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THE ANDHRA PRADESH GAZETTE

PART IV-A EXTRAORDINARY PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 4

AMARAVATI,

TUESDAY.

18th MARCH,

2025.

ANDHRA PRADESH BILLS ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The following Bill was introduced in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly on 18th March, 2025.

L. A. Bill No. 4 of 2025

A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE ANDHRA PRADESH METROPOLITAN REGION AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES ACT, 2016.

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

- (1) This Act may be called the Andhra Pradesh Metropolitan Short title and Region and Urban Development Authorities (Amendment) Act, commencement. 2025.
 - (2) It shall be deemed to have come into force with effect on and from the 10th January, 2025.
- In the Andhra Pradesh Metropolitan Region and Urban Development Authorities Act, 2016 (hereinafter referred to as the Principal Act), in section 2, after clause (13), the following shall be inserted, namely,-

Amendment of section2

Act No.5 of 2016.

Act No. VII of 1920 "(13-A)"Director" means Director of Town and Country Planning appointed under the provisions of the Andhra Pradesh Town Planning Act, 1920".

Amendment of Section 115:

- 3. In the Principal Act, in Section 115, for sub-section (2), the following shall be substituted, namely,-
 - "(2). Notwithstanding anything contained in any provision of this Act, the Government may by notification, direct that any power exercisable by the Government or the Authority or the Metropolitan Commissioner or Vice Chairperson of the Authority, except the power to make rules and regulations, may be exercised by the Executive Committee or the Metropolitan Commissioner or the Vice Chairperson or the local authority or the officer as authorized by the government, in such cases and the subject to such conditions, if any, as may be specified therein."

Insertion of new section 118A.

4. In the Principal Act, after section 118, the following new section shall be inserted, namely,-

"Power to appoint officers to supervise Metropolitan Region / Urban Development Authorities".

118A. The Government may appoint the Director of Town and Country Planning or any officer authorized by the Government as may be required for the purpose of inspecting of superintending the operations, of all or any of the Metropolitan Region/ Urban Development Authorities established under this Act."

Repeal of Ordinance No.1 of 2025.

 The Andhra Pradesh Metropolitan Region and Urban Development Authorities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 is hereby repealed.

PONGURU NARAYANA,
Minister for Municipal Administration &

Urban Development.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The proposed amendments to the Andhra Pradesh Metropolitan Region and Urban Development Authorities Act, 2016, aim to enhance urban development management by improving efficiency, reducing delays, and ensuring that development activities are more localized and in line with community needs. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has consistently sought to improve the governance framework for Urban Development Authorities (UDAs), especially after the state's bifurcation in 2014. The current 21 Development Authorities cover 83% of the state's geographical area, but they often struggle with limited staffing and expertise in Town and Country Planning (TCP), which hinders their efficiency.

To address these challenges, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has proposed empowering the Director of Town and Country Planning (DTCP) with greater administrative and technical control over all UDAs. This would help streamline operations, improve monitoring, and increase accountability in urban planning. The amendments to the APMRUDA Act include defining the role of the "Director" as the Director of Town and Country Planning, as per the AP Town Planning Act, 1920. The amendments also propose granting the Government the authority to appoint officers, including the DTCP to supervise the operations of the UDAs. These officers would be empowered to inspect, supervise, and monitor UDAs, ensuring transparency and cooperation from the authorities.

The rationale for these amendments is to improve administrative efficiency, enhance monitoring accountability and decentralize urban planning. By giving the DTCP more control, the government aims to address current challenges, reduce administrative delays and improve the overall functioning of UDAs. These changes will help ensure that urban development is more efficient, transparent, and accountable, aligning with state policies and local needs and also support Andhra Pradesh's vision to position itself as a leader in "Ease of Doing Business," enabling faster approval and streamlined development process.

As the Legislature was not then in session, having been prorogued, and it has been decided to give effect to the above decision immediately, the Andhra Pradesh Metropolitan Region and Urban Development Authorities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (A.P. Ordinance No.1 of 2025) was promulgated by the Governor on the 9th January, 2025.

This Bill seeks to replace the said Ordinance and to give effect to the above decision.

PONGURU NARAYANA,

Minister for Municipal Administration & Urban Development.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 3 of the Bill authorize the Government to issue notification in respect of the matters specified therein and generally to carry out the purposes of the Act.

The above provisions of the Bill regarding delegated legislation are thus of normal type and mainly intended to cover matters of procedure.

PONGURU NARAYANA,
Minister for Municipal Administration &
Urban Development.

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

The Andhra Pradesh Metropolitan Region and Urban Development Authorities (Amendment) Bill, 2025, 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.

PONGURU NARAYANA,

Minister for Municipal Administration & Urban Development.

PRASANNA KUMAR SURYADEVARA,

Secretary-General to Legislature.