

**Fourteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly**  
**Bill No. 17**

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**THE KERALA DEVASWOM RECRUITMENT BOARD**  
**(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016**

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(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016**

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THE KERALA DEVASWOM RECRUITMENT BOARD  
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016

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*BILL*

*to amend the Kerala Devaswom Recruitment Board Act, 2015.*

*Preamble.*—WHEREAS, it is expedient to amend the Kerala Devaswom Recruitment Board Act, 2015 for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

BE it enacted in the Sixty-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Kerala Devaswom Recruitment Board (Amendment) Act, 2016.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of section 3.*—In the Kerala Devaswom Recruitment Board Act, 2015 ( 16 of 2015) (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section for sub-section (3) the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(3) The Board shall consist of Chairperson and two members nominated by the Government, who belong to Hindu religion and having faith in God and temple worship. A person who is or has been a District Judge or qualified to be appointed as a District Judge shall be appointed as Chairperson of the Board. Among the members one shall be a woman and one shall be a person belonging to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe. Members shall have experience in handling labour, service or administrative matters.”.

3. *Amendment of section 4.*—In the principal Act, in section 4, clause (vii) shall be omitted.

4. *Amendment of section 5.*—In the principal Act, for sub-section (1) of Section 5 the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Chairperson and other members may continue in office till the completion of a period of three years from the date on which they assume office.”

5. *Amendment of section 8.*—In the principal Act, in section 8, in sub-section (4), for the word “four” the word “two” shall be substituted.

6. *Special provision relating to the existing Chairperson and Members of the Board.*—Notwithstanding anything contrary contained in the principal Act, the existing Chairperson and members of the Board shall cease to hold office as such from the date of commencement of the Kerala Devaswom Recruitment Board (Amendment) Act, 2016.

#### STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Kerala Devaswom Recruitment Board Act, 2015, provide for the constitution of an autonomous Devaswom Recruitment Board for preparing select list of candidates for appointment in various other posts other than hereditary posts and the posts in aided educational institutions in Devaswom Boards of the State and for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto.

2. As it considered necessary in the public interest to enable the Devaswom Boards in the State to appoint necessary officers and staff for its administration and to manage the affairs of the temples and it is found that recruitment through Kerala Public Service Commission is likely to consume more time in the absence of Special Rules by the Devaswom Boards for the appointment of officers and staff in the Devaswom Boards and it has been decided to reduce the strength and administrative cost of the Board and entrust it to proceed with the recruitment process for the time being till the Kerala Public Service Commission is entrusted to select candidates for the various posts in

Administrative Service other than hereditary posts and posts in aided education institutions in Devaswom Boards, the Government have decided to bring suitable amendments to the Kerala Devaswom Recruitment Board Act, 2015.

3. The Bill seeks to achieve the above object.

#### FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill, if enacted and brought into operation, would not involve any additional expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State.

KADAKAMPALLY SURENDRAN.

EXTRACT FROM THE RELEVANT PORTIONS OF THE  
KERALA DEVASWOM RECRUITMENT  
BOARD ACT, 2015  
(16 OF 2015)

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3. *Constitution of the Board.*—(1) The Government shall, as soon as may be, after the commencement of this Act, by notification in the Gazette constitute a Board to be known as the 'Kerala Devaswom Recruitment Board' to exercise the powers conferred on it and to perform the functions under this Act.

(2) The Board shall be an independent and autonomous body corporate in the name aforesaid, having perpetual succession and common seal and shall in the said name, sue and be sued.

(3) The Board shall consist of six members nominated by the Government, who belong to Hindu religion and having faith in God and temple rituals. One person who is or has been holding a post not below the rank of the Secretary to Government shall be the Chairperson and among other members one shall be a woman and one shall be a member belonging to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe.

(4) The Government may appoint a person holding the post of Additional Secretary to Government as the Secretary to the Board. He shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Board and shall exercise such powers and discharge such functions as may be authorised by the Board.

(5) The headquarters of the Board shall be at Thiruvananthapuram.

4. *Disqualification for Membership.*—Any person shall be disqualified to be a member of the Board by nomination, if he,—

(i) is of unsound mind; or

(ii) is an undischarged insolvent; or

(iii) is an office-bearer or an employee of a Local Self Government Institution or a Devaswom Board; or

(iv) is interested in an existing contract in which the Board is involved or is engaged in any work on behalf of the Board; or

(v) has been convicted by a criminal court for any offence involving moral turpitude; or

(vi) has been removed from holding any office in pursuance of a court order; or

(vii) is or has been engaged in the production or sale of liquor.

5. *Term of office and conditions of service of the Chairperson and Members.*—(1) The Chairperson and other members may continue in office till the completion of a period of five years from the date on which they assume office or till they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

(2) \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*

(3) \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*

(4) \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*

(5) \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*

(6) \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*

(7) The Chairperson and Members shall be full-time officers and shall be eligible to such salary and allowances as may be prescribed.

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8. *Meetings of the Board.*—(1) The Board shall meet whenever necessary, at such place and time, as the Chairperson may deem fit.

(2) \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*

(3) \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*

(4) The quorum for a meeting shall be four including the Chairperson.

(5) \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*

(6) \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*                      \*\*

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