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THE ANDHRA PRADESH GAZETTE

PART IV-A EXTRAORDINARY

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 11] AMARAVATI, THURSDAY, 26th FEBRUARY, 2026.

**ANDHRA PRADESH BILLS
ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The following Bill was introduced in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly on 26th February, 2026.

L. A. Bill No. 11 of 2026

A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE ANDHRA PRADESH GRAMA SACHIVALAYAMS AND WARD SACHIVALAYAMS (GSWS) ACT, 2023.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Andhra Pradesh in the Seventy-Seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Andhra Pradesh Grama Sachivalayams and Ward Sachivalayams (GSWS) (Amendment) Act, 2026.

Short title and Commencement.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force with effect on and from the 13th January, 2026.

2. In the Andhra Pradesh Grama Sachivalayams and Ward Sachivalayams (GSWS) Act, 2023 (hereinafter referred to as the Principal Act), in sub-section (1) of section 1, "for the words "Andhra Pradesh Grama Sachivalayams and Ward Sachivalayams (GSWS)" the words "Andhra Pradesh Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu(SGSW)" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 1.

3. In the Principal Act, in section 2, -

Amendment of section 2.

- “(i) In clause (1), for the words Andhra Pradesh Grama Sachivalayams and Ward Sachivalayams (GSWS)” the words “Andhra Pradesh Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu (SGSW) shall be substituted.”.
- (ii) for clause (3) the following shall be substituted, namely,-
“(3) “Commissioner” means the Commissioner/ Director of Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu”.
- (iii) in clause (5), for the words “Grama Sachivalayams and Ward Sachivalayams (GSWS) Department” the words “Department of Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu (SGSW)” shall be substituted.
- (iv) in clause (7), for the words “Sachivalayams in Urban and Rural areas” the words “Swarna Gramam in rural areas and Swarna Wardu in urban areas” shall be substituted.
- (v) for clause (12), the following shall be substituted, namely,-
“Swarna Gramam/ Swarna Wardu means the building / area / structure/Office established under various Government Orders issued hitherto and controlled/managed/monitored by the Commissioner/ Director of Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu and called as Swarna Gramam in Rural Areas and Swarna Wardu in Urban Areas.”.

Amendment of section 3.

- 4.** In the Principal Act for section 3, the following shall be substituted, namely,-
- “(a) In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Department for monitoring of Swarna Gramam in rural areas and Swarna Wardu in urban areas shall be called as “Department of Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu (SGSW)” herein after called as “Department”.
- (b) The Village Secretariats and Ward Secretariats established under various Government Orders issued by the Government from time to time are now renamed as Swarna Gramam in rural areas and Swarna Wardu in urban areas and shall be deemed to have been organized and constituted under the provisions of this Act.
- (c) Department of Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu (SGSW) shall constitute,-

- (i) Special Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary / Secretary to Government, Department of Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu (SGSW)”.
 - (ii) Commissioner / Director of Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu.
 - (iii) Director, Andhra Pradesh State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (APSIRDPR).
 - (iv) The Functionaries of Swarna Gramam in rural areas and Swarna wardu in urban areas and the staff drafted for the Department either on Deputation or otherwise, the staffing pattern and the criteria / eligibility thereof shall be consistent with Article 309 of the Constitution of India.
 - (v) District Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu Officer(DSG&SWO) shall look after District Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu Office.
 - (vi) Mandal Swarna Gramam Officer / Urban Swarna Wardu Officer shall look after Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu in Mandal/ ULB Offices respectively.
- 5.** In the Principal Act, for clause (c) of section 4, the following shall be substituted, namely,-
- Amendment of section 4.
- “(c) The Secretary shall be responsible for overseeing the functioning of Department of Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu (SGSW).”.
- 6.** In the Principal Act, in section 5,-
- Amendment of section 5.
- (i) in clause (c) for the words “ Sachivalyams” the words “Swarna Gramam in rural areas and Swarna Wardu in urban areas” shall be substituted.
 - (ii) for clause (e), the following shall be substituted, namely,-
 - “(e) Commissioner/Director shall review the performance of the Swarna Gramam in rural areas and Swarna Wardu in urban areas periodically and take appropriate steps to streamline the functioning of Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu including initiation of disciplinary proceedings against the Functionaries wherever found appropriate”.

Amendment of section 6.

7. In the Principal Act, in clause (b) of section 6, for the words "GSWS Department" the words "Department of Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu (SGSW)" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 9.

8. In the Principal Act, for section 9, the following shall be substituted, namely,-

"9. The following functionaries of the various Line Departments are to be positioned to perform the functions in the Swarna Gramam in Rural areas and Swarna Wardu in Urban Areas as detailed below:-

TABLE - I
Functionaries of Swarna Gramam

| Sl. No. | Designation of the Functionaries | Primary Functions | Line Department |
|---------|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Panchayat Secretary (Grade-V) | Executive Officer of the Panchayati, act as Liaison Officer between Gram Panchayat and Swarna Gramam, Convener, Custodian of Assets/Records - Drawing and Disbursement Officer etc., | Panchayat Raj & Rural Development |
| 2. | Panchayat Secretary (Grade -VI) (Digital Assistant) | Processing of Requests & Delivery of services after due approval etc., | Panchayat Raj & Rural Development |
| 3. | Engineering Assistant | Execution of infrastructure related works like Roads, Drains, Water supply, Vikasit Bharat - Gurantee for Rozgar Ajjeevika Mission (Gramin) and Mana Badi-Mana Bhavishyatthu etc., | Panchayat Raj & Rural Development |
| 4. | Welfare & Education Assistant | Delivery of Welfare Schemes-NTR Pension Bharosa, Mastyakara Sevalo, Auto Drivers Sevalo, Thalliki Vandanam, inspection of Schools regarding Non-Academic activities like Mid-Day Meal implementation etc., | Social Welfare/ Tribal Welfare |
| 5. | Agriculture /Horticulture / Sericulture Assistant | RSK Kendra - Integrated Village Plan - Departmental Schemes/ Services etc., | Agriculture and Co-operation |
| 6. | Veterinary / Fisheries Assistant | Selection of beneficiaries for State & Central Schemes, processing of applications under Animal Feed Act, Aquaculture etc., | Animal Husbandry / Fisheries |

| | | | |
|-----|--|--|----------------------------------|
| 7. | Village Revenue Officer (Grade-II) | Land records, Civil Supply matters, assist in issue of Certificates like: Caste, Income Certificates etc., | Revenue |
| 8. | Survey Assistant | Detailed Survey of Lands, maintaining of all Survey Registers etc., | Revenue |
| 9. | Mahila Police/Grama Mahila Samrakshana Karyadarshi | Ensure safety for Women and Children etc., | Home |
| 10. | Energy Assistant | Identify Power Supply problems, short circuit points and Transformer failures, assist DISCOM staff etc., | Energy |
| 11. | Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM) | Pregnancy care (Neo-Natal/ Post-Natal), Child-Birth, Nutrition, Communicable & Non-Communicable diseases etc., | Health, Medical & Family Welfare |

TABLE – II
Functionaries of Swarna Wardu

| Sl. No. | Designation of the Functionary | Primary Functions | Line Department |
|---------|---|---|--|
| 1. | Ward Administrative Secretary | Collection of Taxes, Assessment of Properties & other resources collection, act as Team Leader and In-charge of the Swarna Wardu etc., | Municipal Administration & Urban Development |
| 2. | Ward Sanitation & Environment Secretary | Sanitation, Door to door collection of Solid Waste, Implementation of Swarna Andhra- Swachh Andhra (SASA) and various other programs etc. | Municipal Administration & Urban Development |
| 3. | Ward Data Processing Secretary | Service Provider for processing of Requests & Delivery of services after due approval, Aadhar and CSC services etc. | Municipal Administration & Urban Development |
| 4. | Ward Amenities Secretary | Execution of Infrastructure works like Water supply, Roads, Drains, Culverts, Housing works and Mana Badi- Mana Bhavishyatthu etc., | Municipal Administration & Urban Development |

| | | | |
|-----|---|--|--|
| 5. | Ward Welfare & Education Secretary | Welfare activities, Delivery of Welfare Schemes and Co-ordination with SHGs. Functioning of Schools, Mid-Day Meal Program etc., | Municipal Administration & Urban Development |
| 6. | Ward Planning and Regulation Secretary | Assist in issuing of Building permissions, Layout approvals, identification of encroachments, maintain & monitor Mortgage Register, maintain Prohibitory Property Watch Register etc., | Municipal Administration & Urban Development |
| 7. | Ward Revenue Secretary | Land records, Civil Supply matters, assist in issue of Certificates like: Caste, Income, Certificates etc., | Revenue |
| 8. | Ward Women and Weaker Sections Protection Secretary/Ward Mahila Samrakshana Karyadarshi | Ensure safety for Women and Children etc., | Home |
| 9. | Ward Energy Secretary | Identify Power Supply problems, short circuit points and Transformer failures, assist DISCOM staff etc., | Energy |
| 10. | Ward Health Secretary | Pregnancy Care (Neo-Natal/Post-Natal), Child-Birth, Nutrition, Communicable & Non-Communicable diseases etc., | Health, Medical & Family Welfare |

Note 1: Mahila Police or Grama Mahila Samrakshana Karyadarshi/ Ward Mahila Samrakshana Karyadarshi (or by any other designation it is called) shall not be a "Police" within the meaning of the Police Act, 1861 or such other laws which govern functioning of the Police Department in the State of Andhra Pradesh (Central Act No.5 of 1861);

Note 2: Allotment of the functions to the functionaries shall be in accordance with guidelines issued from time to time by the Government or the Line Department as the case may be.

Note 3: Functionaries are governed by the Service Rules issued by the respective Line Departments.

Note 4: The Government have authority to categorise Swarna Gramam in Rural areas and Swarna Wardu in Urban areas and functionaries', to prescribe the number of functionaries to work in those Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu.

Note 5: The above Functionaries shall discharge the functions, duties and works entrusted by the Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu Department from time to time.

9. in the Principal Act, in section 10,-

Amendment of
section 10.

- (i) for clauses (a) and (b), the following shall be substituted, namely,-

“ (a) Service Delivery

- (i) To deliver citizen-centric services through Swarna Gramam in Rural areas and Swarna Wardu in Urban areas.
- (ii) The services delivered by the Swarna Gramam in Rural areas and Swarna Wardu in Urban areas shall be in accordance with the notifications issued by the Government from time to time on collection of such service charges as may be prescribed from time to time.
- (iii) The services, delivered through Swarna Gramam in rural areas and Swarna Wardu in urban areas, duly approved by the respective authorities under different laws shall be treated as valid in law, notwithstanding anything contrary to the law for the time being in force.
- (iv) The certificates delivered to the citizens on account of service delivery by the Department shall have legal validity, as per the concerned enactments.

(b) Implementation of Welfare Schemes

The Department shall issue guidelines, Standard Operating procedures (SOP) and provide necessary logistical support

for the implementation of welfare schemes through 'Swarna Gramam in rural areas and Swarna Wardu in urban areas'.

Amendment of section 15.

- 10.** In the Principal Act, in section 15, for the words "Grama Sachivalayams and Ward Sachivalayams" the words "Swarna Gramam in rural areas and Swarna Wardu in urban areas" shall be substituted.

Repeal and savings of Ordinance No.2 of 2026.

- 11.** (1) The Andhra Pradesh Grama Sachivalayams and Ward Sachivalayams (GSWS) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026 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.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Government have established 15004 Village/Ward Secretariats across the State for delivery of Services & Welfare Schemes benefits to the eligible citizens at their door steps vide G.O.Ms.No.110, PR&RD (MDL-I) Department, dated: 19.07.2019 and G.O.Ms.No.217, MA&UD (UBS) Department, dated: 20.07.2019;

Consequently, the Government have created Department of Grama Volunteers/Ward Volunteers and Village Secretariats/Ward Secretariats vide G.O.Ms.No.156, GAD (Cabinet-II) Department, dated:21.12.2019.

The Andhra Pradesh Legislature has enacted “the Andhra Pradesh Grama Sachivalayams and Ward Sachivalayams (GSWS) Act, 2023” to provide a new structure for delivering innumerable other citizen centric services and amenities including the indicative list of citizen services mentioned in the 11th and 12th Schedule of the Constitution of India and to provide a statutory framework for the Grama Sachivalayams and Ward Sachivalayams and for the matters connected there with or incidental there to.

The Government have issued Orders vide G.O. Ms. No.01, GSWS Department, dated:25.01.2025 and G.O. Ms. No.10, GSWS Department, dated: 28.08.2025 for establishment of GSWS 3 tier Structure at District, Mandal/ULB levels and sanctioned number of posts for effective monitoring, coordination and functioning of Village / Ward Secretariats.

Further, the Andhra Pradesh Government by 2047 envisions a state of Happy, Thriving, and Responsible Telugus, fostering a Progressive and Inclusive Community, a Valley of Innovation, a Knowledge Hub for global community, with unparalleled Speed of doing Business. It is necessary to reorient the Village /Ward Secretariats for achieving the Swarna Andhra and Viksit Bharat @2047 goals and vision.

There is a need to revise roles and responsibilities of Functionaries as per the Swarna Andhra Vision document. The Village /Ward Secretariats shall play a pivotal role in achieving Swarna Andhra Goals i.e., Economic and Industrial Development of Andhra Pradesh along with Human Resource

Development for addressing individual, family & community needs of the citizens duly utilizing the services at Village /Ward Secretariat.

The present name of the GSWS Department no longer accurately describes the Department's present activities, responsibilities or full range of services to be delivered it is necessary to change the nomenclature in view of strategic and operational reasons. The name shall have a better reflection of the Department its current functions, scope and strategic alignment with the broader objective of the subsequent goals.

Hence, it is proposed to change the nomenclatures of the GSWS Department, Directorate, Village / Ward Secretariats and the District GSWS Offices as mentioned below:

- (a) GSWS Department to be named as Department of Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu;
- (b) The Director, GSWS to be named as Director, Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu;
- (c) Grama Sachivalayam to be named as Swarna Gramam - Village Name; (Or) Grama Sachivalayam to be named as Swarna Gramam- Area Name- Village Name (in case of multiple Secretariats in a Village);
- (d) Ward Sachivalayam to be named as Swarna Wardu- Ward No. / Area- ULB Name;
- (e) The District GSWS Office to be named as the District Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu Office and the Officer who is looking after the same named as District Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu Officer (DSG&SWO);
- (f) The GSWS Sections established in Mandals/ ULBs under GSWS three (3) tier Structure to be named as Mandal Swarna Gramam Section and Urban Swarna Wardu Section and the Officer who is looking after the same named as Mandal Swarna Gramam Officer/Urban Swarna Wardu Officer (MSGO/ USWO).

The above Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu Offices shall work for overall development of citizens; Economically, Socially, Culturally and

make the Swarna Gramam and Swarna Wardu in Rural and Urban areas respectively as **Sustainable Development Centres** (“సంస్థిరాభివృద్ధి కేంద్రాల”) with the following Roles & Responsibilities in addition to the existing:

- (a) Implementation of various Welfare schemes and Programs.
- (b) Development of Physical & environmental infrastructure.
- (c) Good Governance (Suparipalana) which will include Service Delivery, Skilling & Technology upgradation.

It has been decided to give effect to the above objectives immediately. Accordingly, the Government has decided to amend the Andhra Pradesh Grama Sachivalayams and Ward Sachivalayams (GSWS) Act, 2023 suitably.

The Legislature of the State was not then in session and having been prorogued and it has been decided to give effect to the above provisions immediately, the Governor has promulgated the Andhra Pradesh Grama Sachivalayams and Ward Sachivalayams (GSWS) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026 on the 12th January, 2026 and the same has been published in Telugu and English in Part IV- B, extraordinary of the Andhra Pradesh Gazette, dated 13th January, 2026 (Andhra Pradesh Ordinance No.2 of 2026).

The Bill seeks to replace the said Ordinance and to give effect to the above decision.

Dr. DOLA SREE BALA VEERANAJANEYA SWAMY

Minister for Social Welfare, Disabled &

Senior Citizen Welfare, Swarna Gramam & Swarna Wardu

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 9 (a) (ii) of the bill authorise the Government to issue notifications in respect of the matters specified therein and generally to carry out the purposes of the Act.

The notification so issued, which are intended to cover the matters mostly of procedural in nature are to be laid on the Table of Legislature of the State and will be subject to any modification made by the Legislature.

The above provisions of the Bill regarding Delegated Legislation are thus of a normal type and are mainly intended to cover matters of procedure.

Dr. DOLA SREE BALA VEERANAJANEYA SWAMY

Minister for Social Welfare, Disabled &

Senior Citizen Welfare, Swarna Gramam & Swarna Wardu

**MEMORANDUM UNDER RULE 95 OF THE RULES OF
PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN THE ANDHRA
PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.**

The Andhra Pradesh Grama Sachivalayams and Ward Sachivalayams (GSWS) (Amendment) Bill, 2026, after it is passed by the Legislature of the State may be submitted to the Governor for his assent under Article 200 of the Constitution of India.

Dr. DOLA SREE BALA VEERANAJANEYA SWAMY
Minister for Social Welfare, Disabled &
Senior Citizen Welfare, Swarna Gramam & Swarna Wardu

PRASANNA KUMAR SURYADEVARA
Secretary-General to Legislature.