



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF
GOA

**The Goa Municipalities (Amendment)
Bill, 2026**

(Bill No. 53 of 2026)

(As passed in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Goa)

GOA LEGISLATURE SECRETARIAT
ASSEMBLY HALL, PORVORIM
SEPTEMBER, 2026

The Goa Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2026

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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-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement. — (1) This Act may be called the Goa Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 2026.

(2) It shall come into force at once except clause (A) of section 2 and sections 3 and 4 which shall be deemed to have come into force on the 22nd day of April, 2026.

2. Amendment of section 9.— In section 9 of the Goa Municipalities Act, 1968 (Goa Act No. 7 of 1969) (hereinafter referred to as the “principal Act”), in sub-section (2), —

(A) in clause (a), —

(i) in item (i), —

(a) for the figures “2500”, the figures “3000” shall be substituted;

(b) for the words “ voters in the municipal area” the word “population” shall be substituted;

(ii) in item (ii),—

(a) for the figures “2500”, the figures “3000” shall be substituted;

(b) for the words “voters in the municipal area”, the word “population” shall be substituted;

(B) in clause (bb), for the words “shall be twenty seven percent” the words “may be twenty- seven percent” shall be substituted;

(C) after clause (c), the following clause shall be inserted namely:—

“(d) For the purpose of determining the number of seats under clauses (b) and (c) above a fraction of such proportion, if less than one-half shall be ignored and if one-half or more shall be reckoned as one.”

3. Substitution of section 10. — For section 10 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“10. Division of Municipal areas into wards and reservation of wards.— (1) Upon issuance of the order under sub-section (2) of section 9, the State Election Commission shall, by order published in the Official Gazette, fix for each or any municipal area, the number of the wards into which such area shall be divided.

(2) The State Election Commission shall thereafter undertake the exercise of delimitation of the wards so specified in each or any Municipal area within a period of 60 days from the date of publication of the order in the Official Gazette, under sub-section (1).

(3) The State Election Commission shall prepare a draft of delimitation of wards with respect to each or any municipal area and publish it in the Official Gazette inviting objections and suggestions from the public within a period of 30 days from the date of publication of draft of delimitation in the Official Gazette. The objections and suggestions received in writing shall be considered by the State Election Commission and a final notification of delimitation shall be issued by the State Election Commission in consultation with the Government, in respect of each or any municipal area within a period of 30 days from the last date for submitting such objections.

(4) An empirical data pertaining to political backwardness shall be obtained by the State Election Commission from the Goa State Commission for Backward Classes in respect of each or any municipal area and the wards, based on the final notification of delimitation issued under sub-section (3).

(5) Upon receipt of the data under sub-section (4) from the Goa State Commission for Backward Classes, the State Election Commission shall publish a draft of reservation of seats in the Official Gazette in respect of each or any municipal area inviting objections/suggestions from the public within a period of 30 days.

(6) Upon receipt of objections/suggestions in writing and considering the same the State Election Commission shall publish the final notification of reservation in the Official Gazette, in consultation with the Government, with respect to each or any municipal area, within a period of 30 days from the last date for submitting such objections.

(7) After expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of the final notification of reservation, the State Election Commission shall declare elections to each or any of the municipal area.

(8) Each of the ward shall elect only one Councillor.

(9) Every order/notification issued under sub-sections (1), (3) and (6) shall take effect, for the purpose of the ensuing general election, immediately following the date of such order/ notification, as the case may be.

Explanation: In all cases where objections/suggestions from the public are invited, the same shall be submitted in writing, however, no opportunity of personal hearing shall be afforded to the parties.

(10) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent women or persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes or Other Backward Class for whom seats are reserved in any Council, from standing for election and being elected to any of the seats which are not reserved."

4. Amendment of section 11.— In section 11 of the principal Act,—

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(1) The electoral roll of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Goa prepared under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 (Act 43 of 1950) and for the time being in force on such date as the State Election Commission may by general or special order notify in this behalf for such constituency of the Assembly or any part thereof as is included in the municipal area, shall be divided into different wards in the municipal area; and a printed copy of the roll so divided and authenticated by such officer

shall be the list of voters for each ward. The ward lists shall collectively be deemed to be the municipal voters list.";

(ii) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(3) At least thirty days prior to the date of the notification for election, such officer shall keep open for public inspection at the municipal office and at such other places in the municipal area as the State Election Commission may fix, copies of the list of voters of each ward maintained under sub-section (2).".

5. Repeal and saving. — (1) The Goa Municipalities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026 (Ordinance No.4 of 2026) is hereby repealed.

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