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OFFICIAL  GAZETTE
GOVERNMENT OF GOA

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

SUPPLEMENT

Goa Legislature Secretariat

LA/LEGN/2025/1811

The following bill which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Goa on 6th August, 2025 is hereby published for general information in pursuance of Rule-138 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of the Goa Legislative Assembly.

The Goa Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2025

(Bill No. 42 of 2025)

A

BILL

further to amend the Goa Municipalities Act, 1968 (Goa Act 7 of 1969).

BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of Goa in the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. *Short title and commencement.*— (1) This Act may be called the Goa Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 2025.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of Section 9.*— In Section 9 of the Goa Municipalities Act, 1968 (Goa Act 7 of 1969) (hereinafter referred to as the “principal Act”), in sub-section (2), in clause (a) against item (i), for the expression “that the total number of elected Councillors shall not exceed 25”, the expression “that the total number of elected Councillors shall not exceed 27” shall be substituted.

3. *Amendment of Section 188.*— In Section 188 of the principal Act,—

(i) in sub-section (1),—

(a) for the words “within one month”, the words “within fifteen days” shall be substituted;

(b) in the proviso, for the words “seven days” and “one month,” the words “five days” and “fifteen days” shall be respectively substituted;

(ii) in sub-section (2), in clause (b) for the words “one month”, the words “fifteen days” shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Bill proposes to amend Section 9 of the Goa Municipalities Act, 1968 (Goa Act 7 of 1969) so as to increase the number of wards in ‘A’ Class Municipal Councils.

The Bill also proposes to amend Section 188 of the said Act so as to curtail delay in granting completion certificate, permission to occupy or use and to promote implementation of Guidelines for Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP) to grant impetus to Ease of Doing Business in the State.

This Bill seeks to achieve the above objects

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

No financial implications are involved in this Bill.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATION OF LEGISLATION

No delegated legislation is envisaged in this Bill.

Place: Porvorim-Goa.
August, 2025

VISHWAJIT P. RANE
Minister for Urban Development

Assembly Hall,
Porvorim, Goa.
August, 2025

NAMRATA ULMAN
Secretary to the
Legislative Assembly of Goa.

ANNEXURE

Extract of the Goa Municipalities Act, 1968 (Goa Act 7 of 1968)

9. *Composition of Councils.* “[*(1)* Save as otherwise provided by this Act, every Council shall consist of Councillors elected at ward elections;

Provided that—

(*1*) in every Council, no less than ($1/3$) seats shall be reserved for women;

“[*(2)* in every Council, seat shall also be reserved for Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Class and for woman belonging to Scheduled Caste, as the case may be, the Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Class as provided in sub-section (*2*)]

(*2*) The State Election Commission in consultation with the Government shall from time to time by an order published in the Official Gazette fix for each municipal area—

(*a*) the number of elected Councillors in accordance with the following table:

Class of Municipal area	Number of elected Councillors
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(*i*) ‘A’ Class The minimum number of elected Councillors shall be “[20], and {for every “[2500] of the “[voters in the municipal area] or part thereof} above 50,000 there shall be one additional elected Councillor, so, however, that the total number of elected Councillors shall not exceed [25];

(*ii*) ‘B’ Class The minimum number of elected Councillor shall be “[12], and {for every [2500] of the “[voters in the municipal area] or part thereof} “[above 10,000] there shall be one additional elected Councillor, so, however, that the total number of elected Councillors shall not exceed ” [20];

[(*iii*) the figure in (*i*) and (*ii*) shall be odd, if possible]

“[(*iv*)] ‘C’ Class The number of elected Councillors shall be 10.

(*b*) the number of seats, if any, to be reserved for the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes so that such number shall bear, as nearly as may be, the same proportion to the number of elected Councillors as the population of the Scheduled Castes or of the Scheduled Tribes in the municipal area bears to the total

population of that area and not less than one-third of such seats shall be reserved for women and such seats shall be allotted by rotation to different wards in the Council.].

[(bb) the number of seats, if any, to be reserved for persons belonging to the category of Other Backward Classes so that such number shall be twenty seven percent of the number of seats to be filled in through election in the Council and such seats shall be allotted by rotation to different wards in the Council.]

[(c) the number of seats for the office of Chairperson in the Council {for Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes []} and women so that such number will bear as nearly as may be, the same proportion to the number of elected Councillors as the population of the [Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes [***]] in the municipal area bears to the total population of that area and such seats shall be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in a Council.]

(3) The reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes made by an order under sub-section (2) shall cease to have effect when the reservation of seats for those Castes and Tribes in the House of the People ceases to have effect under the Constitution of India:

Provided that nothing in this sub-section shall render any person elected to any such reserved seat ineligible to continue as a Councillor during the term of office for which he was duly elected by reason only of the fact that the reservation of seats has so ceased to have effect.

(4) Every order under sub-section (2) shall take effect for the purposes of the next general election of the Council immediately following after the date of the order.

(5) [***]

188. *Completion certificate, permission to occupy or use.*— (1) Every person constructing a building shall, within one month after the completion of construction of such building, deliver or send or cause to be delivered or sent to the Chief Officer at his office, notice in writing of such completion and shall give to the Chief Officer all necessary facilities for inspection of such building:

Provided that—

a) such inspection shall be commenced within seven days from the date of receipt or the notice of completion; and

b) the Chief Officer may, not later than one month from the date of receipt of the notice of completion, by written intimation addressed to the person from whom the notice of completion was received,—

(i) give permission for the occupation of such building or for the use of the building or part thereof affected by such construction; or

(ii) refuse such permission in case such building has been constructed so as to contravene any provision of this Act or of any bye-law made under this Act at the time in force or of any order passed under Section 184 intimating to the person who gave the notice under sub-section (2) of that section, the reasons for such refusal and requiring such person, or if the person responsible for giving notice under sub-section (2) of the said section is not at the time of such notice owner of such building, then such owner to cause anything which is contrary to any provision of this Act or of any bye-law made under this Act at the time in force or of any order passed under Section 184 to be amended or to do anything which by any such provision or bye-law or order he is required to do but which has been omitted.

(2) No person shall occupy or permit to be occupied or use or permit to be used any such building constructed or part thereof affected by such construction, until—

(a) the permission referred to in proviso (b) to sub-section (1) has been received, or

(b) the Chief Officer has failed for one month after the receipt of the notice of completion to intimate as aforesaid his refusal of the said permission.

(3) Whoever—

(a) occupies or permits to be occupied any such building or part thereof affected by such construction without giving any notice as required under sub-section (1) or in contravention of the provisions of sub-section (2); or

(b) fails to comply with any order or requisition made under sub-section (1) shall, on conviction, be punished with fine which may extend to [ten thousand rupees], and in the case of continuing contravention or non-compliance with further fine which may extend to [one hundred rupees] for every day after the first during which such contravention or non-compliance continues.