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THE ANDHRA PRADESH GAZETTE

PART IV-A EXTRAORDINARY

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 13] AMARAVATI, WEDNESDAY, 4th MARCH, 2026.

ANDHRA PRADESH BILLS
ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The following Bill was introduced in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly on 4th March, 2026.

L. A. Bill No. 13 of 2026

A BILL TO REPEAL AND AMEND CERTAIN ENACTMENTS FOR DECRIMINALISING AND RATIONALISING CERTAIN OFFENCES TO FURTHER ENHANCE TRUST-BASED GOVERNANCE FOR EASE OF LIVING AND EASE OF DOING BUSINESS IN THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH.

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. This Act may be called the Andhra Pradesh Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2026. Short Title.
2. The enactments mentioned in column (4) of the First Schedule are hereby amended to the extent and in the manner mentioned in column (5) thereof. Amendment of certain enactments.
3. The enactments referred to in the Second Schedule is hereby repealed. Repeal of certain enactments.
4. The amendment or repeal by this Act of any enactment shall not affect any other enactment in which the amended or repealed enactment has been applied, incorporated or referred to; Savings.

and this Act shall not affect the validity, invalidity, effect or consequences of anything already done or suffered, or any right, title, obligation or liability already acquired, accrued or incurred or any remedy or proceeding already completed in respect thereof, or any release or discharge of, or from any debt, penalty, obligation, liability, claim or demand, or any indemnity already granted;

nor shall this Act affect any principle or rule of law, or established jurisdiction, form or course of pleading, practice or procedure, or existing usage, custom, privilege, restriction, exemption, office or appointment, notwithstanding that the same respectively may have been in any manner affirmed, or recognised or derived by, in or from any enactment hereby amended or repealed;

nor shall the amendment or repeal by this Act of any enactment revive or restore any jurisdiction, office, custom, liability, right, title, privilege, restriction, exemption, usage, practice, procedure or other matter or thing not now existing or in force.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE
(See section 2)

Sl. No.	Act Year	Act No.	Short Title	Amcndments
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1.	1956	II	The Municipal Corporations Act, 1955	<p>(i) For section 70-E, the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“70-E. If any person contravenes any order made under section 70-A or section 70-C, he shall be punishable fine of Rs. 75,000 for first offence, and Rs. 2,00,000 for subsequent offences.”</p> <p>(ii) In section 402, for subsection (2), the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“ (2) Whoever contravenes the provisions of subsection (1) shall be punishable with fine of Rs. 10,000 for first offence, and Rs. 20,000 for each subsequent offences.”</p> <p>(iii) In section 461, for subsection (4), the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(4).Notwithstanding anything contained in the Act, any person who, whether at his own instance or at the instance of any other person or any body including a department of the Government undertakes or carries</p>

				<p>out construction or development of any land in contravention of the statutory master plan or without permission, approval or sanction or in contravention of any condition subject to which such permission, approval or sanction has been granted shall be punished with a fine equivalent to twenty percent of the value of the land as fixed by the Registration Department at the time of undertaking the development of the land or building, and in the case of a continuing offence with a further daily fine which may extend to fine equivalent to one percent of the value of the land as fixed by the Registration Department for everyday during which such offence continues after the first commission of the offence”.</p> <p>(iv) In section 484, for sub-section (2), the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>“(2) Even after the Commissioner has taken such measure under sub-section (1), if any person commits defecation, urination or spitting in open public places shall be punishable with fine of Rs. 10,000 for first offence, and Rs. 20,000 for each subsequent offences.”</p> <p>(v) In section 487, for sub-section (2), the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>“(2) Whoever, contravenes the provisions of subsection (1) shall be punishable with fine of Rs. 10,000 for first offence, and Rs. 20,000 for each subsequent offences.”</p>
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2.	1965	6	The Andhra Pradesh Municipalities Act, 1965	<p>(vi) In section 548, for subsection (5), the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>“(5) Whoever does any act in contravention of subsection (1) shall be punishable with fine of Rs. 10,000 for first offence, and Rs. 20,000 for each subsequent offences.”</p> <p>(i) For section 28D, the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>“ 28D. If any person contravenes any order made under Section 28 or Section 28-B, he shall be punishable with fine of Rs. 75,000 for first offence, and Rs.2,00,000 for subsequent offences.”</p> <p>(ii) For section 340, the following shall be substituted, namely,</p> <p>“340.Penalty for unlawful building: (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Act, any person who, whether at his own instance or at the instance of any other person or anybody including a department of the Government, undertakes or carries out construction or development of any land in contravention of the statutory master plan or without permission, approval or sanction or in contravention of any condition subject to which such permission, approval or sanction has been granted shall be punished with a fine equivalent to twenty percent of the</p>
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3.	1968	17	The Andhra Pradesh Excise Act, 1968.	<p>value of the land as fixed by the Registration Department at the time of undertaking the development of the land or building, and in the case of a continuing offence with a further daily fine which may extend to fine equivalent to one percent of the value of the land as fixed by the Registration Department for everyday during which such offence continues after the first commission of the offence.”</p> <p>1. in section 36, in sub-section (1),-</p> <p>(a) in clause (e), the words “who are reputed prostitutes or” shall be omitted.</p> <p>(b) in clause (h),-</p> <p>(i) in sub-clause (i), the expression “clause (a),” shall be omitted.</p> <p>(ii) In sub-clause (ii), for the words “in any other case” the words “in case of an offence falling under clause (g)” shall be substituted.</p> <p>(iii) After sub-clause (ii), the following shall be added, namely,-</p> <p>“(iii) in the case of offence falling under clause (a), clause (d), clause (e), clause (f) or clause (h) with fine of rupees twenty five thousand”.</p> <p>2. In section 38, sub-section (1), for the words “on conviction, be punished imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months and with fine which may extend to one thousand</p>
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				<p>rupees”, the words “ be punished with fine of twenty five thousand rupees” shall be substituted.</p> <p>3. for section 40, the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>“40. Penalty for cutting down or destroying excise trees - Whoever contravenes the provisions of section 27 shall be punished with fine of twenty five thousand rupees for the first offence and fifty thousand rupees for the second and subsequent offences”.</p> <p>4. (i) in section 41, the existing paragraph numbered as (1) and after the words “whoever does any act”, the words “that endangers the life, safety or health of any person” shall be inserted.</p> <p>(ii) after so numbered as (1), the following shall be added, namely,-</p> <p>“(2) Whoever does any act, except the act specified in sub-section (1) in contravention of any of the provisions of this Act, or of any rule, notification, or order made, issued or passed thereunder and not otherwise provided for in this Act, shall be punished with a fine of rupees twenty five thousand.”</p> <p>5. In section 47, in sub-section (1), after the expression “section 37”, the expression “sub-section (1) of section 38 section 40” shall be inserted.</p> <p>6. The existing section 49, shall be Omitted.</p>
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4	1973	I	The Andhra Pradesh Land Reforms (Ceiling on Agricultural Holdings) Act, 1973.	<p>In section 24,-</p> <p>(i) in sub-section (1), for the words "with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees or with both", the words "with fine which may extend to two lakh rupees" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(ii) in sub-section (2), for the words "with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees or with both", the words "with which may extend to two lakh rupees" shall be substituted.</p>
5.	1974	32	The Andhra Pradesh Factories and Establishments (National, Festival and other Holidays) Act, 1974.	<p>For section 10, the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>"10. Penalty for obstructing Inspector-</p> <p>(1) Whoever wilfully obstructs an Inspector in the exercise of any power conferred on him by or under this Act, shall be imposed :</p> <p>(a) for the first Offence with a fine of Rs.50,000/-.</p> <p>(b) for the second and subsequent Offence with a fine of Rs.75,000/ - in a three years block period.</p> <p>(2) Whoever fails to produce on demand in writing by an Inspector any register, record or notice in his custody which may be required to be kept in pursuance of this act, or of any rule made there under, shall be imposed:</p>

6.	1995	17	The Andhra Prohibition Act, 1995.	<p>(a) for the first Offence with fine of Rs.10,000/-.</p> <p>(b) for the second and subsequent Offence with a fine of Rs.20,000/- in a three years block period.</p> <p>(3) The Inspecting Officer shall forward the inspection report to the next higher Authority within three days of inspection. The Authority, shall cause a notice to be issued to the person concerned and after giving reasonable opportunity of hearing, shall impose the fine as deemed fit.</p> <p>(4) Any person aggrieved by the order passed under sub-section (3) shall prefer an appeal as may be prescribed under the Rules.</p> <p>(5) In case the fine so imposed is not paid within fifteen (15) days of passing the order by the authority concerned, whether in appeal or otherwise, the said fine shall be recovered from such person as an arrear of land revenue.”</p> <p>(i) In section 8, in clause (a), for the words “with imprisonment for a term which may extend up to six months or with fine which may extend up to one thousand rupces or with both”, the words “with fine of rupees ten thousand” shall be substituted.</p> <p>(ii) in section 9, for the words “with imprisonment which shall not be less than two months but which may extend upto one year, or with fine which may extend upto two</p>
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7.	1999	15	The Andhra Pradesh Fire Service Act, 1999.	<p>thousand rupees, or with both", the words "with fine of rupees ten thousand" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(i) In section 29,-</p> <p>(a) the words "with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months or" shall be omitted.</p> <p>(b) the existing words at the end "or with both" shall be omitted.</p> <p>(ii) in section 30, in sub-section (2),- for the words "with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees or with both," the expression "with fine which may be extended to Rs.25,000/-," shall be substituted.</p> <p>(iii) for section 31, the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>"31. Whoever willfully contravenes any provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder or fails to comply with any requisition lawfully made upon him under any provisions of this Act shall, without prejudice to any other action taken against him under Section 22 be, with fine which may extend to twenty five thousand rupees; and where the offence is a continuing one, with a further fine which may extend to three thousand rupees for every day during which such offence continues after the conviction for the first such offence:</p> <p>Provided that, in the absence of special and adequate reasons to the contrary to be mentioned in the</p>
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8.	2014	11	The Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority Act, 2014.	<p>judgment of the Court, such fine shall not be less than five thousand rupees or such daily fine shall not be less than Five hundred rupees per day for a continuing offence.”</p> <p>(i) in section 18, sub-section (3), the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>“(3). The Government may, in making any rules under this section, provide that a contravention of or failure to comply with the rules shall be an offence and penalize in respect of such offence a fine not exceeding the sum of rupees one lakh and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further fine not exceeding rupees two thousand and five hundred for every day or part thereof during which such offence continues after conviction in the court of Judicial First Class Magistrate.”.</p> <p>(ii) In section 114,-</p> <p>(a) in sub-section (1), under clause (d), in existing paragraph,-</p> <p>(i) the words “with imprisonment for term which may extend to three years or” shall be omitted.</p> <p>(ii) the words “after conviction for the first commission of the offence” shall be omitted.</p> <p>in sub-section (2), -</p> <p>(i) the words “with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or” shall be omitted.</p>
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				<p>(ii) the words "after conviction for the first commission of the offence" shall be omitted.</p> <p>(c) for sub-section (4), the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>"Any person, who obstructs the entry of a person authorized under the provisions of the Act, to enter into or upon any land or building or molests such persons after such entry, shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees."</p> <p>(iii) in section 131, in sub-section (2), for the words "liable on conviction a fine not exceeding Rs.10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both", the expression "liable to a fine not exceeding Rs.2,00,000/-" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(iv) in sub- section (2) of section 132, in clause (b), for the expression "on conviction to a fine not exceeding Rs.10, 000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both", the expression "to a fine not exceeding Rs.75,000/-" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(v) in section 138, for the expression "on conviction to a fine not exceeding Rs.10,000/- or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both", the expression "to a fine not exceeding Rs.50,000/-" shall be substituted.</p>
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9.	2016.	5	The Andhra Pradesh Metropolitan Region and Urban Development Authorities Act, 2016	<p>(i) in section 88,-</p> <p>(a) in sub-section (1), under existing clause (d), for the existing paragraph, the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>“shall be punishable with a fine equivalent to twenty percent of the value of the land as fixed by the Registration Department at the time of undertaking the development of the land or building, and in the case of a continuing offence with a further daily fine which may extend to fine equivalent to one percent of the value of the land as fixed by the Registration Department for everyday during which such offence continues after the first commission of the offence”.</p> <p>(b) for sub-section (2), the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>“(2). Any person who deals with the development of land or building by way of sale or otherwise in contravention or without compliance of the provisions of the Act or rules or regulations made therein shall be punishable with a fine equivalent to twenty percent of the value of the land in question as fixed by the Registration department at the time of undertaking development of any land and in the case of continuing the offence with a further daily fine which may extend to fine equivalent to one percent of the value of the land in question as fixed by the Registration</p>
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				<p>Department at the time of undertaking development of any land for every day during which such offence continues after the first commission of the offence”.</p> <p>(c) for sub-section (4), the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>“(4) Any person, who obstructs the entry of a person authorized under the provisions of the Act, to enter into or upon any land or building or molests such persons after such entry, shall be punished with fine which may extend to Fifty Thousand rupees”.</p> <p>(ii) in section 123, for the expression “on conviction to a fine not exceeding Rs. 10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or both,” the expression “to a fine not exceeding Rs.50,000/-” shall be substituted.</p>
10.	2017	7	The Andhra Pradesh Industrial Corridor Development Act, 2017.	<p>In section 11, in sub- section (3), for the expression “fine not exceeding Rs.10,000/- or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or with both”, the expression “fine not exceeding Rs. 25,000/-“ shall be substituted.</p>
11.	2021	28	The Andhra Pradesh Bovine Breeding (Regulation of Production & Sale of Bovine Semen and Artificial Insemination Services) Act, 2021.	<p>In section 19,-</p> <p>(a) in sub-section (3), for the words “and on conviction, be liable for a simple imprisonment up to six months or liable to pay additional fine which may extent up to one lakh rupees or both”,</p>

12.	2023	17	The Andhra Pradesh Milk Procurement (Protection of Farmers) and Enforcement of Safety of Milk Standards Act, 2023.	<p>the expression "be liable for fine of Rs.2,00,000/-" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(b) in sub-section (4), for the words "be liable for cancellation & punishment for simple imprisonment up to six months or liable to pay additional fine which may extent up to four lakh rupees or both", the expression "be liable for fine of Rs.6,00,000/-recoverable as public arrear" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(c) in sub-section (6), for the words "on conviction, is liable to pay a fine which may extend up to one lakh rupees or for simple imprisonment up to six months or both", the expression "be liable for fine of Rs.2,00,000/-recoverable as public arrear" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(i) In section 16, for the words "with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months and also with fine," the expression "with fine of Rs.1,00,000/-" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(ii) In section 17, for the words "with imprisonment for a term which may extend to twelve months and also with fine," the expression "with fine of Rs.2,00,000/-" shall be substituted.</p>
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				<p>(iii) In section 18, for the words "with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years and also with fine," the expression "with fine of Rs.10,00,000/-" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(iv) In section 19, for the words " fifty thousand rupees and with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than six months but which may extend to five years," the words " one lakh rupees" shall be substituted."</p> <p>(v) In section 20, for the expression "with a fine up to one lakh rupees or imprisonment up to six months or both," the expression "with fine of Rs.2,00,000/-" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(vi) In section 21, for the expression "with a fine up to Rs.50,000/- or imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both".the expression "with fine of Rs.1,00,000/-" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(vii) In section 22, for the expression "fine up to one lakh or imprisonment up to six months or both", the expression "with fine of Rs.2,00,000/-" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(viii) In section 23, for the words " shall be punished with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees and for the second or subsequent offence, with imprisonment for a term which</p>
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				<p>may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both”, the words “shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees and for the second or subsequent offence, with fine of one lakh rupees.”</p> <p>(ix) for section 24, the following shall be substituted, namely,-</p> <p>“24. Penalty for non-production of documents, etc.- Whoever, being required by or under this Act or the rules made there under, to produce any document or register before him for inspection any document or register or other record relating there to, omits or fails without any reasonable excuse, so to do, shall be punished with fine up to Rs.5,000/- for the first offence and for second or subsequent offence with fine of Rs.50,000/-“.</p> <p>(x) In section 25, for the words “with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years and for the second or subsequent offence, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years”, the expression “with fine Rs.50,000/- for the first offence, for second offence with fine of Rs.1,00,000/- and for the third and every subsequent offence with fine of Rs.2,00,000/-“ shall be substituted.</p> <p>(xi) In section 26,-</p> <p>(a) In sub- section (1), for the words “with imprisonment for a term which may extend</p>
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				<p>to six months and also with fine" the expression "with fine of Rs.1,00,000/-" shall be substituted.</p> <p>(b) In sub-section (2), for the words " with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year and also with fine", the expression "with fine of Rs.1,00,000/-," shall be substituted.</p> <p>(xii) In section 27, for the words "with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year and also with fine", the expression "with fine of Rs.1,00,000/-," shall be substituted.</p> <p>(xiii) In section 28, for the words "with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year and also with fine", the expression "with fine of Rs.20,000/-," shall be substituted.</p>
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SECOND SCHEDULE
(See section 3)

Sl.No.	Year	Act No.	Short Title
1.	1985	26	The Andhra Pradesh (Krishna, Godavari and Pennar Delta Area) Drainage Cess Act, 1985.
2.	1986	20	The Andhra Pradesh (non-delta area) Drainage Act, 1986

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Government of Andhra Pradesh is committed to promoting trust-based governance, improving ease of living for citizens, and facilitating ease of doing business in the State. It has been observed that several State enactments contain criminal provisions prescribing imprisonment for procedural, technical and regulatory defaults. Such provisions, though intended to ensure compliance, often result in avoidable litigation, burden on courts, and deterrence to investment and economic activity.

The Government of India has enacted the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023 to decriminalise and rationalise minor offences under various Central enactments with a view to fostering greater trust in governance. On similar lines, it is considered necessary to review certain State enactments and substitute provisions of imprisonment with monetary penalties, enhance fines commensurate with present-day economic realities, and provide for compounding of specified offences and to repeal obsolete and redundant Laws.

Accordingly, it has been decided to make amendments to the certain provisions of the following Acts, namely,-

- (1) The Municipal Corporations Act, 1955
- (2) The Andhra Pradesh Municipalities Act, 1965
- (3) The Andhra Pradesh Excise Act, 1968
- (4) The Andhra Pradesh Land Reforms (Ceiling on Agricultural Holdings) Act, 1973
- (5) The Andhra Pradesh Factories and Establishments (National, Festival and other Holidays) Act, 1974
- (6) The Andhra Pradesh Prohibition Act, 1995
- (7) The Andhra Pradesh Fire Service Act, 1999
- (8) The Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority Act, 2014
- (9) The Andhra Pradesh Metropolitan Region and Urban Development Authorities Act, 2016
- (10) The Andhra Pradesh Industrial Corridor Development Act, 2017

- (11) The Andhra Pradesh Bovine Breeding (Regulation of Production & Sale of Bovine Semen and Artificial Insemination Services) Act, 2021
- (12) The Andhra Pradesh Milk Procurement (Protection of Farmers) and Enforcement of Safety of Milk Standards Act, 2023.

Further, it has been decided to repeal the following Acts, namely,-

- (1) The Andhra Pradesh (Krishna, Godavari and Pennar Delta Area) Drainage Cess Act, 1985; and
- (2) The Andhra Pradesh (non-delta area) Drainage Act, 1986

The proposed amendments broadly seek to —

- decriminalize minor offences by replacing imprisonment with monetary penalties;
- introduce administrative adjudication mechanisms;
- provide for graded penalties based on the severity and duration of default;
- compound certain offences to reduce litigation; and
- improve regulatory efficiency and transparency.
- Repeal of obsolete and redundant laws.

The Bill aims to strike a balance between effective regulatory enforcement and promotion of a facilitative, non-adversarial regulatory framework, thereby strengthening investor confidence and citizen trust in governance.

The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

NASYAM MOHD. FAROOK
MINISTER FOR LAW & JUSTICE AND MINORITY WELFARE.

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

The Andhra Pradesh Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) 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.

NASYAM MOHD. FAROOK
MINISTER FOR LAW & JUSTICE AND MINORITY WELFARE.

PRASANNA KUMAR SURYADEVARA
Secretary-General to Legislature.