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PART III—Act of the West Bengal Legislature.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

LAW DEPARTMENT

Legislative

NOTIFICATION

No. 1724-L.—22nd November, 2012.—The following Act of the West Bengal Legislature, having been assented to by the Governor, is hereby published for general information:—

West Bengal Act XXV of 2012

THE WEST BENGAL PANCHAYAT (SECOND AMENDMENT) ACT, 2012. ✓

[Passed by the West Bengal Legislature.]

*[Assent of the Governor was first published in the Kolkata Gazette,
Extraordinary, of the 22nd November, 2012.]*

An Act to amend the West Bengal Panchayat Act, 1973.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the West Bengal Panchayat Act, 1973, for the purposes and in the manner hereinafter appearing;

West Ben. Act
XLI of 1973.

It is hereby enacted in the Sixty-third Year of the Republic of India, by the Legislature of West Bengal, as follows:—

Short title and
commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the West Bengal Panchayat (Second Amendment) Act, 2012.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 4th day of September, 2012.

*The West Bengal Panchayat
(Second Amendment) Act, 2012.*

(Sections 2, 3.)

Amendment of
section 4 of West
Ben. Act XLI of
1973.

2. In sub-section (2) of section 4 of the West Bengal Panchayat Act, 1973 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act),—

(1) after the first proviso, the following provisos shall be inserted:—

“Provided further that the total number of seats so reserved for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Backward Classes, severally or jointly, as the case may be, shall not exceed fifty per cent of the total number of seats in the *Gram Panchayat* as determined in terms of the first proviso:

Provided also that reservation of seats in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be determined at the first stage following the provisions under the first proviso subject to the ceiling limit of fifty per cent of the total seats in a *Gram Panchayat* and then the balance number of seats within the ceiling limit of fifty per cent of the total seats shall be reserved for the Backward Classes subject to the proportion of total population of the Backward Classes to the total population in the said *Gram*:

Provided also that if and when the number of seats determined for reservation in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in terms of the first proviso severally or jointly exceeds fifty per cent of the total number of seats in a *Gram Panchayat*, such reserved seats in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall, within the ceiling limit of fifty per cent of the total number of seats in that *Gram Panchayat*, be apportioned in the same ratio of proportion of population of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes to the total population in that *Gram*:

Provided also that when the number of seats determined for reservation in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in terms of the first proviso or the fourth proviso, as the case may be, severally or jointly reaches fifty per cent of the total number of seats in that *Gram Panchayat*, there shall be no reservation of seats in favour of the Backward Classes, notwithstanding that there is sizeable proportion of the Backward Classes population in that *Gram*.”;

(2) in the second proviso, for the words “Provided further that as nearly as practicable”, the words “Provided also that as nearly as practicable” shall be substituted.

Amendment of
section 9.

3. In sub-section (1) of section 9 of the principal Act, after the third proviso, the following provisos shall be inserted:—

“Provided also that the total number of offices of the *Pradhan* or the *Upa-Pradhan* in any district reserved for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Backward Classes, severally or jointly, as the case may be, shall not exceed fifty per cent of the total number of offices of the *Pradhan* or the *Upa-Pradhan* within the district as determined in terms of the third proviso:

Provided also that reservation of offices of the *Pradhan* or the *Upa-Pradhan* in any district in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be determined at the first stage following the provisions under the third proviso subject to the ceiling limit of fifty per cent of the total offices of the *Pradhan* or the *Upa-Pradhan* in the district and then the balance number of offices of the *Pradhan* or the *Upa-Pradhan* in the district within the ceiling limit of fifty per cent of the total offices of the *Pradhan* or the *Upa-Pradhan* in the district shall be reserved for the Backward Classes subject to the proportion of total population of the Backward Classes to the total population in the said district:

*The West Bengal Panchayat
(Second Amendment) Act, 2012.*

(Section 4.)

Provided also that if and when the number of offices of the *Pradhan* or the *Upa-Pradhan* in any district determined for reservation in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in terms of the third proviso severally or jointly exceeds fifty per cent of the total number of offices of the *Pradhan* or the *Upa-Pradhan* in the district, such reserved offices in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall, within the ceiling limit of fifty per cent of the total number of offices of the *Pradhan* or the *Upa-Pradhan* in the district, be apportioned in the same ratio of proportion of population of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes to the total population in that district:

Provided also that when the number of offices of the *Pradhan* or the *Upa-Pradhan* in any district determined for reservation in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in terms of the third proviso or the sixth proviso, as the case may be, severally or jointly reaches fifty per cent of the total number of offices of the *Pradhan* or the *Upa-Pradhan* in the district, there shall be no reservation of offices of the *Pradhan* or the *Upa-Pradhan* in that district in favour of the Backward Classes, notwithstanding that there is sizeable proportion of the Backward Class population in that district:”.

Amendment of
section 94.

4. In clause (ii) of sub-section (2) of section 94 of the principal Act,—

(1) after the first proviso, the following provisos shall be inserted:—

“Provided further that the total number of seats so reserved for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Backward Classes, severally or jointly, as the case may be, shall not exceed fifty per cent of the total number of seats in the *Panchayat Samiti* as determined in terms of the first proviso:

Provided also that reservation of seats in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be determined at the first stage following the provisos under the first proviso subject to the ceiling limit of fifty per cent of the total seats in the *Panchayat Samiti* and then the balance number of seats within the ceiling limit of fifty per cent of the total seats shall be reserved for the Backward Classes subject to the proportion of total population of the Backward Classes to the total population in the said Block:

Provided also that if and when the number of seats determined for reservation in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in terms of the first proviso severally or jointly exceeds fifty per cent of the total number of seats in a *Panchayat Samiti*, such reserved seats in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall, within the ceiling limit of fifty per cent of the total number of seats in the *Panchayat Samiti*, be apportioned in the same ratio of proportion of population of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes with the total population in that Block:

Provided also that when the number of seats determined for reservation in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in terms of the first proviso or the fourth proviso, as the case may be, severally or jointly reaches fifty per cent of the total number of seats in that *Panchayat Samiti*, there shall be no reservation of seats in favour of the Backward Classes, notwithstanding that there is sizeable proportion of Backward Class population in that Block:”;

(2) in the second proviso, for the words “Provided further that as nearly as practicable”, the words “Provided also that as nearly as practicable” shall be substituted.

