

The Andhra Pradesh Infrastructure (Transparency through Judicial Preview) (Repeal) Act, 2024

Act No. 17 of 2024

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[Price : Rs 2-00 Paise





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No. 17]

AMARAVATI, THURSDAY, 5th DECEMBER, 2024.

ANDHRA PRADESH ACTS, ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS Etc.,

The following Act of the Andhra Pradesh Legislature received the assent of the Governor on the 4th December, 2024 and the said assent is hereby first published on the 5th December, 2024 in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette for general information :

ACT No. 17 of 2024

AN ACT TO REPEAL THE ANDHRA PRADESH INFRASTRUCTURE (TRANSPARENCY THROUGH JUDICIAL PREVIEW) ACT, 2019.

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Andhra Pradesh Infrastructure Short title and (Transparency through Judicial Preview) (Repeal) Act, 2024.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force with effect on and from the 14th September, 2024.

2. (1) The Andhra Pradesh Infrastructure (Transparency through Judicial Preview) Act, 2019 is hereby repealed.

Repeal of Act No.34 of 2019.

(2) On such repeal, the provisions of section 8 of the Andhra Pradesh General Clauses Act, 1891 shall apply.

Act No. 1 of - 1891.

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

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The purpose of Infrastructure (Transparency through Judicial Preview) Act, 2019 (Act No.34 of 2019) is to enhance transparency in the tendering process and ensure the optimal use of resources. Hence, the government of Andhra Pradesh constituted a process called Judicial Preview Committee to screen the Government Tenders relating to the developmental projects worth Rs 100 Crores and above

In this regard, after taking extensive feedback from various works aepartments, the Government has observed that, during the phase of implementation of the Judicial Preview Process in the state from 14-09-2019 to 13-09-2024 has led to delays in tendering without effectively enhancing transparency or resource utilization.

The said Act also overlapping with other Auditing Mechanisms, duplicating the functions of existing oversignt bodies like the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), State Vigilance Commission or internal government audit departments. If existing mechanisms effectively monitor tenders, the Act itself becomes redundant.

To ensure legal clarity and avoid potential complications, the term of the previously constituted Judicial Preview Committee expired on 13.09.2024. Since then, no tenders have been reviewed by the Judicial Preview Committee, as required under Act No. 34 of 2019. To protect the validity of these tenders, it requires to include a provision in the Repeal Act that retroactively enforces its effect from 14.09.2024 until the date of enactment.

In order to streamline the tendering process intact, as was in existence before enactment of the A. P. Infrastructure (Transparency through Judicial Preview) Act, 2019, the Govt, have decided to restore the traditional tendering process which is department specific in nature duly complying

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the statutory obligations as prescribed by CVC guidelines, Commissioner of Tenders, Board of Chief Engineers and others if any, for the smooth and effective functioning of tender process which would save the scarce resources and minimizing the time consumption.

Accordingly, it has been decided to repeal the said Act.

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

Printed by the Commissioner of Printing at A.P. Legislative Assembly Printing Press, Amaravati.

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