

Ordinance Summary

The Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2020

- The Governor of Andhra Pradesh promulgated the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 on April 10, 2020. The Ordinance amends the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj Act, 1994. The Act provides for the constitution of gram panchayats, mandal parishads and zilla parishads. The Ordinance amends the Act to change the qualification, tenure and conditions of service of the State Election Commissioner (SEC). Key features of the Ordinance include:
 - **Qualification of the SEC:** The Act specifies that the Governor will appoint a person who is holding or has held the office of the Principal Secretary to the state government or a higher rank. The Ordinance changes the qualification of the SEC from a person holding the office of at least Principal Secretary to the government, to that of a Judge of the High Court.
 - **Tenure:** The Act provides that the term of the SEC will be prescribed by the state government. The Ordinance specifies that the tenure of the SEC will be three years and may be renewed for another three years. It also specifies that no person can hold office for more than six years in total.
 - **Termination of SEC:** The Ordinance states that any person appointed as SEC before the date of the Ordinance will cease to hold that office from the date of the Ordinance.

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