Government of Jammu and Kashmir Revenue Department, Civil Secretariat, Srinagar/Jammu

Subject: Registration of Property relating to religious places.

Reference: U.O No Law/Opn2/117/2022-10 dated 07.07.2022 from Department of

law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs

Circular No. 09 JK(Rev) of 2022

Dated: 21 . 07.2022

The registration of documents in the erstwhile State of J&K was conducted by the judicial officers, a statutory function, now discharged by Sub Registrars in terms of the Registration Act, 1908, sequel to the creation of an independent Department of Registration under the Executive.

It has, however, been brought to the notice of the Government that some elements are making desperate attempts to have the conveyance deeds relating to property of religious places registered outside the area of jurisdiction of the Sub Registrar in which the property is situated in contravention of the provisions of the Registration Act, 1908 and other relevant laws as to evade due scrutiny by the Sub Registrar concerned.

In this context, attention is drawn to Order No. 230 dated 30.05.2019 of the Hon'ble High Court of Jammu and Kashmir wherein the following directions have been issued for ensuring registration of conveyance deeds relating to property of any religious place in accordance with law:

"It is impressed upon all Judicial Officers of the State, vested with the powers of Registrars/Sub-Registrar(s) under the Jammu and Kashmir Registration Act 1998 (1941 A.D), not to register conveyance deeds relating to the property of any religious place in violation of any law for the time being in force, or in breach of any Court direction in any case.

It is directed that the executants of such deeds shall invariably be asked to obtain a certificate from the revenue agency to the effect that such property does not belong to any religious place and also endorsement on the revenue extracts to the effect that there is no Court direction prohibiting alienation of such property in any manner.

Where any Registering Officer has the reason to believe that a deed of conveyance presented for registration involves the alienation of property as

referred to above, the Registering Officer may, for arriving his satisfaction, ask for any undertaking from the executants of the deed to the effect that the property does not belong to any religious place and, if so, the deed has not been executed in violation of any law or direction of any Court prohibiting alienation of such property in any manner.

The above directions shall be diligently followed and a strict view would be taken of failure to comport to the same."

In this backdrop, it has been felt expedient to bring the aforesaid directions to the notice of the Revenue officers including Registrars / Sub Registrars.

All Revenue Officers including Registrars, Sub Registrars, ACRs, SDMs etc. notified as Registering Authorities are hereby enjoined upon to ensure against transfer of property relating to religious places in contravention of any of the provisions of the Registration Act, 1908 and relevant laws. Furthermore, cases involving transfer of property in respect of religious places may be processed only before the Sub Registrar having jurisdiction for registration of such property.

The above instructions are issued for strict compliance by all concerned.

Sd/-

(Vijay Kumar Bidhuri) IAS

Commissioner/Secretary to Government

Dated: 21 07.2022

No: Rev-Regt/39/2022 (230416) Copy to the:

1. Financial Commissioner (ACS), Home.

2. Financial Commissioner, Revenue

3. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor.

- 4. Joint Secretary, (JKL) Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.
- 5. Secretary to the Government, Department of Law, Justice & P.A
- 6. Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir/Jammu.
- 7. Inspector General of Registration. J&K.
- 8. All Deputy Commissioners.
- 9. Director Archives, Archeology & Museums
- 10. OSD to Advisor (B) to Lieutenant Governor.
- 11. Private Secretary to Chief Secretary.
- 12. Private Secretary to Commissioner/Secretary to Govt, Revenue Department.
- 13. In-charge Website.
- 14. Circular File.

Under Secretary to the Government