

Fifteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly
Bill No. 260

THE GURUVAYOOR DEVASWOM (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

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further to amend the Guruvayoor Devaswom Act, 1978.

Preamble.—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Guruvayoor Devaswom Act, 1978 (14 of 1978) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

BE it enacted in the Seventy- sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Guruvayoor Devaswom (Amendment) Act, 2025.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of section 9.*—In the Guruvayoor Devaswom Act, 1978 (14 of 1978), (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), for section 9, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“9. *Remuneration of the Chairman and members.*—The Chairman and members of the Committee shall be entitled to receive per mensem, such honoraria and sitting fees, as may be fixed by the Government from time to time, by notification published in the Official Gazette and such Chairman and members shall also be entitled to receive such travelling allowance or daily allowances, if any, as may be prescribed.”.

3. *Amendment of section 11.*—In sub-section (1) of section 11 of the principal Act, for the words “five thousand rupees”, the words “fifty thousand rupees” shall be substituted.

4. *Amendment of section 17.*—In sub-section (3) of section 17 of the principal Act, for the words “five thousand rupees”, the words “fifty thousand rupees” shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Section 9 of the Guruvayoor Devaswom Act, 1978 (14 of 1978) provides that, no member of the Committee shall receive or be paid any salary or other remuneration except such travelling or daily allowances, if any, as may be prescribed. As per the said provision the Chairman and members of the Committee were not eligible for honoraria and sitting fees.

Sub-section (1) of section 11 of the said Act, provides that no movable property of non-perishable nature which is in the possession of the Committee and the value of which is more than five thousand rupees and no jewellery shall be sold, pledged or otherwise alienated unless it is sanctioned by the Commissioner as being necessary or beneficial to the Devaswom.

Sub-section (3) of section 17 of the said Act, provides that the Administrator shall have power to incur expenditure not exceeding five thousand rupees to meet unforeseen contingencies during the interval between two meetings of the Committee.

The Government have decided to bring an amendment to the said Act, in order to provide honoraria and sitting fees to the Chairman and members of the Guruvayoor Devaswom Managing Committee. Moreover, amendment is also necessitated as the existing amounts as mentioned in the provisions are too meager to meet with the demands at present and they require timely enhancement.

Hence, the Government have decided to bring suitable amendments in Sections 9, 11 and 17 of the said Act.

The Bill is intended 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.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Section 9 proposed to be substituted in the principal Act by clause 2 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to fix the honoraria and sitting fees for the Chairman and members of the Committee by notification published in the Official Gazette, and also seeks to empower the Government to prescribe the travelling allowances or daily allowances to the Chairman and members.

The matters in respect of which rules may be made, or notifications may be issued, are matters of procedure and are of routine or administrative in nature. Further, such rules and notifications are subject to the scrutiny of the Legislative Assembly. Hence, the delegation of legislative power is therefore of a normal character.

V. N. VASAVAN.

EXTRACT FROM THE GURUVAYOOR DEVASWOM ACT,
1978 (14 OF 1978)

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9. *Remuneration of the Chairman and members.*—No member of the Committee shall receive or be paid any salary or other remuneration except such travelling or daily allowances, if any, as may be prescribed.

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11. *Alienation of Devaswom properties.*—(1) No movable property of non-perishable nature which is in the possession of the Committee and the value of which is more than five thousand rupees and no jewellery shall be sold, pledged or otherwise alienated unless it is sanctioned by the Commissioner as being necessary or beneficial to the Devaswom.

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17. *Powers and duties of Administrator.*—(1) **

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(3) The Administrator shall have power to incur expenditure not exceeding five thousand rupees to meet unforeseen contingencies during the interval between two meetings of the Committee.

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