

L. A. BILL No. LXXIX OF 2025.

A BILL

further to amend the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act.

III of
1959. 5 WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act, for the purposes hereinafter appearing ; it is hereby enacted in the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic of India, as follows :—

1. This Act may be called the Maharashtra Village Panchayats (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2025. Short title.

III of
1959. 10 **2.** In section 176 of the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act (hereinafter referred to as “the principal Act)”,— Amendment of section 176 of III of 1959.

(a) in sub-section (5), the brackets, words, letters and figure “ (except rules made under clause (xxvi) of sub-section (2)) ” shall be deleted and shall be deemed to have been deleted with effect from the 15th August 1975 ;

(b) sub-section (6) shall be deleted and shall be deemed to have been deleted with effect from the 15th August 1975.

Validation
and savings.

3. Notwithstanding anything contained in the principal Act or in any judgment, decree or order of any court, tribunal or authority, where any rule has been made under clause (xxvi) of sub-section (2) of section 176 of the principal Act, without laying of preliminary rules before the State Legislature under sub-section (6) of section 176 of the principal Act, shall be deemed to have been validly made and shall be deemed always to have been valid and effective in accordance with law and no such rules or any notifications or orders made thereunder shall be called in question in any court merely on the ground that the provisions of sub-section (6) of section 176 of the principal Act have not been complied with.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Panchayats constituted under article 243B of the Constitution of India are the institutions of self-government for rural areas. Section 124 of the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act (III of 1959) empowers the Panchayat to levy taxes and fees, subject to minimum and maximum rates which may be fixed by the State Government and in such manner and subject to such exemptions as may be prescribed.

2. The taxes and fees are main sources of income of the Panchayats. The provision contained in sub-section (6) of section 176 of the said Act for laying of the draft rules regarding taxes and fees made under section 124, before each House of the State Legislature prior to their final publication defers the implementation of such rules. It may affect the collection of the taxes and fees of the Panchayats and ultimately income of the Panchayats. Therefore, the Government considers it expedient to provide that such rules shall be laid before each House of the State Legislature after they are made similar to laying of other rules made under the said Act. For the above purposes, it is proposed to amend section 176 of the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act, with retrospective effect, suitably.

3. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

Mumbai,

Dated the 11th July, 2025.

JAYKUMAR GORE,

Minister for Rural Development.

ANNEXURE TO THE L. A. BILL No. LXXIX OF 2025 THE MAHARASHTRA
VILLAGE PANCHAYATS (AMENDMENT AND VALIDATION)
BILL, 2025

(*Extracts from the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act, 1958*)

(Mah. III of 1959)

1. to 168B.	*	*	*	*	
176. (1) to (4)	*	*	*	*	Rules.

(5) Every rule [except rules made under clause (xxvi) of sub-section (2)] made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be, after it is made, before each House of the State Legislature while it is in session for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two successive sessions and if before the expiry of the session in which it is so laid or the session immediately following both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made and notify such decision in the *Official Gazette*, the rule shall from the date of publication of such notification have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be ; so however, that any modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done or omitted to be done under that rule.

(6) The draft of every rule made, under clause (xxvi) of sub-section (2) shall, as soon as may be after it is published in the *Official Gazette* as required by sub-section (4), be laid before each House of the State Legislature and shall be subject to such modifications as may be made by the State Legislature, before it is finally published as required by sub-section (1).

177. to 188.	*	*	*	*	
SCHEDULES	*	*	*	*	

**MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATURE
SECRETARIAT**

[L. A. BILL No. LXXIX OF 2025.]

**[A Bill further to amend the
Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act.]**

[SHRI JAYKUMAR GORE,
Minister for Rural Development.]

JITENDRA BHOLE,
Secretary-1,
Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.