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അസാധാരണം EXTRAORDINARY

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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Social Justice (B) Department

NOTIFICATION

G.O.(P) No.13/2021/SJD

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 13th July, 2021

29th Midhunam, 1196

S. R. O. No. 520/2021

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 10 of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 (No. 28 of 1961), the Government of Kerala hereby make the following rules to amend the Kerala Dowry Prohibition Rules, 2004, issued by Notification under G.O.(P) No. 47/2004/SWD dated 7th July, 2004 and published as S.R.O No. 713/2004 in the Kerala Gazette Extraordinary No. 1451 dated 8th July, 2004, namely:-



RULES

1.Short title and commencement.- (1) These rules may be called the Kerala Dowry Prohibition (Amendment) Rules, 2021.

(2) They shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of the rules.- In the Kerala Dowry Prohibition Rules, 2004,-

(i) for the words “Regional Dowry Prohibition Officer” wherever they occur, the words “ District Dowry Prohibition Officer” shall be substituted;

(ii) for the words “ Probation Officer” wherever they occur, the words “Women Protection Officer” shall be substituted;

(iii) in rule 2,-

(i) for clause (d) the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-

“(d) “ District Dowry Prohibition Officer” means an officer appointed as such by the State Government under Section 8B of the Act;”;

(ii) after clause (d) the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

“(da) “District Women and Child Development Officer' means the District Women and Child Development Officer of the Women and Child Development Department;”;

(iii) for clause (e), the following clause shall be substituted, namely,-

“(e) “Women Protection Officer” means the Protection Officer appointed under sub-section (1) of section 8 of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (No. 43 of 2005);”;

(iv) for rule 3, the following rule shall be substituted, namely:-

“3. District Dowry Prohibition Officer.- (1) There shall be a Dowry



Prohibition Officer in every district known as District Dowry Prohibition Officer. The District Women and Child Development Officer of each District shall function as the District Dowry Prohibition Officer of the respective District, by utilizing the services of the staff attached to his office.

(2) Government shall make necessary arrangements for imparting adequate orientation or training programmes for the District Dowry Prohibition Officer.”;

(v) for rule 4, the following rule shall be substituted, namely:-

“4. Jurisdiction of District Dowry Prohibition Officer.- The area in respect of which the District Dowry Prohibition Officer has to exercise jurisdiction and power under sub-section (1) of section 8B of the Act shall be the respective Revenue District.”;

(vi) in rule 6, for clause (xiii), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-

“(xiii) The District Dowry Prohibition Officer may utilize the service of the Women Protection Officer or any other officer authorised by the Government in this behalf for collecting information or conducting enquiries or assisting any stage of enquiry or proceedings relating to a compliant, petition or application under the Act;”;

(vii) in rule 7, for clause (i) , the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-

“(i) The Director of Women and Child Development Department, by virtue of his office, shall act as the Chief Dowry Prohibition Officer for administrating and co-ordinating the work relating to dowry prohibition throughout the State;”.

By order of the Governor,
RANI GEORGE
Principal Secretary to Government



Explanatory Note

(This does not form part of the notification, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

Section 10 of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 (Central Act 28 of 1961) empowers the State Government to make rules for carrying out the purposes of the Act and the State Government had accordingly notified the Kerala Dowry Prohibition Rules, 2004 issued by notification under G.O(P) No. 47/2004/SWD dated, 7th July, 2004 and published as S.R.O No.713/2004 in the Kerala Gazette Extraordinary No. 1451 dated 8th July, 2004. As per these rules, officers of Social Justice Department were assigned various responsibilities under those rules. Consequent to the bifurcation of Social Justice Department in to Social Justice Department and Women and Child Development Department as per G.O(MS) No. 24/2017/SJD dated 3rd June, 2017 it has become necessary to assign these responsibilities to the officers of newly formed Women and Child Development Department for the strict enforcement and implementation of the provisions of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.

This notification is intended to achieve the above object.

