

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು
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SC directs new law for managing Sabari

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The Supreme Court on Wednesday asked the Kerala government to come out with a fresh law for the administration of Sabarimala temple, while it steered clear of the issues surrounding entry of women to the temple.

A bench of Justices N V Ramana, R Subhash Reddy and B R Gavai asked the state to place before it by the third week of January next year the legislation, also covering the aspects of the welfare of pilgrims visiting there.

The state's counsel said the government has formulated amendments to the law that would deal with the temples and their administrations which are presently being governed by the Travancore Devaswom Board. The draft law also proposes one-third representation to women in the temple advisory committee, he added.

The submission triggered a debate in the courtroom with regard to the 2018 SC judgement allowing entry of girls

and women of all ages into the Sabarimala temple.

The state government said that for the time being, it proposed to give representation in the temple advisory committee to only those women who are above 50 years of age. On this, Justice Gavai referred to the September 28, 2018 verdict, and observed that the direction allowing girls and women of all ages holds the field.

The court was hearing a plea filed in 2011 by Revathi Nal P Ramavarama Raja, raising the issue of administration of Sabarimala temple. In August this year, the state government had told the court that it was considering a "separate legislation" with regard to the administration of the temple.

A five-judge Constitution bench by a 3:2 majority verdict, had referred to a larger seven-judge bench the pleas seeking review of its historic 2018 judgement allowing women and girls of all ages to enter Kerala's Sabarimala temple, along with other contentious issues of alleged discrimination against Muslim and Parsi women. The bench had not stayed the 2018 verdict.