



TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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Part IV—Section 1

Tamil Nadu Bills

CONTENTS

	<i>Pages.</i>
BILLS:	
No. 4 of 2020—The Tamil Nadu Regulation of Rights and Responsibilities of Landlords and Tenants (Amendment) Act, 2020 ..	12-14
No. 5 of 2020—The Tamil Nadu District Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 2020 ..	15-18
No. 6 of 2020—The Tamil Nadu Municipal Laws (Amendment) Act, 2020 ..	19-26
No. 7 of 2020—The Tamil Nadu Municipal Laws (Second Amendment) Act, 2020 ..	27-30
No. 8 of 2020—The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Amendment) Act, 2020 ..	31-32
No. 9 of 2020—The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Second Amendment) Act, 2020 ..	33-34
No. 10 of 2020—The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University (Amendment) Act, 2020 ..	35-36
No. 11 of 2020—The Tamil Nadu Repealing Act, 2020 ..	37-44
No. 12 of 2020—The Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (Amendment) Act, 2020 ..	45-46
No. 13 of 2020—The Tamil Nadu Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Act, 2020 ..	47-54
No. 14 of 2020—The Tamil Nadu Music and Fine Arts University and Private Colleges (Regulation) Amendment Act, 2020 ..	55-58
No. 15 of 2020—The Tamil Nadu Appropriation Act, 2020 ..	59-64

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 9th January, 2020 is published together with Statement of Objects and Reasons for general information:—

L.A. Bill No. 9 of 2020

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 Seventieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Second Amendment) Act, 2020. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 31st day of December 2019.

Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994.

2. In section 261-A of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, for the expression “upto the 31st day of December 2019”, the expression “upto the 30th day of June 2020” shall be substituted. Amendment of section 261-A.

Tamil Nadu Ordinance 12 of 2019.

3. (1) The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Fifth Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 is hereby repealed. Repeal and saving.

Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, as amended by the said Ordinance, shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the said Act, as amended by this Act.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

The Special Officers to the Village Panchayats, Panchayat Unions and District Panchayats were appointed in pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras in W.P. No.33984 of 2016, dated the 4th October 2016. The term of office of the said Special Officers of the three tier panchayats were extended, from time to time, and lastly extended upto the 31st December 2019.

2. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in I.A.No.182868 of 2019 in Civil Appeal Nos.5467-5469 of 2017 dated the 6th December 2019 read with W.P. (Civil) No.1443 of 2019, dated the 11th December 2019 has, among other things, directed that the Respondent-authorities shall hold elections to all Panchayats at village, intermediate and district levels, except those in the nine reconstituted districts namely, Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu, Vellore, Tirupathur, Ranipet, Villupuram, Kallakurichi, Tirunelveli and Tenkasi and also directed to delimit the nine newly constituted districts in accordance with law and thereafter hold elections for their panchayats at the village, intermediate and district levels within a period of three months. Accordingly, the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission notified election schedule for electing the ward members of village panchayats, panchayat unions and district panchayats and to the office of Presidents of village panchayats except for the nine newly constituted districts.

3. Although, the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission has notified ordinary elections to the Rural Local Bodies, the whole process of elections will be completed only on the 11th January 2020. Further, in respect of the remaining nine newly constituted districts, after completion of the delimitation of territorial wards of village panchayats, panchayat unions and district panchayats, reservation of seats and offices for all the three tiers of panchayats will be notified and then only thereafter, the ordinary elections to the Rural Local Bodies could be conducted, as ordered by the Supreme Court of India.

4. In the circumstances stated above, as the term of office of the Special Officers was due to expire on the 31st December 2019, the Government decided to amend section 261-A of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 (Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994) so as to extend the term of office of the said Special Officers for a further period of six months upto the 30th June 2020 or until the first meeting of the council is held after the ordinary elections to the village panchayats, panchayat unions and district panchayats, whichever is earlier. Accordingly, the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Fifth Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 (Tamil Nadu Ordinance 12 of 2019) was promulgated by the Governor on the 31st December 2019 and the same was published in the *Tamil Nadu Government Gazette*, Extraordinary, dated the 31st December.

5. The Bill seeks to replace the said Ordinance.

S.P. VELUMANI,
*Minister for Municipal Administration and
Rural Development, Implementation of
Special Programme.*

K. SRINIVASAN,
Secretary.