

Under Rule 130 of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rules, the following Bill which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly of the Tamil Nadu on 10th December, 2024 is published together with Statement of Objects and Reasons for general information:—

L.A Bill No. 47 of 2024

A Bill further to amend the Tamil Nadu Heritage Commission Act, 2012.

BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Tamil Nadu in the Seventy-fifth Year of the Republic of India as follows: —

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| Tamil Nadu Act 24 of 2012. | <p>1. (1) This Act may be called the Tamil Nadu Heritage Commission (Amendment) Act, 2024.</p> <p>(2) It shall come into force on such date as the State Government may, by notification, appoint.</p> | <p>Short title
commence-
ment.</p> |
| Tamil Nadu Act 24 of 2012. | <p>2. In section 2 of the Tamil Nadu Heritage Commission Act, 2012 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), for clause (i), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—</p> <p>“(i) “local authority” means any municipal corporation or municipal council or panchayat constituted or to be constituted under any law for the time being in force or any other authority under whom any site, building, monument or any other place of historical, architectural or cultural importance is vested or to whom the power of superintendence of the heritage building or monuments of heritage importance is entrusted by the Government.”;</p> | <p>Amendment of
section 2.</p> |
| Tamil Nadu Act 24 of 2012. | <p>3. In section 4 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1),—</p> <p>(a) for items (k) and (l), the following items shall be substituted, namely:—</p> <p>“(k) the Executive Engineer (Heritage Wing), Public Works Department, Chepauk, Chennai, ex-officio;</p> <p>(l) the Chief Architect, Public Works Department, Chepauk, Chennai, ex-officio;”;</p> <p>(b) after item (p), the following item shall be added, namely:—</p> <p>“(q) the Commissioner, Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department, Chennai, ex-officio”;</p> | <p>Amendment of
section 4.</p> |
| Tamil Nadu Act 24 of 2012. | <p>4. In section 11 of the principal Act, in sub-section (2), in clause (n), for the expression “local authorities”, the expression “authorities concerned” shall be substituted.</p> | <p>Amendment of
section 11.</p> |

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

The Hon'ble Division Bench of the High Court of Madras in its Common order dated.02.06.2023 in Review Application (Writ) Nos.169 and 170 of 2021 has observed that to protect the places of cultural and historical importance, it is necessary to confer wider and exhaustive meaning to the term "local authority" so as to effectively implement the provisions of the Tamil Nadu Heritage Commission Act,2012 (Tamil Nadu Act 12 of 2012), by amending the definition of the term "local authority" in the said Act and also by including a member from the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments department in the Tamil Nadu Heritage Commission.

2. In view of the above and in order to effectively protect the Heritage buildings in the Stage, the Government have decided to amend the definition "local authority" and sections 4 and 11 of the said Act suitably.

3. The Bill seeks to give effect to the above decision.

THANGAM THENARASU,

Minister for Finance and Environment & Climate Change.

Secretariat,
Chennai-600 009,
10th December 2024.

K. SRINIVASAN,
Principal Secretary.