

**THE ANDHRA PRADESH GAZETTE  
PART IV-B EXTRAORDINARY  
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**ANDHRA PRADESH ACTS, ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS Etc.**

The following Act of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly received the assent of the Governor on the 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2002 and the said assent is hereby first published on the 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2002 in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette for general information.

**ACT NO. 10 OF 2002**

**AN ACT TO PROMOTE WATER CONSERVATION, AND TREE COVER AND REGULATE THE EXPLOITATION AND USE OF GROUND AND SURFACE WATER FOR PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF WATER SOURCES, LAND AND ENVIRONMENT AND MATTERS, CONNECTED THEREWITH OR INCIDENTAL THERETO.**

Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Andhra Pradesh in the Fifty third year of the Republic of India, as follows: -

**CHAPTER – 1**

**PRELIMINARY**

1. (1) This Act may be called the Andhra Pradesh Water, Land and Trees Act, 2002.  
(2) It extends to the whole of the State of Andhra Pradesh.  
(3) It shall come into force on such date as the State Government may, by notification appoint.
2. In this Act, unless the context other wise requires: -
  - (1) 'Authority' means the Andhra Pradesh State Water, Land and Trees Authority constituted under section 3;
  - (2) 'Designated Officer' means an officer or any person so designated by the Authority to perform the functions, under the Act;
  - (3) 'Government' means the State Government of Andhra Pradesh;

- (4) 'Ground water' means water existing in an aquifer below the surface of the ground at any particular location of the local area regardless of the geological structure in which it is stationery or moving and includes all ground water reservoirs;
- (5) 'Ground water basin' means an area confined within such geological boundaries which will act as water divides and identified and notified by the Authority;
- (6) 'Industry' means an activity wherein goods are produced by physical or chemical processes;
- (7) 'Landscape' includes all forms of trees, shrubs, grasses planted and water bodies to enhance aesthetic value;
- (8) 'Notification' means a notification published in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette and the word 'notified' shall be construed accordingly;
- (9) 'Over exploited basin' means a ground water basin so declared by the Authority on the advise of the technical expert who duly consider the quantum and pattern of rainfall, degree of extraction of ground water and any other relevant factor while advising the Authority;
- (10) 'Prescribed' means prescribed by rules made under this Act;
- (11) 'Preservation of trees' includes planting of new trees and transplanting trees to other sites, including protection measures such as fence, tree guards etc;
- (12) 'Public drinking water source' means a well, from which the Government or any local authority or such other authority as the Government may by notification specify, provides water to the public and includes such well or any other drinking water source as may be notified by the Authority;
- (13) 'Public water supply system' means the structures relating to a public drinking water source, including conveying pipeline, storage reservoir, stand post, cistern, hand pump, power pump and all other materials connected thereto through which water is supplied for drinking purpose;
- (14) 'Sink' with all its grammatical variations and cognate expressions in relation to a well includes any drilling, boring or digging of a new well or deepening carried out to an existing well;
- (15) 'State' means the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (16) 'Surface water' means water occurring on the land surface in ponds, lakes, streams and rivers;
- (17) 'Technical Officer' means a subject specialist so designated by the Authority to give advice on technical matters;

- (18) 'To fell a tree' includes burning, cutting, debarking, girdling and release of harmful chemicals and such other operations which cause damage to any part of the tree;
- (19) 'Tree' means any woody plant, whose branches spring from and are supported upon a trunk or body and whose trunk or body is not less than 5.5 cm. in diameter and is not less than one metre in height from the ground level; and includes young saplings and seedlings etc., which are planted at sites;
- (20) 'Urban Area' means a development area declared as such under the Andhra Pradesh Urban Areas (Development ) Act, 1975 or a Municipal Corporation constituted under the Andhra Pradesh Municipal Corporations Act, 1994 or the Hyderabad Municipal Corporations Act, 1955 or a Municipality or a notified area committee constituted under the Andhra Pradesh Municipalities Act, 1965 and includes such town or village or area declared to be an Urban area for the purpose of this Act, by a notification, by the Government;
- (21) 'Water shed' means an area confined within the topographic water divide line as identified and notified by the authority **\*\* \*\* from time to time for the purposes of this Act.**
- (22) 'Well' means a well sunk for the search and extraction of ground water and includes a dug well, bore well, dug-cum-bore well, tube well, and filter point;
- (23) Words and expressions used in this Act, but not defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the relevant Acts.

## CHAPTER – 2

### CONSTITUTION OF ANDHRA PRADESH WATER, LAND AND TREES AUTHORITY

3. (1) As soon as may be after this Act is brought into force the Government shall, by notification with effect from such date as may be specified therein constitute an authority called the Andhra Pradesh State Water, Land and Trees Authority.
- (2) The Authority shall consist of, -
- (a) Minister, Panchayat Raj, Rural Development and Rural Water Supply or any other Minister, Chairperson Ex-Officio nominated by the Chief Minister.
- (b) Three Members of the State Legislative Assembly, nominated by the Government Ex-Officio Members