

No. 409/XXXVI(3)/2020/66(1)/2020

Dated Dehradun, October 29, 2020

**NOTIFICATION**

**Miscellaneous**

In pursuance of the provisions of Clause (3) of Article 348 of the Constitution of India, the Governor is pleased to order the publication of the following English translation of '**The Uttarakhand Char Dham Devasthanam Management (Amendment) Bill, 2020**' (Act No. 33 of 2020).

As passed by the Uttarakhand Legislative Assembly and assented to by the Governor on 27 October, 2020.

**The Uttarakhand Char Dham Devasthanam Management (Amendment)  
Act, 2020**

(Uttarakhand (Amendment) Act No. 33 of 2020)

**AN**

**ACT**

further to amend the Uttarakhand Char Dham Devasthanam Management Act, 2019

Be it enacted by the Uttarakhand State Legislative Assembly in the Seventy first year of the Republic of India as follows-

**Short title,  
extent &  
commencement**

1. (1) This Act may be called the Uttarakhand Char Dham Devasthanam Management(Amendment) Act,2020.  
(2) It shall apply to Char Dham and other Devasthanams/temples given at A,B,C,D and E of Schedule annexed with this Act.  
(3) It shall come into force at once.

**Amendment of 2.  
Section 2.**

In the Uttarakhand Char Dham Devasthanam Management Act, 2019(hereinafter referred to as the principal Act) In Section 2 after clause (z), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-  
“(za)-Tehri royal family” means the vertical lineage of Maharaja Manvendra Shah, the erstwhile ruler of the Tehri Garhwal State, who had signed the merger agreement with India.

**Amendment of 3.  
Section 3.**

(i) In sub-section(2) of section 3 of the principal Act,

(A) (i) For sub-clause (vii) of clause (A) the following sub-clause shall be substituted, namely-

“(vii) Two special invitees from any ministry, Government of India not below the rank of Joint Secretary”

(ii) After sub-clause(viii) the following provision shall be inserted, namely-

Provided that the person mentioned in sub-clause(iii),(iv),(v) and (vi) is not a Hindu, the Chief Minister shall nominate any equivalent secretary of the State Government who is a follower of Hindu religion and possesses qualifications to be appointed as a member of the Board.

(B) In clause(B)

(i) for sub-clause (ii), the following sub-clause shall be substituted, namely-

“Such Member of Parliament (MP) of the State of Uttarakhand not exceeding three, who are followers of Hindu Religion nominated by the State Government”.

(ii) for sub-clause (iii) the following sub-clause shall be substituted, namely:-

(iii) “Such numbers of members not exceeding Six to be nominated by the State Government from amongst the Member of Legislative Assembly of the State, who are followers Hindu Religion.”

(iii) In sub-clause (vi) for the word “three” the word “five” shall be substituted.

**Amendment of 4.  
Section 8.**

In Section 8 of the principal Act, for sub-section (5), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:-

The decision of the board shall be taken on the basis of majority. The Chairman shall not vote in the first instance, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the case of equality of votes.

- Amendment of Section 22.** 5. In Section 22 of the principal Act,  
 (i) For the words "devolve on the board", the words "devolve on the Chardham and shall be maintained by the Board" shall be substituted.  
 (ii) for the proviso, the following proviso shall be substituted namely-  
 "Provided that the Board may further acquire land in or around the vicinity of the religious Devasthanams and other places as it would deem proper for its better development, in favour of the Chardham."
- Amendment of Section 32.** 6. In Section 32 of the principal Act, in sub-section (7), For the word " Shall establish a trust", the word "may establish a trust, if necessary" shall be substituted.
- Amendment of Section 36.** 7. In Section 36 of the principal Act, for the words " Calender year" the word "financial year", shall be substituted.
- Amendment of Section 46.** 8. The sub-section (2) of section 46 of the principal Act shall be Omitted.
- Amendment of schedule E(4).** 9. In schedule E of the principal Act, in serial number (4) for the word " Chauras, Srinagar (Pauri garhwal)" the word " Raanihaat, Chauras, (Tehri Garhwal)" shall be substituted.

By Order,

**PREM SINGH KHIMAL,**

Secretary.

**Statement of objects and reasons**

Uttarakhand Char Dham Devsthanam Management Act, 2019 (Uttarakhand Act No. 06 of 2020) was promulgated by the notification no- 17 /XXXvi(3) / 2020 / 83 (1) / 2019, dated 15 January, 2020 of Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Department, Government of Uttarakhand to provide rejuvenation for Char Dham and other famous Temples located in Uttarakhand and to manage in Devsthanam Management Board. Presently changing circumstances, the Observation given by the Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court, Nainital in PIL NO-26/2020(M/S), Dr. Subramanian Swamy vs State of Uttarakhand and others and redress of certain difficulties provided in the Act, it is necessary to introduce amendment made in aforesaid act in form of bill.

2- The proposed Bill fulfills the above objectives.

**Satpal Maharaj**  
**Minister.**