AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE TELANGANA PANCHAYAT RAJ ACT, 2018.

Whereas, the Telangana Panchayat Raj Act, 2018 has been enacted by the Legislature of Telangana providing reservations of seats (wards) and offices in the Gram
Panchayats, Mandal Praja Parishads and Zilla Praja Parishads in favour of members belonging to the Scheduled Tribes/ Scheduled Castes on the basis of proportionate percentage of their population in the State to the total number of seats and offices;

And whereas, the Act also provides that the number of seats and offices reserved for Backward classes shall not be less than thirty four percent of the total number of offices of the members in such Panchayat Raj bodies in the State;

And whereas as per the judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India the total reservations in favour of Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes shall not exceed 50 percent of the seats/offices in the local bodies in the State;

And whereas, in a Writ Petition filed in Hon'ble High Court for the State of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, the High Court directed to complete the election process for the members of Gram Panchayats and offices of the Sarpanches in the Gram Panchayats within three months from 11.10.2018;

And whereas, the State Government filed SLP against the said order of the High Court and the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dismissed the same as withdrawn;

And whereas, so as to be in consonance with the Judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and the High Court, and the elections to the Panchayat Raj Bodies are to be conducted immediately, as per the directions of the High Court, it has been decided to provide a Special Chapter restricting the reservations to a maximum of 50 percent of the total number of seats and offices in the local bodies, duly keeping in view the requirement of reservations in favour of Scheduled Tribes/ Scheduled Castes.
And whereas, the Legislature of the State is not now in session and the Governor is satisfied that the circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of article 213 of the Constitution of India, the Governor hereby promulgates the following Ordinance:-

1. (1) This Ordinance may be called the Telangana Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. In the Telangana Panchayat Raj Act, 2018, after Chapter VIII, the following new Chapter shall be inserted, namely:-

"CHAPTER – VIII-A

SPECIAL PROVISIONS IN RESPECT OF RESERVATIONS FOR THE SEATS AND OFFICES IN GRAM PANCHAYATS, MANDAL PRAJA PARISHADS AND ZILLA PRAJA PARISHADS.

285A. In pursuance of the judgments of the Supreme Court of India, the upper ceiling of 50 percent vertical reservations in favour of SCs/STs/OBCs should not be breached in the context of local self Government, and accordingly, notwithstanding anything contained in sections 9, 17, 146, 147, 175, 176 and elsewhere in the Act providing for reservation in favour of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes, the seats and offices to be reserved for Backward Classes shall be so determined,
duly keeping in view the requirement of reservation in respect of SCs, STs therein, that the total number of seats/offices reserved for the SCs, STs and BCs shall not exceed 50 percent of the total number of seats or as the case may be the offices, in the respective local bodies, in the manner prescribed."

E.S.L. NARASIMHAN,
Governor of Telangana.

BACHINA RAMANJANEYULU,
Secretary to Government (i/c),
Legal Affairs, Legislative Affairs & Justice,
Law Department.
In the Telangana Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (Telangana Ordinance No. 2/2018) published at pp 1-8 of Part IV-B Extra Ordinary issue of the Telangana Gazette No. 2, dated 15th December, 2018,-

1. At page No. 2, in the line 30,-
   For “Chapter” read “Part”

2. At page No. 3, in lines 12 and 14,- including in the marginal heading
   For “Chapter” read “Part”

V. NIRANJAN RAO,
Secretary to Government,
Legal Affairs, Legislative Affairs and Justice.