The following Ordinance promulgated by the Governor of Kerala on the 2nd day of February, 2017 is hereby published for general information.

By order of the Governor,

B. G. HARINDRANATH,
Law Secretary.
ORDINANCE No. 2 OF 2017

THE MADRAS HINDU RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 2017

Promulgated by the Governor of Kerala in the Sixty-eighth Year of the Republic of India.

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ORDINANCE

further to amend the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act, 1951.

Preamble.—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act, 1951 (Madras Act XIX of 1951) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

AND WHEREAS, the Legislative Assembly of the State of Kerala is not in session and the Governor of Kerala is satisfied that 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 of Kerala is pleased to promulgate the following Ordinance:—

1. Short title and commencement.—(1) This Ordinance may be called the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Amendment) Ordinance, 2017.

(2) It shall come into force at once.
2. *Act XIX of 1951 to be Temporarily amended.*—During the period of operation of this Ordinance, the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act, 1951 (Madras Act XIX of 1951) (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act) shall have effect subject to the amendments specified in sections 3 to 5.

3. *Amendment of section 13.*—In section 13 of the principal Act,—

(1) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:

> "(1) Every Area Committee shall consist of seven members appointed by the Government, namely:—

(a) one member from Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribe Communities;

(b) one woman member;

(c) one philosopher of Hindu Religion or performer of temple art or a person who has authored works on Hindu literature; and

(d) four other members.”;

(2) in sub-section (2), for the words “two years”, the words “four years” shall be substituted.

4. *Amendment of section 39.*—In sub-section (3) of section 39 of the principal Act, for the words “two years”, the words “four years” shall be substituted.

5. *Special provision relating to the existing members of the Area Committee and non-hereditary trustees.*—Notwithstanding anything contained in the principal Act, the existing Chairman and members of the
Area Committee and the non-hereditary trustees shall cease to hold office as such Chairman and Members of the Area Committee or the non-hereditary trustees, as the case may be, on and from the date of commencement of the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Amendment) Ordinance, 2017 (2 of 2017).

P. SATHASIVAM,

GOVERNOR.