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PART IV—Bills introduced in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly; Reports of Select Committees presented or to be presented to that Assembly; and Bills published before introduction in that Assembly.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

LAW DEPARTMENT

Legislative

NOTIFICATION

No. 957-L.—20th September, 2022.—The Governor having been pleased to order, under rule 66 of the Rules

of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly, the publication of the following Bill, together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons which accompanies it, in the *Kolkata Gazette*, the Bill and the Statement of Objects and Reasons are accordingly hereby published for general information:—

Bill No. 25 of 2022

**THE WEST BENGAL PANCHAYAT ELECTIONS
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022.**

**A
BILL**

to amend the West Bengal Panchayat Elections Act, 2003.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the West Bengal *Panchayat Elections Act, 2003*, for the purposes and in the manner hereinafter appearing;

West Ben. Act
XXI of 2003.

It is hereby enacted in the Seventy-third Year of the Republic of India, by the Legislature of West Bengal, as follows:—

Short title and
commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the West Bengal *Panchayat Elections (Amendment) Act, 2022*.

*The West Bengal Panchayat Elections
(Amendment) Bill, 2022.*

(Clauses 2, 3.)

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the State Government may, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, appoint.

Substitution of new section for section 12 of West Ben. Act XXI of 2003.

2. For section 12 of the West Bengal *Panchayat Elections Act, 2003* (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), the following section shall be substituted:—

“Total number of members in a *Gram Panchayat*. 12. Subject to the provision of sub-section (2) of section 4 of the West Bengal *Panchayat Act, 1973*, the prescribed authority shall determine the total number of members to be elected to a *Gram Panchayat* on the following basis, namely:—

West Ben. Act XLI of 1973.

- (i) in the hill areas, one member for seven hundred voters and one additional member for every fraction thereof;
- (ii) in the case of other areas, one member for every nine hundred voters and one additional member for every fraction thereof.”

Amendment of section 14.

3. In section 14 of the principal Act, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted:—

“(1) The number of members to be elected to a *Panchayat Samiti* from a *Gram* in hill areas shall be—

- (i) one, if the number of voters in such *Gram* is 3000, or less;
- (ii) two, if the number of voters in such *Gram* is more than 3000 and less than 6001; and
- (iii) three, if the number of voters in such *Gram* is 6001 and above.”

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

It is considered necessary and expedient to amend section 12 and section 14 of the West Bengal *Panchayat Elections Act, 2003* (West Ben. Act XXI of 2003), for effective implementation of the Act.

2. The Bill has been framed with the above objects in view.

3. There is no financial implication involved in giving effect to the provisions of the Bill.

KOLKATA,
The 20th September, 2022.

PRADEEP MAJUMDAR,
Member-in-charge.

By order of the Governor,

PRADIP KUMAR PANJA,
Secy. to the Govt. of West Bengal,
Law Department.