

7. PANCHAYAT ELECTIONS

7.3 Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Reservation of Seats and Rotation of Reserved Seats) Rules, 1995

(G.O. (Ms) No. 142 Rural Development (C.2) Department, dated 7th August 1995)

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 242 read with Sections 11,20,32 and 57 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 (Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994), the Governor of Tamil Nadu hereby makes the following Rules -

RULES

1. Short title – These Rules may be called the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Reservation of Seats and Rotation of Reserved Seats) Rules, 1995.

2. Definition – In these Rules, unless the context otherwise require, –

- (1) 'Act' the means Tamil Nadu PanchayatS Act, 1994 (Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994);
- (2) All other words and expressions used in these Rules, but not defined in these Rules, shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the Act.

3. Reservation of seats for the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes –

- (1) In every Village Panchayat, Panchayat Union Council and District Panchayat, the number of seats reserved for the persons belonging to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes out of the total number of seats fixed under Rule 3 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Fixation of Strength of Members and Division of Wards) Rules, 1995 in the Village Panchayat, Panchayat Union Council or District Panchayat, as the case may be, shall bear as nearly as may be the same proportion to the total number of seats to be filled by direct election in that Village Panchayat, Panchayat Union Council or District Panchayat, as the case may be, as the population of the Scheduled Castes or of the Scheduled Tribes in that Village Panchayat area, Panchayat Union Council area or District Panchayat area, as the case may be, bears to the total population of that area.
- (2) While determining the number of seats to be reserved in favour of Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes any fraction shall be ignored.
- (3) Among the seats reserved for Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes not less than one-third shall be reserved for women belonging to Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes.

Provided that if the number of seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is not more than one, it would not be necessary to reserve any seat for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

4. Reservation of Seats for members of Backward Classes

- (1) In every Village Panchayat, Panchayat Union Council and District Panchayat, as nearly as may be, fifty percent of seats shall be reserved for persons belonging to the Backward Classes of Citizens. Out of the total No. of seats fixed under Rule. 3 of the Tamil Nadu panchayats (Fixation of Strength of members and Division of Wards) Rules 1995.
- (2) While determining the number of seats to be reserved in favour of Backward Classes and fraction shall be ignored.
- (3) Among the seats reserved for Backward Classes not less than one third shall be reserved for Women belong to the Backward Classes.

5. Reservation of seats for Women - In every Village Panchayat, Panchayat Union Council and District Panchayat Council, not less than one-third shall be reserved for women

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including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or Backward Classes, out of the total number of seats fixed under Rule 3 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Fixation of Strength of Members and Division of Wards) Rules, 1995.

6. Reservation of seats in respect of offices of Presidents of Village Panchayats Chairmen of Panchayat Union Councils and District Panchayats – (1) Seats shall be reserved in the offices of Presidents of Village Panchayats, Chairmen of Panchayat Union Councils and Chairmen of District Panchayats for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The total number of seats in the offices so reserved shall bear as nearly as may be, the same proportion to the total number of offices in the Panchayats at each level in the State as the population of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the State bear to the total population of the State.

Provided that not less than one-third of such offices shall be reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

- a) Of the total No. of offices of Presidents of Panchayats, Chairmen of Panchayat Union Councils and Chairmen of District Panchayats, 50% shall be reserved for persons belonging to the Backward Classes:

Provided that not less than one - third of such offices shall be reserved for women belonging to Backward Classes.

- b) Of the total No. of offices of Presidents of Panchayats, Chairmen of Panchayat Union Councils and Chairmen of District Panchayats, not less than one - third shall be reserved for women including the offices reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes belonging to Backward Classes.

7. Rotation of reserved seats and office – (1) Reservation of seats or offices under Rules 3,4, 5 and 6, shall be made as far as practicable in the Ward or Territorial Ward or Panchayat where the population of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, or Backward Classes or Women, as the case may be is comparatively large to the total population of the Ward or Territorial Ward or the Panchayat.

Provided that such seats reserved for women in Wards of Village Panchayats or Panchayat Unions or Territorial Wards of District Panchayats and such seats reserved for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, or Backward Classes for women in the office Presidents of Village Panchayats, Chairpersons of Panchayat Union Councils and Chairpersons of District Panchayats, shall be allotted by rotation [at the expiry of every ten years] and reallocated to other Wards or Territorial Wards or Panchayats where the percentage of population of women or Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes or Backward Classes as the case may be, is next larger to the total population of that Ward, Territorial Ward or Panchayat, by adopting a list of Wards or Panchayats arranged in the descending order of the percentage of Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Women.

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