

Under Rule 130 of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rules, the following Bill which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly of the Tamil Nadu on 15th February, 2024 is published together with Statement of Objects and Reasons for general information:—

**L.A Bill No. 4 of 2024**

**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 Seventy-fifth year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Third Amendment) Act, 2024. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force at once

Tamil Nadu Act 21  
of 1994.

2. In section 239 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, in sub-section (2), for clause (b), the following clause shall be substituted, Amendment of section 239.  
namely:—

“(b) The Tamil Nadu State Election Commissioner shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office or until he attains the age of sixty five years, whichever is earlier and he shall not be eligible for reappointment.”.

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.**

As per clause (b) of sub-section (2) of section 239 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 (Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994), the term of office of the Tamil Nadu State Election Commissioner is two years and he is eligible for re-appointment for two successive terms. The Tamil Nadu State Election Commissioner may hold office for a period of six years in the aggregate, but he shall retire from office if he completes the age of sixty-five years, during the term of his office.

2. In most of the States in India, the tenure of the State Election Commissioners is fixed as five years or till the age of sixty-five years, whichever is earlier. The Task Force to strengthen the institution of the State Election Commission and related matters, 2011 has also recommended that the tenure of the State Election Commissioner should be for five / six years or sixty-five years of age, whichever is earlier and without any provision of extension. The said recommendation has been accepted by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India.

3. In view of the above, the Government have decided to amend the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 (Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994) suitably, so as to make it in conformity with the service conditions of the State Election Commissioner in other States of India.

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

**I. PERIYASAMY,**  
*Minister for Rural Development.*

Secretariat,  
Chennai-600 009,  
15th February 2024.

**K. SRINIVASAN,**  
*Principal Secretary.*