Under Rule 130 of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rules, the following Bill which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Tamil Nadu on 22nd June, 2016 is published together with Statement of Objects and Reasons for general information:—

L.A. Bill No. 11 of 2016

A Bill further to amend the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994.

BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Tamil Nadu in the Sixty-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Second Amendment) Act, 2016.

Short title and commencement.

- (2) It shall come into force at once.
- 2. After Section 28-AA of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

Insertion of new Section 28-AAA.

"28-AAA. Special provision relating to election.—Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or the rules made or orders issued under this Act, for the first election for the village panchayats, panchayat union councils and district panchayats to be held immediately after the date of commencement of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Second Amendment) Act, 2016, the territorial area of wards, the number of wards in every village panchayat, panchayat union and district panchayat and the number of members to be returned by each such wards shall be the same as they exist on the date of commencement of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Second Amendment) Act, 2016."

Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

According to the provisions of Section 8, 19, 26, 27 and 28 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 (Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994), the number of elected members to be returned to the village panchayats, Panchayat union councils and District Panchayats and the territorial wards and its extent, shall be determined based on the 2011 population census figures.

Following the enhancement of reservation for women in rural local bodies from one-third to fifty per cent of the total seats and offices, the District Collectors who are the Inspectors of Panchayats have taken up the work of revising the reservation of seats and offices for women in the village panchayats, Panchayat unions and district panchayats based on 2011 population census figure for conduct of ordinary elections to rural local bodies in the year 2016. Similarly, as per the provisions of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Reservation of seats and rotation of reserved seats) Rules, 1995 rotation in reservation of seats and offices for village panchayats, panchayat unions and district panchayats have to be followed in the ordinary elections to rural local bodies in the year 2016. Due to such huge exercises at the grassroots level, a fresh delimitation and rotation in reservation of seats and offices of all the village panchayats, panchayat unions and district panchayats, based on 2011 population census figures cannot be completed before the next ordinary elections to the rural local bodies, which is scheduled to be conducted before 24th October 2016. The Government have, therefore, decided to conduct the said ordinary election to the rural local bodies, based on the existing territorial area of wards of the panchayats, number of wards, the number of members to be returned from such wards and to amend the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, (Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994) suitably, for the said purpose.

2. The Bill seeks to give effect to the above decision.

S.P. VELUMANI,

Minister for Municipal Administration and Rural Development, Implementation of Special Programme.

A.M.P. JAMALUDEEN, Secretary.