

**Bill No. XXXIV of 2026**

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THE CENTRAL NURSING UNIVERSITY BILL, 2026

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AS INTRODUCED IN THE RAJYA SABHA  
ON THE 13TH MARCH, 2026

**Bill No. XXXIV of 2026**

THE CENTRAL NURSING UNIVERSITY BILL, 2026

A

BILL

*to establish and incorporate a Central Nursing University at Kannur in the State of Kerala to promote nursing education, training, research and leadership development, committed to the highest standards of academic rigour, professional ethics and social responsibility and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Central Nursing University Act, 2026.  
(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

Short title and commencement.

2. In this Act, and in all Statutes made hereunder, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) "Academic Council" means the Academic Council of the University;

(b) "academic staff" means such categories of staff as are designated as academic staff by the Ordinances; 5

(c) "Board of Studies" means the Board of Studies of a Department of the University;

(d) "Chancellor", "Vice-Chancellor" and "Pro-Vice-Chancellor" mean, respectively, the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University; 10

(e) "College" means a college maintained by the University;

(f) "Court" means the Court of the University;

(g) "Department" means a Department of Studies and includes a Centre of Studies; 15

(h) "employee" means any person appointed by the University and includes teachers and other staff of the University;

(i) "Executive Council" means the Executive Council of the University;

(j) "Faculty" means a Faculty of the University; 20

(k) "Finance Committee" means the Finance Committee of the University;

(l) "Fund" means the University Fund referred to in section 26;

(m) "Institution" means an academic institution, not being a College, maintained by, or admitted to the privileges of, the University; 25

(n) "Outlying Campus" means the campus of the University as may be established by it at any place within or outside India;

(o) "Regional Centre" means a centre established or maintained by the University for the purpose of coordinating and supervising the work of Study Centres in any region and for performing such other functions as may be conferred on such centre by the Executive Council; 30

(p) "Regulations" means the Regulations made under this Act by any authority of the University specified in section 19;

(q) "Statutes" and "Ordinances" mean, respectively, the Statutes and the Ordinances of the University, for the time being in force; 35

(r) "Study Centre" means a centre established, maintained or recognised by the University for the purpose of advising, counselling, training or for rendering any other assistance required by the students;

(s) "teachers of the University" means Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors and such other persons as may be appointed for imparting instructions, training or conducting research in the University or in any Outlying Campus, College or Institution or Regional Centres and Study Centres, maintained by the University and are designated as teachers by the Ordinances; 40

(t) "University" means the Central Nursing University as established and incorporated under this Act; and 45

(u) "Visitor" means the Visitor of the University.

3. (1) There shall be established a University by the name of “The Central Nursing University”.

5 (2) The headquarters of the University shall be at Kannur in the State of Kerala and it may establish or maintain Outlying Campuses, Colleges, Regional Centres and Study Centres at such other places in India as it may deem fit:

Provided that the University may, with the prior approval of the Central Government, also establish or maintain Outlying Campuses and Study Centres outside India.

10 (3) The first Chancellor, the first Vice-Chancellor and the first members of the Court, the Executive Council and the Academic Council, and all persons who may hereafter become such officers or members, so long as they continue to hold such office or membership, are hereby constituted a body corporate by the name of “The Central Nursing University”.

15 (4) The University shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold and dispose of property and to contract, and shall, by the said name, sue or be sued.

20 4. The objects of the University shall be —

(a) to promote advanced, multidisciplinary and competency-based nursing education at undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral and post-doctoral levels, with a focus on strengthening India’s public health system and universal health coverage;

25 (b) to establish a national centre of excellence for nursing education, training, research and leadership development, committed to the highest standards of academic rigor, professional ethics and social responsibility;

30 (c) to develop highly skilled nurse educators, nurse practitioners, nurse researchers and nurse leaders capable of responding to the evolving health-care needs of the country, including primary health care, maternal and child health, geriatric care, mental health, critical care and community health nursing;

35 (d) to promote cutting-edge research and innovation in nursing and allied health sciences, evidence-based practice, health systems strengthening and health policy, with special emphasis on context-specific solutions for India and other developing countries;

40 (e) to serve as a national resource centre for curriculum development, standard-setting, faculty development and continuing professional education in nursing, in coordination with regulatory bodies and health institutions;

(f) to foster equity, inclusion and gender justice in nursing education and practice, and to enhance the professional status, career progression and leadership opportunities of nurses, particularly women;

45 (g) to integrate education, service and research through strong partnerships with hospitals, public health institutions, community health systems and national health programmes;

50 (h) to promote the use of digital technologies, simulation-based training and modern pedagogical methods to improve the quality, accessibility and effectiveness of nursing education and training;

(i) to strengthen international collaboration and exchange in nursing education and research, positioning India as a global hub for high-quality nursing education and workforce development; and

- (j) to contribute to national health priorities and sustainable development goals by producing a competent, ethical and socially accountable nursing workforce dedicated to improving health outcomes for all.
5. (l) The University shall have the following powers and functions, 5  
namely:—
- (a) to provide instruction, teaching, training and research in nursing and allied health sciences at undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral and post-doctoral levels;
- (b) to grant, subject to such conditions as the University may determine, diplomas or certificates to, and confer degrees or other academic distinctions on, persons, on the basis of examination, evaluation or any other method of testing, and to withdraw any such diplomas, certificates, degrees or other academic distinction for good and sufficient cause; 10 15
- (c) to establish, maintain and administer faculties, schools, departments, colleges, constituent institutions, teaching hospitals, and such centers and specialised laboratories or other units for research and instruction as are, in the opinion of the University, necessary for the furtherance of its objects; 20
- (d) to establish and maintain, with the prior approval of the Central Government, such Outlying Campuses, Regional Centres, specialised laboratories or other units for research, instruction and training as are, in the opinion of the University, necessary for the furtherance of its objects; 25
- (e) to establish, maintain or recognise Study Centres in the manner laid down by the Statutes;
- (f) to prescribe courses of study, curricula, syllabi, methods of teaching, training and evaluation, and to conduct examinations and assessments in accordance with academic standards and regulatory norms; 30
- (g) to recognize institutions, hospitals and health facilities for clinical training, internship, residency and field practice in nursing and allied health sciences;
- (h) to undertake, promote and coordinate research, innovation and consultancy in nursing education, clinical practice, public health, health systems and health policy, and to publish the results thereof; 35
- (i) to collaborate with national and international universities, research institutions, professional bodies, government agencies and multilateral organizations for academic exchange, joint programmes, research and capacity building; 40
- (j) to function as a national resource and advisory institution for nursing education, workforce development and professional standards, and to provide expert advice to the Central and State Governments and statutory bodies; 45
- (k) to institute professorships, fellowships, scholarships, studentships, prizes and other academic awards for the promotion of excellence in nursing education and research;
- (l) to appoint teachers, officers, nurses, researchers, other academic staff and other employees of the University and to define 50  
their duties, terms and conditions of service in accordance with the Statutes;

(m) to establish and maintain teaching hospitals, community health centres and outreach units, or to enter into arrangements with existing health institutions for the purpose of education, training and research;

5 (n) to admit students from across the country and abroad, in accordance with such criteria as may be prescribed, ensuring equity, inclusion and merit-based access.

10 (o) to create, manage and administer endowments, grants, trusts and funds, including research and development funds, for the furtherance of the objectives of the University;

(p) to acquire, hold, lease, mortgage or dispose of movable and immovable property, and to enter into contracts and agreements necessary for carrying out the purposes of the University;

15 (q) to receive grants, donations, gifts and other contributions from the Central Government, State Governments, national and international agencies, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed;

(r) to frame Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations consistent with this Act for the governance, administration and academic functioning of the University;

20 (s) to establish mechanisms for quality assurance, accreditation, ethical standards, grievance redressal and internal accountability;

(t) to promote continuing nursing education, in-service training and capacity building for nursing professionals in the country;

25 (u) to take all such measures as may be necessary to promote professional ethics, social accountability and public service among nursing professionals; and

(v) to do all such other acts and things as may be necessary or incidental to the attainment of the objects of the University.

30 (2) In exercising its powers referred to in sub-section (1), it shall be the endeavour of the University to maintain an all-India character and high standards of teaching, training and research, and the University shall, among other measures which may be necessary for the said purpose, take, in particular, the following measures, namely:—

35 (a) admission of students and recruitment of faculty shall be made on all-India basis;

40 (b) admissions of students shall be made on merit, either through Common Entrance Tests conducted individually by the University or in combination with other Universities, or on the basis of marks obtained in the qualifying examinations in such courses where the intake of students is small;

(c) inter-University mobility of Faculty shall be encouraged;

45 (d) semester system, continuous evaluation and choice-based credit system shall be introduced and the University shall enter into agreements with other Universities and academic institutions for credit transfer and joint degree programmes;

(e) innovative courses and programmes of studies shall be introduced with provision for periodic review and restructuring;

(f) active participation of students shall be ensured in all academic activities of the University, including evaluation of teachers;

(g) accreditation shall be obtained from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council or any other accrediting agency at the national level; and

(h) e-governance shall be introduced with an effective management information system. 5

Jurisdiction.

6. The University shall in the exercise of its powers have jurisdiction over the whole of India and to Outlying Campuses and Study Centres outside India.

University to be open to all castes, creed, race or class.

7. The University shall be open to persons of any sex and of whatever caste, creed, race or class, and it shall not be lawful for the University to adopt or impose on any person, any test whatsoever of religious belief or profession in order to entitle such person to be appointed as a teacher of the University or to hold any other office therein or to be admitted as a student in the University or to graduate there at or to enjoy or exercise any privilege thereof: 10

Provided that nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent the University from making special provisions for the employment or admission of women, persons with disabilities or of persons belonging to the weaker sections of the society and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the other socially and educationally backward classes of citizens: 15 20

Provided further that no such special provision shall be made on the ground of domicile.

Visitor of University.

8. (1) The President of India shall be the Visitor of the University.

(2) The Visitor shall have such powers as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

Officers of University.

9. The following shall be the officers of the University, namely:— 25

(a) the Chancellor;

(b) the Vice-Chancellor;

(c) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;

(d) the Deans of Schools;

(e) the Registrar; 30

(f) the Finance Officer;

(g) the Controller of Examinations;

(h) the Librarian; and

(i) such other officers as may be declared by the Statutes to be the officers of the University. 35

Chancellor.

10. (1) The Chancellor shall be appointed by the Visitor in such manner and on such terms and conditions of service as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(2) The Chancellor shall, by virtue of his office, be the head of the University and shall, if present, preside at the Convocations of the University held for conferring degrees and other ceremonial functions and also the meetings of the Court. 40

Vice-Chancellor.

11. (1) The Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Visitor in such manner and on such terms and conditions of service as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

(2) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the principal executive and academic officer of the University and shall exercise general supervision and control over the affairs of the University and give effect to the decisions of all the authorities of the University. 45

- (3) The Vice-Chancellor shall exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Statutes or the Ordinances.
- 5      **12.** The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed in such manner and on such terms and conditions of service, and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties, as may be prescribed by the Statutes. Pro-Vice-Chancellor.
- 13.** Every Dean of School shall be appointed in such manner, and on such terms and conditions of service, and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties, as may be prescribed by the Statutes. Deans of Schools.
- 10      **14.** (1) The Registrar shall be appointed in such manner and on such terms and conditions of service as may be prescribed by the Statutes. Registrar.
- (2) The Registrar shall have the power to enter into agreements, sign documents and authenticate records on behalf of the University, and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Statutes.
- 15      **15.** The Finance Officer shall be appointed in such manner, and on such terms and conditions of service, and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties, as may be prescribed by the Statutes. Finance Officer.
- 16.** The Controller of Examinations shall be appointed in such manner, and on such terms and conditions of service, and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties, as may be prescribed by the Statutes. Controller of Examinations.
- 20      **17.** The Librarian shall be appointed in such manner and on such terms and conditions of service, and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties, as may be prescribed by the Statutes. Librarian.
- 18.** The manner of appointment, terms and conditions of service and powers and duties of other officers of the University shall be such as may be prescribed by the Statutes. Other Officers.
- 25      **19.** The following shall be the authorities of the University, namely:— Authorities of University.
- (a) the Court;
- (b) the Executive Council;
- 30           (c) the Academic Council;
- (d) the Board of Studies;
- (e) the Finance Committee; and
- (f) such other authorities as may be declared by the Statutes to be the authorities of the University.
- 35      **20.** (1) The constitution of the Court and the term of office of its members shall be prescribed by the Statutes: The Court.
- Provided that such number of members, as may be prescribed by the Statutes, shall be elected from among the teachers, employees and students of the University.
- 40      (2) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Court shall have the following powers and, functions, namely:—
- (a) to review, from time to time, the broad policies and programmes of the University and to suggest measures for the improvement and development of the University;
- 45           (b) to consider and pass resolutions on the annual report and the annual accounts of the University and the audit report on such accounts;

(c) to advise the Visitor in respect of any matter which may be referred to it for advice; and

(d) to perform such other functions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

Executive Council.

21. (1) The Executive Council shall be the principal executive body of the University. 5

(2) The constitution of the Executive Council, the term of office of its members and its powers and functions shall be prescribed by the Statutes:

Provided that the Executive Council shall have adequate number of women members: 10

Provided further that such number of members as may be prescribed by the Statutes shall be from among the elected members of the Court.

Academic Council.

22. (1) The Academic Council shall be the principal academic body of the University and shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, the Statutes and the Ordinances made thereunder, co-ordinate and exercise general supervision over the academic policies of the University. 15

(2) The constitution of the Academic Council, the term of office of its members and its powers and functions shall be such as may be prescribed by the Statutes: 20

Provided that the Academic Council shall have such number of members as may be prescribed by the Statutes from among the elected members of the Court.

Board of Studies.

23. The constitution of the Board of Studies, the term of office of its members and its powers and functions shall be such as may be prescribed by the Statutes. 25

Finance Committee.

24. The constitution of the Finance Committee, the term of office of its members and its powers and functions shall be such as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

Other authorities of University.

25. The constitution, powers and functions of other authorities, as may be declared by the Statutes to be the authorities of the University, shall be prescribed by the Statutes. 30

Fund of University.

26. (1) There shall be a University Fund which shall include—

(a) any contribution or grant made by the Central Government;

(b) any contribution or grant made by the State Government; 35

(c) any contribution made by Government, semi-Government or autonomous bodies;

(d) any gifts, bequests, donations, endowments or other grants;

(e) income received by the University from fees and charges;

(f) income received by the University from undertaking projects and consultancy services; 40

(g) money received by the University from the collaborating industries, co-operative societies, federations, unions and other organisations in terms of the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding between the University and such collaborating industry, co-operative society, federation, union or other organization; and 45

(h) money received from any other source, provided that any funding from foreign sources shall require prior approval of the Central Government.

- (2) All funds of the University shall be deposited in such banks or invested in such manner as the Executive Council may decide on the recommendation of the Finance Committee.
- (3) The funds of the University shall be applied towards meeting the expenses of the University including expenses incurred in the exercise of its powers and discharge of its functions by or under this Act.
- (4) The University, at all times, shall strive to be self-sufficient in meeting its expenses and shall, while launching new courses or programmes, establishing new schools or other infrastructure, creating or filling posts, incurring recurring or non-recurring expenses and creating any other financial liability, take into account financial resources that are either available with the University or tied up with stakeholders or any other source.
27. Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Statutes may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:—
- (a) the constitution, powers and functions of authorities and other bodies of the University, as may be constituted from time to time;
- (b) the appointment and continuance in office of the members of the said authorities and bodies, the filling up of vacancies of members, and all other matters relating to those authorities and other bodies for which it may be necessary or desirable to provide;
- (c) the withdrawal of degrees, diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions; and
- (d) all other matters which by this Act are to be, or may be, provided for by the Statutes.
28. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, the Ordinances may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:—
- (a) the admission of students to the University and their enrolment as such;
- (b) the courses of study to be laid down for all degrees, diplomas and certificates of the University;
- (c) the establishment of Centers of Studies, Boards of Studies and other Committees; and
- (d) all other matters which by this Act or the Statutes, are to be, or may be, provided for by the Ordinances.
- (2) The first Ordinances shall be made by the Vice-Chancellor with the previous approval of the Executive Council and the Ordinances so made may also be amended, repealed or added to at any time by the Executive Council in the manner prescribed by the Statutes.
29. The authorities of the University may make Regulations, consistent with the provisions of this Act, the Statutes and the Ordinances made thereunder, for the conduct of their own business and that of the Committees, if any, appointed by them and not provided for by this Act, the Statutes or the Ordinances made thereunder, in the manner prescribed by the Statutes.
30. (1) The annual report of the University shall be prepared under the directions of the Executive Council, which shall include, among other matters, the steps taken by the University towards the fulfillment of its objects and shall be submitted to the Court after the approval of the Executive Council on or before such date as may be prescribed by the Statutes and the Court shall consider the report in its annual meeting.

Power to make Statutes.

Power to make Ordinances.

Regulations.

Annual report.

(2) The Court shall submit the annual report to the Visitor along with its comments, if any, on or before such date as may be prescribed.

(3) A copy of the annual report, as prepared under sub-section (1), shall also be submitted to the Central Government, which shall, as soon as may be after it is submitted, cause the same to be laid before both Houses of Parliament. 5

Annual accounts.

**31.** (1) The annual accounts and balance sheet of the University shall be prepared under the directions of the Executive Council and shall, once at least every year and at intervals of not more than fifteen months, be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India or by such persons as he may authorise on his behalf. 10

(2) The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India and any person appointed by him in connection with the audit of the accounts of the University shall have the same rights, privileges and authority in connection with such audit as the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India has in connection with the audit of the Government accounts, and, in particular, shall have the right to demand the production of books, accounts, connected vouchers and other documents and papers and to inspect the offices of the University. 15

(3) A copy of the annual accounts of the University as certified by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India or any other person appointed by him in this behalf together with the audit report thereon shall be submitted to the Court and the Visitor along with the observations of the Executive Council. 20

(4) Any observations made by the Visitor on the annual accounts shall be brought to the notice of the Court and the observations of the Court, if any, shall, after being considered by the Executive Council, be submitted to the Visitor. 25

(5) A copy of the annual accounts together with the audit report as submitted to the Visitor, shall also be submitted to the Central Government, which shall, as soon as may be, cause the same to be laid before both Houses of Parliament. 30

Returns and information.

**32.** The University shall furnish to the Central Government such returns or other information with respect to its property or activities as the Central Government may, from time to time, require, within such period as may be specified by the Central Government. 35

Condition of service of employees.

**33.** (1) Every employee of the University shall be appointed under a written contract, which shall be lodged with the University and a copy of which shall be furnished to the employee concerned. 40

(2) Any dispute arising out of the contract between the University and any employee shall, at the request of the employee, be referred to a Tribunal of Arbitration consisting of one member appointed by the Executive Council, one member nominated by the employee concerned and an umpire appointed by the Visitor. 45

(3) The decision of the Tribunal shall be final and no suit shall lie in any civil court in respect of the matters decided by the Tribunal: 45

Provided that nothing in this sub-section shall preclude the employee from availing of the judicial remedies available under articles 32 and 226 of the Constitution.

(4) Every request made by the employee under sub-section (2) shall be deemed to be a submission to arbitration upon the terms of this section within the meaning of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. 50

(5) The procedure for regulating the work of the Tribunal shall be prescribed by the Statutes. 26 of 1996.

34. (1) Every employee or student of the University or of a College or an Institution or a Regional Centre or a Study Centre established or maintained by the University shall, notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, have a right to appeal within such time as may be prescribed by the Statutes, to the Executive Council against the decision of any officer or authority of the University, or of the Principal or the management of any College or Institution or Regional Centre or Study Centre, as the case may be, and thereupon the Executive Council may confirm, modify or reverse the decision appealed against.
- (2) The form, manner and the procedure for filing and disposing of appeal referred to in sub-section (1) shall be such as may be provided by the Statutes.
35. All casual vacancies among the members (other than *ex officio* members) of any authority or other body of the University shall be filled, as soon as may be, by the person or body who appoints, elects or co-opts the member whose place has become vacant and the person appointed, elected or co-opted to a casual vacancy shall be a member of such authority or body for the residue of the term for which the person whose place he fills would have been a member.
36. No act or proceedings of any authority or other body of the University shall be invalid merely by reason of the existence of a vacancy or vacancies among its members.
37. The Executive Council may appoint a person of high academic distinction and professional attainments to accept a post of Professor or Associate Professor or any other equivalent academic post in the University on such terms and conditions as it deems fit:
- Provided that the Executive Council may also create supernumerary posts for a specified period for appointment of such persons.
38. (1) An authority of the University may appoint as many standing or special Committees as it may deem fit, and may appoint to such Committees persons who are not members of such authority.
- (2) A Committee appointed under sub-section (1) may deal with any subject delegated to it, subject to subsequent confirmation by the authority appointing it.
39. The Executive Council may, on the recommendation of the Academic Council and by a resolution passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting, make proposals to the Visitor for the conferment of honorary degrees:
- Provided that in case of emergency, the Executive Council may, on its own motion, make such proposals.
40. Convocations of the University for the conferring of degrees shall be held in such manner as may be prescribed by the Ordinances.
41. There shall be an Alumni Association for the University.
42. There shall be constituted in the University, a Student's Council for every academic year, consisting of—
- (a) the Dean of Students Welfare who shall be Chairperson of the Student Council;

Right to appeal.

Filling of casual vacancies.

Proceedings of authorities or bodies not invalidated by vacancies.

Special mode of appointment.

Committee.

Honorary degrees.

Convocations.

Alumni Association.

Students' Council.

(b) twenty-five students to be nominated by the Academic Council on the basis of merit in studies, sports and extra-curricular activities; and

(c) twenty-five elected representatives of students in the manner prescribed by the Ordinances. 5

Delegation of powers.

43. Subject to the provisions of the Act and the Statutes, any officer or authority of the University may delegate his or its powers to any other officer or authority or person under his or its respective control and subject to the condition that overall responsibility for the exercise of the powers so delegated shall continue to vest in the officer or authority delegating such powers. 10

Protection of action taken in good faith.

44. No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against any officer or other employee of the University for anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of any of the provisions of this Act, the Statutes or the Ordinances. 15

Act not in derogation of other laws.

45. Save as otherwise provided, the provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in derogation of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 and any other law for the time being in force. 3 of 1956.

Power to remove difficulties.

46. (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government may, by order published in the Official Gazette, make such provisions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as may appear to be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty: 20

Provided that no such order shall be made under this section after the expiry of three years from the commencement of this Act.

(2) Every order made under sub-section (1) shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the order or both Houses agree that the order should not be made, the order shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that order. 25 30

Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations to be published in the Official Gazette and to be laid before Parliament.

47. (1) Every Statute, Ordinance or Regulation made under this Act shall be published in the Official Gazette. 35

(2) Every Statute, Ordinance or Regulation made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the Statute, Ordinance or Regulation or both Houses agree that the Statute, Ordinance or Regulation should not be made, the Statute, Ordinance or Regulation shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that Statute, Ordinance or Regulation. 40 45

(3) The power to make Statutes, Ordinances or Regulations shall include the power to give retrospective effect, from a date not earlier than the date of commencement of this Act, to the Statutes, Ordinances or Regulations or any of them but no retrospective effect shall be given to any Statute, Ordinance or Regulation so as to prejudicially affect the interests of any person to whom such Statute, Ordinance or Regulation may be applicable. 50

48. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act and the Statutes,—

5           (a) the first Chancellor and first Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Visitor in such manner and on such conditions as may be deemed fit and each of the said officer shall hold office for such term, not exceeding five years as may be specified by the Visitor;

          (b) the first Registrar and the first Finance Officer shall be appointed by the Visitor and each of the said officers shall hold office for a term of three years;

10           (c) the first Court and the first Executive Council shall consist of not more than thirty-One members and eleven members, respectively, who shall be nominated by the Central Government and shall hold office for a term of three years; and

15           (d) the first Academic Council shall consist of not more than twenty-one members, who shall be nominated by the Central Government and they shall hold office for a term of three years:

          Provided that if any vacancy occurs in the above offices or authorities, the same shall be filled by appointment by the Visitor or nomination by the Central Government, as the case may be, in the manner prescribed by the Statutes.

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Kerala has historically played a pioneering role in the development of the nursing profession in India and globally. Since the 1960s, nurses from Kerala have opened new avenues of employment for Indian migrants across Europe, the United States of America and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. The nursing profession has made a significant contribution to the economic development of the State through remittance inflows, which form a major component of Kerala's economy. Kerala is widely recognized for providing high-quality professional training in nursing, resulting in an unparalleled global demand for nurses from the State.

Despite this strong legacy and global demand, the number of nursing colleges and available seats in Kerala remain relatively low compared to the growing number of aspirants seeking nursing education. At present, the total number of nursing seats in the State is approximately 7,300, which is significantly below the demand from prospective students. Owing to the shortage of seats, a large number of students are compelled to pursue nursing education in neighbouring States such as Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, often incurring higher financial costs. Expansion of nursing education infrastructure within Kerala is, therefore, essential to meet the increasing demand and to reduce the financial burden on students and families.

In view of the above, it is considered necessary to establish a Central Nursing University in Kerala as a centre of excellence in nursing education, training, research and advanced clinical practice. Locating the University in Kannur will ensure balanced regional development by strengthening higher educational opportunities in North Kerala and improving access to nursing education for students from northern districts who currently depend on institutions in other States. Kannur offers adequate land availability for developing a comprehensive residential university campus with advanced training and research facilities. The district also has strong connectivity through an international airport, railways and national highways, making it accessible for students, faculty and global collaborations. Further, North Kerala has a long tradition of contributing to the global nursing workforce. Establishing a premier nursing institution in Kannur will strengthen skill development, support the State's health-care system, and contribute to national and global demand for qualified nursing professionals.

On the whole, the University will expand access to high-quality nursing education, strengthen research and innovation in nursing and help address both domestic and global demand for skilled nursing professionals. The proposed legislation also seeks to promote equitable access to advanced nursing education, strengthen faculty development, enhance clinical training infrastructure, and position India as a global leader in nursing education and health workforce development.

Hence, the Bill.

SANDOSH KUMAR P.

## FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 3 of the Bill seeks to establish a Central Nursing University as a body corporate at Kannur in the State of Kerala.

It is expected that the proposed University would require about rupees one thousand crore during the next Plan period. The expenditure would be met from the Consolidated Fund of India through the University Grants Commission under the budgetary provisions of the Ministry of Education.

## MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Sub-clause (2) of clause 28 of the Bill empowers the Vice-Chancellor to make the first Ordinances of the University with the previous approval of the Central Government and provides that the Ordinances so made may be amended, repealed or added to at any time by the Executive Council in the manner prescribed by the Statutes. The matters in respect of which Ordinances may be made, or as the case may be, amended, repealed or added to, relate to admission of students, courses of study, medium of instruction and examination, the manner of co-operation and collaboration with other Universities, institutions and other agencies, the setting up of a machinery for redressal of grievances of employees and other such matters.

Clause 29 of the Bill enables the authorities of the University to make Regulations, consistent with this Act, the Statutes and the Ordinances for the conduct of their own business and that of the Committees, if any, appointed by them and not provided for by this Act, the Statutes or the Ordinances, in the manner prescribed by the Statutes.

Clause 43 empowers that any officer or authority of the University may delegate his or its powers to any other officer or authority or person under his or its respective control and subject to the condition that overall responsibility for the exercise of the powers so delegated shall continue to vest in the officer or authority delegating such powers.

Clause 46 empowers the Central Government, by order published in the Official Gazette, to make provisions to remove certain difficulties, which may appear to be necessary or expedient and such an order is not to be made after the expiry of a period of three years from the commencement of the Act and such order shall be laid before each House of Parliament.

Clause 47 provides that every Statute, Ordinance or Regulation made under the Act shall be published in the Official Gazette and they shall be laid before each House of Parliament.

As the matters in respect of which the Statutes, Ordinances or Regulations may be made relate to matters of procedure or detail only, the delegation of legislative powers is, therefore, of a normal character.



RAJYA SABHA

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to establish and incorporate a Central Nursing University at Kannur in the State of Kerala to promote nursing education, training, research and leadership development, committed to the highest standards of academic rigour, professional ethics and social responsibility and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

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*(Shri Sandosh Kumar P., M.P.)*