

THE KERALA BAMBOO, KATTUVALLI AND PANDANUS  
 • LEAF WORKERS' WELFARE FUND ACT, 1998  
 (Act 17 of 1998)

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THE SCHEDULE  
 [See Section 3(5)]

[Translation in English of “1998-ലെ കേരള ഇനം, കാട്ടുവള്ളി, തഴ  
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 Governor]

THE KERALA BAMBOO, KATTUVALLI AND PANDANUS LEAF  
 WORKERS' WELFARE FUND ACT, 1998\*

(Act 17 of 1998)

*An Act to provide for the constitution of a Fund to grant relief to, to promote the welfare of, and to pay pension to, bamboo, kattuvalli and pandanus leaf workers, and self-employed persons in bamboo, kattuvalli and pandanus leaf industries in the State of Kerala.*

*Preamble.*—WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the constitution of a Fund to grant relief to, to promote the welfare of, and to pay pension to, bamboo, kattuvalli and pandanus leaf workers and self-employed persons in bamboo, kattuvalli and pandanus leaf industries in the State of Kerala and for matters incidental or ancillary thereto.

Be it enacted in the Forty-ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title, extent and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Kerala Bamboo, Kattuvalli and Pandanus Leaf Workers' Welfare Fund Act, 1998.

(2) It extends to the whole of the State of Kerala.

(3) It shall come into force on such date as the Government may, by notification in the Gazette, appoint.

2. *Definitions.*—In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) “bamboo industry” means an industry to which bamboo, reeds or cane is used as raw material for making bamboo products and includes collecting, storing or distributing bamboo, reeds or cane for the purpose of making bamboo products or doing any work in connection with or incidental thereto;

(b) “bamboo product” means any article which is made out of bamboo, reeds or cane;

(c) “bamboo, kattuvalli or pandanus leaf worker” means any person who is employed for wages to do any work in connection with or incidental to the bamboo industry or kattuvalli industry or pandanus leaf industry, as the case may be, and who get his wages, directly or indirectly from

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the employer, dealer or producer of bamboo products or kattuvalli products or, as the case may be, pandanus leaf products and includes any person employed by or through a contractor or through an agent and depends mainly on bamboo industry, kattuvalli industry or pandanus leaf industry for his livelihood and also a person whom the Government may, by notification in the Gazette, from time to time, declare to be a bamboo, kattuvalli or pandanus leaf worker for the purpose of this Act, but does not include a person engaged in collecting bamboo, reed or cane for the purpose of making pulp, paper or artificial threads with mechanical aid.

*Explanation.*—If any question arises as to whether a person is or is not a bamboo worker or kattuvalli worker or a pandanus leaf worker for the purpose of this Act, the question shall be referred for decision to an officer authorised by the Board in this behalf and an appeal may be filed before the Board against the decision of the said officer and the decision of the Board thereon shall be final;

(d) "Board" means the Kerala Bamboo, Kattuvalli and Pandanus Leaf Workers' Welfare Fund Board constituted under section 6;

(e) "Chief Executive Officer" means the Chief Executive Officer appointed under sub-section (1) of section 9;

(f) "contribution" means the money payable to the Fund under section 4;

(g) "dealer" means any person who is engaged in the business of purchase, sale or storage for sale of bamboo or kattuvalli or pandanus leaf products;

(h) "employer" means any person who employs, whether directly or indirectly, or whether on behalf of himself or for any other person, one or more bamboo or kattuvalli or pandanus leaf workers to do any work in connection with the various processes in bamboo or kattuvalli or pandanus leaf industry;

(i) "family" means,—

(i) husband, wife and their minor sons, unmarried daughters and mentally retarded children;

(ii) father and mother who are solely dependent upon the person for his livelihood as a bamboo, kattuvalli or pandanus leaf worker or self employed person;

(j) "Fund" means the Bamboo, Kattuvalli and Pandanus Leaf Workers' Welfare Fund established under section 3;

(k) "kattuvalli industry" means an industry in which kattuvalli is used as a raw material for making products out of it and includes collecting, storing or distributing kattuvalli for the purpose of making kattuvalli products or doing any work in connection with or incidental thereto;

(l) "kattuvalli products" means anything made out of raw or processed kattuvalli;

(m) "member" means a member of the Fund;

(n) "pandanus leaf industry" means an industry in which pandanus leaf is used as raw materials for making products out of it and includes collecting, storing or distributing pandanus leaf for the purpose of making pandanus leaf products or doing any work in connection with or incidental thereto;

(o) "pandanus leaf product" means mats, baskets, toys, handicraft items, fancy things, furniture, thazhapaya, vatti and such other things made out of raw or processed pandanus leaf;

(p) "person" includes a company, a firm, an association of individuals or a co-operative society registered or deemed to be registered under the Kerala Co-operative Societies Act, 1969 (21 of 1969);

(q) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act;

(r) "producer of bamboo or kattuvalli or pandanus leaf products" means a person who carries on the business of making bamboo or kattuvalli or pandanus leaf products for export or for internal use;

(s) "Schedule" means the Schedule to this Act;

(t) "Scheme" means the Scheme framed under this Act;

(u) "self-employed person" means a person other than a bamboo or kattuvalli or pandanus leaf worker who is engaged in the extraction of bamboo, reeds, cane, kattuvalli or pandanus leaf or engaged in the making of bamboo products or kattuvalli products or pandanus leaf products and depends mainly on bamboo industry or kattuvalli industry or pandanus leaf industry for his livelihood;

(v) "year" means a financial year.

3. *Bamboo, Kattuvalli and Pandanus Leaf Workers' Welfare Fund.*—(1) The Government may, by notification in the Gazette, frame a Scheme to be called "the Kerala Bamboo, Kattuvalli and Pandanus Leaf Workers' Welfare Fund Scheme" for the establishment of a Fund under this Act for the welfare

