



TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

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Part IV—Section 1 Tamil Nadu Bills

BILL INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TAMIL NADU

Under Rule 130 of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rules, the following Bill which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu on 7th September, 2026 is published together with Statement of Objects and Reasons for general information:-

L.A.Bill No. 19 of 2026

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-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Second Amendment) Act, 2026. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 6th day of July 2026.

Tamil Nadu Act 21
of 1994.

2. In section 261-A of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), for the expression “upto the 5th day of July 2026”, the expression “upto the 19th day of October 2026” shall be substituted. Amendment of section 261-A.

Validation.

3. Notwithstanding anything contained in the principal Act, the Special Officers appointed by the Government to exercise the powers and discharge the functions of the village panchayats, panchayat union councils or the district panchayats other than the panchayats in the districts of Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu, Villupuram, Kallakurichi, Vellore, Ranipet, Tirupathur, Tirunelveli, and Tenkasi with effect on and from the 6th day of July 2026, shall be deemed to have been appointed as such Special Officers under section 261-A of the principal Act, as amended by this Act, and anything done or any action taken by the said Special Officers during the period commencing on and from the 6th day of July 2026 and ending with the date of publication of this Act in the *Tamil Nadu Government Gazette*, shall be deemed to have been validly done or taken under the principal Act, as amended by this Act.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The term of office of the elected representatives of the village panchayats, panchayat unions and district panchayats in twenty eight districts of the State, excluding the districts of Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu, Villupuram, Kallakurichi, Vellore, Ranipet, Thirupathur, Tirunelveli and Tenkasi expired on the 5th January 2025. The ordinary elections to the said rural local bodies could not be conducted before the said date because of the non-completion of the process of delimitation and reservation of wards. Hence, section 261-A of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 (Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994) was amended by the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Amendment) Act, 2025 (Tamil Nadu Act 6 of 2025) so as to enable the Government to appoint Special Officers to administer the said panchayats until the ordinary elections to the said panchayats are held or upto the 5th July 2025, whichever was earlier. The term of office of the Special Officers was extended from time to time. Lastly, the term of office of the Special Officers was extended up to the 5th July 2026 by the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Amendment) Act, 2026 (Tamil Nadu Act 9 of 2026).

2. In the meantime, the process of bifurcation and reorganisation of rural local bodies in hilly and non-hilly areas are completed resulting in constitution of nine new panchayat unions and ninety-three new village panchayats besides the amalgamation of one village panchayat. As the process of delimitation and reservation of wards in panchayats would require some more time, the ordinary elections could not be conducted to the said panchayats on or before the 5th July 2026.

3. In the meantime, as the term of office of the Special Officers appointed under section 261-A of the said Act was due to expire on the 5th July 2026. The Government have issued orders extending the term of Special Officers for 28 districts appointed under section 261-A of the said Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994 to exercise the powers and discharging functions of village panchayats, panchayat union councils and district panchayats from 06.07.2026 to 19.10.2026, in order to administer the day-to-day affairs of the panchayats in the said 28 districts.

4. The Government have, therefore, decided to amend the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 (Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994) so as to enable the Government to extend the term of office of the Special Officers for a further period upto the 19th October 2026 or until the first meeting of village panchayats, panchayat union councils and the district panchayats is held, after the ordinary elections to the said panchayats, whichever is earlier and to validate the action of the Government having extended the term of Special Officers in the said 28 districts beyond the 5th July 2026 till the date of publication of this Act in the *Tamil Nadu Government Gazette*.

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

N. ANAND,

*Minister for Rural Development and
Water Resources.*

Secretariat,
Chennai-9,
7th September 2026.

R. SANTHI,
Secretary.