Registered No. HSE-49. [Price : Rs.**1-00**

ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ రాజపత్రము

THE ANDHRA PRADESH GAZETTE

PART IV-B EXTRAORDINARY

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 7] AMARAVATI, TUESDAY, 7th JULY, 2026.

ANDHRA PRADESH ACTS, ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS Etc.,

The following is the authoritative text in English Language of the Ordinance promulgated by the Governor on the 6th July, 2026 is being published under Article 348(3) of the Constitution of India for general information:-

ANDHRA PRADESH ORDINANCE No. 7 OF 2026.

Promulgated by the Governor in the Seventy-seventh year of the Republic of India.

AN ORDINANCE FURTHER TO AMEND THE ANDHRA PRADESH PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES (ESTABLISHMENT AND REGULATION) ACT, 2016.

Whereas, the Andhra Pradesh Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2016 (Act No.3 of 2016) was enacted to provide for the establishment and regulation of Private Universities in the State, laying down conditions relating to land, infrastructure, financial resources, academic standards and governance, and to promote quality, transparency and accountability in Higher Education;

And whereas, during the implementation of the said Act, it has become necessary to amend certain provisions in view of changes in national policy, and revised Central regulatory frameworks;

And whereas, the Act presently requires that an existing institution seeking establishment as a Brownfieid University shall possess NAAC accreditation with a CGPA of 3.2 and above, which is higher than the standard prescribed by the Government of India that accepts NAAC 'A'

grade (CGPA 3.01 and above) for granting the status of Institution Deemed to be University under the UGC Regulations, 2023;

And whereas, the said higher threshold under the State Act is restrictive and excludes several eligible institutions from the Brownfieid University category, it is therefore proposed to reduce the NAAC CGPA requirement from 3.2 to 3.01 so as to align it with the Central benchmark and the Government of India's policy of deregulation and regulatory simplification;

And whereas, the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Amendment Regulations, 2026, notified on 22.04.2026, permit a University established under a State Act to apply for Deemed to be University status under section 3 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, and for this purpose require the State Government to issue a No Objection Certificate with an undertaking to de-notify the University upon grant of such status;

And whereas, the existing Act does not contain any provision for de-notification of a University, and the provisions in Chapter IX relating to winding up or dissolution are not appropriate for cases where a University continues to exist but transitions to Deemed University status, thereby creating a legal gap;

And whereas, it is therefore proposed to insert new provisions to provide for a clear mechanism for de-notification, including intimation by the sponsoring body prior to application, issuance of No Objection Certificate by the Government after due verification, de-notification by notification upon grant of Deemed University status, continuation of governance under the Act until such de-notification, and protection of the academic interests of students during the transition period;

And whereas, in view of the urgency to align the State legal framework with the revised UGC Regulations and the policy of regulatory simplification, and to ensure that eligible institutions are not deprived of the benefits of the amended framework, it has been decided to give effect to the above objectives immediately;

Accordingly, the Government has decided to amend the Andhra Pradesh Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2016 suitably;

Whereas, the Legislature of the State is not in session now and the Governor of Andhra Pradesh is satisfied that the circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action.

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

Short title and Commencement.

1. (1) This ordinance may be called as the Andhra Pradesh Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 2026.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

Amendment of section 2.

Act No. 3 of 2016.

2. In the Andhra Pradesh Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2016 (hereinafter referred to as the Principal Act), in clause (iii), in sub-section (3-A), in section 2, for the expression "at least 3.2 CGPA", the expression "at least 3.01 CGPA" shall be substituted.

Insertion of new section 43-A.

3. In the Principal Act, after section 43, the following new section shall be inserted, namely,-

"43-A De-notification of University consequent on its declaration as an Institution Deemed to be University:

(1) Where a University established under this Act, or a constituent unit of such University, proposes to apply, or has applied, to be declared as an Institution Deemed to be University, or as an off-campus centre of an Institution Deemed to be University, under the University Grants Commission (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, as amended from time to time, the Sponsoring Body shall intimate the Government of such proposal.

(2) The Government may, on the application of the Sponsoring Body and after such verification as it considers necessary, issue a no objection certificate to the effect that the Government shall de-notify the University, or the constituent unit, as the case may be, in the event of its being found eligible to be granted the status of an Institution Deemed to be University or of an off-campus centre of an Institution Deemed to be University.

(3) Where the University, or a constituent unit thereof, is granted the status of an Institution Deemed to be University, or of an off-campus centre of an Institution Deemed to be University, by the Central Government under section 3 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (Central Act 3 of 1956), the Government shall, by notification, de-notify the University to that extent; and the entry relating to the University in the Schedule shall be omitted or amended accordingly by duly amending the Schedule of the Act through the Andhra Pradesh State Legislature.

(4) The University, or the constituent unit, as the case may be, shall be permitted to admit students or to function as an

Institution Deemed to be University, or as an off- campus centre thereof, only after the de-notification by notification under sub-section (3) takes effect; and until such de-notification, it shall continue to be governed by the provisions of this Act.

(5) The de-notification of a University under this section shall not affect the interests of the students admitted to the University before the date on which such de-notification takes effect. Notwithstanding such de-notification, the University shall be deemed to continue in existence as a Private University for the limited purpose of enabling every such student to complete the programme of study to which he or she has been admitted and to be conferred the degree, diploma or other qualification by the University, until the last batch of such students has completed the programme (such period being referred to as the "transition period"). During the transition period, the credits and academic records of such students shall be duly maintained and transferred.

(6) The students admitted on or after the date on which the de-notification takes effect shall receive their degrees, diplomas or other qualifications from the Institution Deemed to be University.

(7) The Government may, for the purpose of giving effect to this section, impose such conditions and follow such procedure as may be prescribed.".

Insertion of new clause.

4. In the Principal Act, in section 45, in sub-section (2), after clause (f), the following shall be inserted, namely,-

"(g) matters relating to the de-notification of the University under section 43-A.".

S. ABDUL NAZEER,
Governor of Andhra Pradesh.

GOTTAPU PRATIBHA DEVI,
Secretary to Government,
Legal and Legislative Affairs & Justice,
Law Department.