

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

Bill No. 28-PLA-2018

THE PUNJAB PANCHAYATI RAJ (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2018

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BILL

*further to amend the Punjab Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.*

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Punjab in the Sixty-ninth year of the Republic of India as follows :—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Act, 2018. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force on and with effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Punjab Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 12, after sub-section (4), for the existing explanation, the following explanation shall be substituted, namely :— Amendment in section 12 of Punjab Act 9 of 1994.

*“Explanation.-For the removal of doubts it is hereby declared that for the purpose of giving effect to the enhanced reservation for women from not less than one-third to one-half, pursuant to Punjab Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Act, 2017 (Punjab Act No. 12 of 2017), the principle of rotation for the purpose of reservation of offices under section 11 and 12 shall commence from the first election to be held after the commencement of said Act, i.e. the 25th day of July, 2017.”.*

3. In the principal Act, in section 107, for the existing explanation, the following explanation shall be substituted, namely,— Amendment in section 107 of Punjab Act 9 of 1994.

*“Explanation.-For the removal of doubts it is hereby declared that for the purpose of giving effect to the enhanced reservation for women from not less than one-third to one-half, pursuant to Punjab Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Act, 2017 (Punjab Act No. 12 of 2017), the principle of rotation for the purpose of reservation of offices under section 102 and 106 shall commence from the first election to be held after the commencement of said Act, i.e. the 25th day of July, 2017.”.*

Repeal and  
saving.

4. (1) The Punjab Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (Punjab Ordinance No. 3 of 2018), is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the principal Act, as amended by the Ordinance referred to in subsection (1), shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the principal Act, as amended by this Act.

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Punjab Panchayati Raj, Act 1994 was amended *vide* Act 12 of 2017 to provide for 50 per cent reservation of the seats in the Panchayats for women. This being a major landmark change in the legislation to establish and regulate the working of the Panchayats in the State, there is a need to rework rotation of the seats in the Panchayats after the amendments in 2017. This Bill aims to achieve this objective.

TRIPT RAJINDER SINGH BAJWA,  
Rural Development and Panchayats  
Minister, Punjab.

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CHANDIGARH :  
The 11th December, 2018.

SHASHI LAKHANPAL MISHRA,  
Secretary.

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*N.B.*— The above Bill was published in the *Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary)*, dated the 11th December, 2018 under the proviso to rule 121 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).