Vakalatnama’ includes a memorandum of appearance or any other document by which an advocate is empowered to appear, act or plead before any court, tribunal, authority or person but does not include any Vakalatnama or memorandum of appearance filed on behalf of the State Government or an officer representing the State Government."

3. In section 3 of the principal Act—

(a) in sub-section (1), after clause (b), the following clause shall be inserted, namely—

"(bb) the organisation of Advocate Social Security Fund Scheme hereinafter referred to as the Scheme, for such advocates as become members of the Scheme;"

(b) in sub-section (2), after clause (g), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely—

"(h) the sale proceeds of stamps transferred by the State Government in accordance with section 10;

(i) all admission fees and annual subscriptions, for membership of the Scheme received in accordance with section 11 and interest, if any, thereon."

4. For section 8 of the principal Act, the following sections shall be substituted, namely—

"8. The State Bar Council shall contribute to the Fund such amount as may be prescribed by the Governor, as the contribution accruing from the affiliation of advocates in the State."

9. (1) Every member of the Scheme shall affix on the Vakalatnama accepted by him a Welfare Stamp of the value of five rupees in the case of Vakalatnama filed in the High Court or a Tribunal or any other authority or person and two rupees in any other case and no court, tribunal, authority or person shall receive any Vakalatnama in favour of such member unless it is so stamped in addition to any stamp required under any other law for the time being in force.
(2) The value of the Welfare Stamp shall neither be taxable cost in the suit or proceeding nor be collected in any event from a party to such suit or proceeding.

(3) Any contravention of the provisions of sub-section (2) by any member shall disentitle him to the benefits of the Scheme and shall be deemed to be a misconduct and the Trustees Committee shall report the matter to the State Bar Council for appropriate action.

(4) Every Welfare Stamp affixed on a Vakalatnama under sub-section (1) shall be cancelled in the manner provided in section 30 of the Court Fees Act, 1870.

10. (1) The State Government shall cause to be printed Welfare Stamps for the purposes of this Act, in such design and such denomination as it thinks fit with the words "Welfare Stamp" printed thereon.

(2) The State Government shall control the distribution and sale of Welfare Stamps through stamp vendors appointed by it for the sale of court fee stamps or through such other agency as it may deem fit.

(3) The State Government shall, at the close of every financial year transfer the sale proceeds of the Welfare Stamps after deducting the costs incurred in printing, sale and distribution of the stamps to the account of the Fund.

(4) The State Government shall furnish to the Trustees Committee a Statement containing the number of welfare stamps printed and sold, the details of costs deducted and the amount transferred under this section to the account of the Fund, within three months of such transfer.

11. (1) Any advocate may apply to the Secretary, Trustees Committee in such form as may be prescribed, for admission as a member of the Scheme.

(2) Every applicant shall pay in the prescribed manner an admission fee of one hundred rupees in lump sum with the application.

(3) The Trustees Committee may, on receipt of the application and the admission fee, make such inquiry as it deems fit and shall either admit the applicant to the membership of the Scheme, or for reasons to be recorded in writing, reject the application and refund the amount paid towards admission fee:

Provided that no application shall be rejected unless the applicant has been given an opportunity of being heard.

(4) The membership of an applicant so admitted shall be deemed to have commenced on the first day of January of the year in which the application was made or the date of enrolment of the applicant as an Advocate, whichever is later.

(5) Every member of the Scheme shall pay in the prescribed manner an annual subscription for every calendar year on or before the thirty-first day of December of that year at the rate of—

(a) fifty rupees, where he has practised as an advocate for not more than 5 years;

(b) one hundred rupees, where he has practised as an advocate for more than 5 years but not more than 10 years;

(c) two hundred and fifty rupees, where he has practised as an advocate for more than 10 years.

Explanation—For the purposes of this sub-section,—

(i) practice as an advocate includes practice as a pleader or other legal practitioner enrolled under the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879 or as an Advocate on the roll of any Bar Council constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961;

(ii) the period of practice shall be reckoned as on the first day of the calendar year for which the subscription is payable or the date of enrolment as a legal practitioner or an Advocate, whichever is later.
12. (1) A member of the Scheme shall cease to be such member, if—
(a) he dies,
(b) his name is removed from the State Roll maintained by the State Bar Council;
(c) he resigns the membership;
(d) he is in arrears of annual subscription for a period of two years or more and the Trustees Committee after giving him an opportunity to show cause, terminates his membership.

(2) An advocate who has ceased to be a member of the Scheme, may, on his written application and payment of the arrears of annual subscription which he would have paid, if his membership had continued, together with interest thereon at the rate of eighteen per centum per annum, be readmitted to the membership of the Scheme provided his name is restored or, as the case may be, continues on the State Roll maintained by the State Bar Council.

13. (1) A member of the Scheme shall on ceasing to be such member, be entitled to receive from the Fund—
(a) an amount equal to the aggregate of annual subscriptions paid by him, if he has been a member for a period of less than 5 years,
(b) an amount calculated at the rate of Rs. 1000 for every completed year of his membership, if he has been a member for a period of five years or more, subject to a maximum of Rs. 50,000.

(2) In the event of death of a member the amount payable under subsection (1) shall be paid to his nominee, or where there is no nominee, to his legal heirs.

Explanation—For the purposes of this sub-section, the term member includes a person who dies after ceasing to be a member before receiving payment under sub-section (1).

14. Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, the right or interest of any member of the Scheme or his nominee or legal heirs to receive any amount from the Fund under section 13 shall not be alienated or charged and shall not be liable to attachment under any decree or order of any court.

15. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Trustees Committee, or any member or officer thereof in respect of anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act or the rules made thereunder.

16. (1) The State Government may, by notification, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:
(a) the form and the manner in which application for membership of the Scheme may be made;
(b) the manner of payment of admission fee and annual subscription for the membership of the Scheme;
(c) the form and the manner in which the list of members of the Scheme shall be maintained and its copies or extracts shall be communicated to courts to enable them to ensure compliance of the provisions of section 9;
(d) the form and the manner in which application for payment under section 13 shall be made and the procedure of inquiry, if any, to be made by the Trustees Committee for such payment;
(e) the form and the manner in which nomination to receive payment under section 13 may be made;
(f) any other matter which has to be or may be prescribed.


By order,
S. N. SAHAY,
Sachiv.
No, 461(2)/XVII-V-1—1 (KA)-26-1998

Dated Lucknow, February 25, 1999

In pursuance of the provisions of clause (3) of Article 348 of the Constitution of India, the Governor is pleased to order the publication of the following English translation of the Uttar Pradesh Adhivakta Kalyan Nidhi (Sanskodhan) Adhiniyam, 1999 (Uttar Pradesh Adhiniyam Sankhya 3 of 1999) as passed by the Uttar Pradesh Legislature and assented to by the Governor on February 24, 1999.

THE UTTAR PRADESH ADVOCATES WELFARE FUND
(AMENDMENT) ACT, 1999
(U. P. ACT NO. 3 OF 1999)

[As passed by the Uttar Pradesh Legislature]

AND

AGT

further to amend the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund Act, 1974.

IT IS HEREBY enacted in the Fiftieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be called the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) Act, 1999.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on December 3, 1998.

2. In section 2 of the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund Act, 1974, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, —

(i) for clause (a), the following clauses shall be substituted, namely:

§“(a) “Advocate” means an Advocate enrolled on the roll of the State Bar Council and shall include the pleaders and other legal practitioners enrolled as such under the provisions of the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879;

(aa) “Bar Association” means a Bar Association affiliated to the State Bar Council;
(ii) after clause (c) the following clause shall be inserted, namely:

"(cc) "member" means a member of the Scheme";

(iii) for clause (f) the following clause shall be substituted, namely:

"(f) "Vakalatnama" includes a memorandum of appearance or any other document by which an Advocate is empowered to appear, act or plead before any court, tribunal, authority or person but does not include any Vakalatnama or memorandum of appearance filled on behalf of the Government or an officer representing the Government."

3. In section 3 of the principal Act,—

(a) in sub-section (1), in clause (b),—

(i) for the words "canteens and other facilities" the words "canteens, sheds and other facilities" shall be substituted; and

(ii) for the words "District Bar Associations" wherever occurring, the words "Bar Associations" shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (3),—

(i) in clause (b) for the words "by the State Bar Council", the words "by him" shall be substituted;

(ii) after clause (b) the following clause shall be inserted, namely:

"(bb) two members of the State Bar Council, elected by it;"

(c) for sub-section (4), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:

"(4) A member nominated under clause (b) of sub-section (3) shall hold office till the office of the Chairman State Bar Council is held by the Advocate General, but he may at any time by writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman resign his membership."

4. Section 4 of the principal Act shall be re-numbered as sub-section (1) thereof, and after sub-section (1) as so renumbered, the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:

"(2) An amount equivalent to the stamp duty deposited by Advocates for certificates of enrolment with the State Bar Council in a financial year shall be transferred by the State Government to the Fund as soon as may be after the end of that financial year and such transfer shall discharge the State Government of its liability in respect thereof, for that financial year."

5. In section 8 of the principal Act,—

(a) the words "and thereafter annually an amount equal to twenty-five percent of the fees realised by it on account of enrolment of Advocates during the year" shall be omitted and be deemed always to have been omitted;

(b) the following proviso shall be inserted at the end, namely:

"Provided that any amount contributed by the State Bar Council under this section as it stood prior to the commencement of the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) Act, 1998, shall not be refundable."

6. In section 9 of the principal Act, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:

"(1) Every advocate shall affix on the Vakalatnama accepted by him a Welfare Stamp of the value of five rupees and no court, tribunal, authority or person shall receive any Vakalatnama in favour of such advocate unless it is so stamped in addition to any stamp required under any other law for the time being in force."
(b) in sub-section (3) for the words "Printing" the words and brackets "printing (which shall be paid to the Bar Council)" shall be substituted;

(c) in sub-section (4) for the words "printed and sold, the details of costs deducted" the words "received from the Bar Council and sold, the details of costs deducted, the cost of printing paid to the Bar Council" shall be substituted;

(d) after sub-section (4) the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:

"(5) The State Government may provide the services of Government Press for printing of welfare stamps on realizing the printing charges."

8. After section 10 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:

"10-A. (1) Notwithstanding any thing contained in section 10, in case of temporary shortage of Welfare Stamps, the value of Welfare Stamps may be paid in cash to such subordinate officer or clerk of the court, tribunal, authority or person as may be specified by such court, tribunal authority or person and such subordinate officer or clerk shall give a receipt for the same which shall be affixed on the Vakulatnana, and such affixation shall have the same effect as if the Welfare Stamp of that amount has been duly affixed in accordance with this Act.

(2) The subordinate officer of the clerk receiving the cash under sub-section (1) shall deposit it in the Treasury under such Head as the State Government may by notified order specify in this behalf."

9. In section 11 of the principal Act,—

"(a) in sub-section (5), after clause (c) the following provision shall be inserted before the explanation, namely:

"Provided that the Government Advocates shall pay an additional amount of rupees fifty per annum with their annual subscription for every calendar year or part thereof during their tenure a Government Advocate:

Provided further that a member at his option may make one time payment of life subscription of rupees three thousand and in the case of his being Government Advocate rupees three thousand five hundred:

Provided also that the State Government may, after consultation with the Trustees Committee, by a notified order, vary the rates of annual and life subscription."

(b) in the Explanation after clause (ii) the following clause shall be inserted, namely:

"(iii) "Government Advocate" means an Advocate engaged by the Government or a body, authority or corporation owned or controlled by the Government to represent it before a court, tribunal, authority or a person who received any amount by way of retainership or monthly allowance from the Government or such body, authority or corporation, as the case may be.""

10. For section 13 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:

"13 (1) In the event of a death of a member, his nominee or in the event of a member being unable to manage his own affairs, the amount calculated at the rate of rupees five thousand per annum for every completed year of his membership which shall not be less than rupees twenty five thousand and more than rupees one lakh fifty thousand
(2) A member shall on ceasing to be a member under clause (b), (c) or (d) of sub-section (1) of section 12, shall be paid from the Fund:

(i) if he resigns after twelve years and before twenty five completed years of his membership, an amount calculated at the rate of two thousand rupees per annum for every completed year of membership;

(ii) if he resigns after twenty five completed years of his membership, an amount calculated at the rate of five thousand rupees per annum for every completed year of membership subject to a maximum of rupees one lakh fifty thousand;

(iii) if he ceases to be such member due to any other cause not covered by sub-section (1) or sub-section (2), an amount equal to the aggregate of his subscription paid by him and simple interest thereon at such rate as the Trustees Committee may, from time to time, fix.

(3) For calculating the completed years of membership for the purposes of this section, every five years of practice at bar, if any, before admission of a member to the scheme shall be completed as one year of membership of the Scheme.

11. After section 14 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

"14-A Where an Advocate who is a member of the Scheme under this Act as it stood immediately before the commencement of the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) Act, 1998, within two months of such commencement, opts not to continue as a member of the Scheme he shall be paid an amount to which he is entitled under section 13 as it stood before such commencement and such Advocate shall not be admitted again to the membership of the Scheme. If no such option is given such Advocate shall continue as a member of the Scheme."

12. Where an Advocate has filed a Vakalatnama in a case before the commencement of this Act and continues to appear, Act or plead in that case in pursuance of such Vakalatnama, after such commencement he shall file a Welfare Stamp through an application on or before the first date of hearing of that case after such commencement.


(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the principal Act as amended by the Ordinance referred to in sub-section (1), or by the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of the principal Act as amended by this Act as if the provisions of this Act were in force at all material times.

By order,

Y. R. TRIPATHI,

Pramukh Sachiv.
No. 1839(2)/VII-V-1-1(KA)22-2003  
Dated Lucknow, December 17, 2003

In pursuance of the provisions of clause (3) of article 348 of the Constitution of India, the Governor is pleased to order the publication of the following English translation of the Uttar Pradesh Adhivakta Kalyan Nidhi (Sanshodhan) Adhiniyam, 2003 (Uttar Pradesh Adhiniyam Sankhya 9 of 2003) as passed by the Uttar Pradesh Legislature and assented to by the Governor on December 16, 2003:

THE UTTAR PRADESH ADVOCATES WELFARE FUND (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2003
(U. P. ACT NO. 9 OF 2003)
(As passed by the Uttar Pradesh Legislature)

AN

ACT

further to amend the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund Act, 1974.

IT IS HEREBY enacted in the Fifty-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be called the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) Act, 2003.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on July 11, 2003.

2. In section 9 of the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund Act, 1974 hereinafter referred to as the principal Act,

(a) in sub-section (1) for the words "five rupees" the words "ten rupees" shall be substituted.

(b) after sub-section (4) the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:

"(5) where in any case the Welfare Stamp referred to in sub-section (1) is not affixed on the Vakalatnama or is not filed by any Advocate the Court shall not permit such Advocate for further proceeding in that case."

3. (1) The Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 2003 is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the provisions of the principal Act as amended by the Ordinance referred to in sub-section (1) or by the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of the principal Act as amended by this Act as if this Act were in force at all material times.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund Act, 1974 (U. P. Act no. 6 of 1974) has been enacted to provide for the establishment and operation of a fund for the promotion of Welfare of Advocates in Uttar Pradesh. With a view to making the financial position sound of the Advocates Welfare Fund affixing of Welfare Stamp of the value of five rupees on a Vakalatnama was provided in section 9 of the said Act. The income arising from Welfare Stamps was inadequate to meet the expenses on the payment of the Group Insurance Scheme to the dependents of the Advocates, printing of Welfare Stamps and on other payments.
It was, therefore decided on the proposal of Bar Council of Uttar Pradesh to amend the said Act to increase the value of the said Welfare Stamp from five rupees to ten rupees and to provide that where in any case the said Welfare Stamp is not affixed on the Vakalatnama or is not filed by any Advocate the Court shall not permit such Advocate for further proceeding in that case.

The Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 (U.P. Ordinance no. 18 of 2003) was promulgated on July 11, 2003 to implement the aforesaid decision but the provisions of the said Ordinance could not be replaced by an Act of the Legislature. Since the enforcement of the said Ordinance was to expire after October 13, 2003, it was decided to replace the said Ordinance by another Ordinance.

Since the State Legislature was not in session and immediate legislative Action was necessary to implement the aforesaid decision, the Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 2003 (U. P. Ordinance no.24 of 2003) was promulgated by the Governor on October 13, 2003.

This Bill is introduced to replace the aforesaid Ordinance no: 24 of 2003.

By order,

R. B. RAO,

Pramukh Sachiv.