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PART IIIA—Ordinances promulgated by the Governor of West Bengal under the Constitution of India.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

LAW DEPARTMENT

Legislative

West Bengal Ordinance No. III of 2012

**THE WEST BENGAL PANCHAYAT ELECTIONS
(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 2012.**

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.

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of the State of West Bengal is not in session and the Governor is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action;

The Governor is pleased, in exercise of the power conferred by clause (1) of article 213 of the Constitution of India, to make and promulgate the following Ordinance:—

Short title and
commencement.

1. (1) This Ordinance may be called the West Bengal *Panchayat* Elections (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

Amendment of
section 17 of West
Ben. Act XXI of
2003.

2. After sub-section (2A) of section 17 of the West Bengal *Panchayat* Elections Act, 2003 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), the following sub-section shall be inserted:—

“(2B) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-sections (1), (2) and (2A), the total number of seats so reserved for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Backward Classes, severally or jointly, as the case may be, shall not exceed fifty per cent of the total number of seats in any *Gram Panchayat*, *Panchayat Samiti*, *Zilla Parishad* or the *Mahakuma Parishad* as determined under section 12, section 14 or section 15, as the case may be:

