ANDHRA PRADESH ORDINANCE No. 3 OF 2023

AN ORDINANCE FURTHER TO AMEND THE ANDHRA PRADESH CHARITABLE AND HINDU RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS AND ENDOWMENTS ACT 1987.

Whereas there are 24,699 temples published under sec.6 of the Act. Of which, 1,234 temples are having income above Rs.5 lakhs. In 97 departmentally managed temples, tonsuring activity going on with 1,121 Nayee Brahmins. There are nearly 1,169 Nayee Brahmins working as Bhajantries in the Devasthanams. Nearly 100 persons are working as ear piercers. 500 persons are working as Pallaki bearers, on consolidated / daily wage labours. In fact, nayee Brahmins working in privately managed temples volume is more than the departmentally managed temples. The Nayee Brahmins are deeply associated with Hindu culture and more particularly in temple traditions. There is every need to upkeep the age old traditions of Hindu society. Irrespective of the Agama, every temple needs a nayee Brahmin for doing sushadi activity, offering music to Deity, etc. Nayee Brahmin plays an important role in providing services to the Pilgrims visiting various temples all over the State. Among the various hindu occupational groups and communites, Nayee Brahmins as a specific class
among occupation groups, are deeply ingrained in the affairs of the temples and temple traditions. Such Nayee Brahmins deeply involved in the continuance of the age-old traditions of the temples are facing lot of problems like health hazards, low income etc;

In order to ensure continuance of rich and ancient traditions connected with the Temples and to secure their participation in administration of the Temple as mandated under Section 24 of the Act for continuance of the custom, usage, tradition and sampradayams of the temple concerned, it is necessary that the Trust Boards constituted under the Act, comprise mandatorily, a member of Nayee Brahmin community. Such a measure would ensure upkeep and revival of the age old temple traditions. To achieve this object duly treating the Nayee Brahmins working in traditional temple system, it is decided to incorporate provision mandating the inclusion of one member of the Trust Board belonging to Nayeebrahmin Community. Hence the present amendment by way of inserting a proviso to Section 17(5) of the Act;

As of present, there are 610 temples to which Trust Boards are required to be constituted. It is necessary that the present amended provision be utilised for securing the inclusion of a member of nayeebrahmin community as a member of the Trust Board of the Temples. While the Legislature is not in session, circumstances as narrated hereinafore, exist warranting immediate action, to secure the objective of inclusion of Nayeebrahmins in the Trust Boards of Temples;

And whereas, the legislature of the State is not now in session and as there is urgency to protect the age old temple traditions, the Ordinance is necessitated immediately.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of Article 213 of the Constitution of India, Governor, hereby, promulgates the following Ordinance:-

1. (1) This Ordinance may be called the Andhra Pradesh Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowments (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023.
   (2) It shall come into force at once.
2. In the Andhra Pradesh Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowments Act, 1987, in section 17, under sub-section(5),
before the existing proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely,-

“Provided that, in every Board of Trustees of a religious institution, one Nayee Brahmin shall be appointed as a Trustee”.

(2) In the existing proviso the word “further” shall be inserted between the words “provided” and “that” and this proviso shall be read as second proviso.

BISWABHUSAN HARICHANDAN,
Governor of Andhra Pradesh.

G. SATYA PRABHAKARA RAO,
Secretary to Government,
Legal and Legislative Affairs & Justice.
Law Department.