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Duties of Village Panchayat
Sarpanchas in regard to holding
of Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat
meeting under sections 7 and 36
of Bombay Village Panchayat Act
1958.

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Rural Development Department,
Circular No. VPM/1369/36449-E,
Sachivalaya, Bombay-32, Dated the 24th September 70.

CIRCULAR.

In Government Circular, Rural Development Department, No. VPM/1369/14608/E, dated the 14th May 1969, it has been clarified that failure to hold any one of the two statutory meetings of the Gram Sabha mentioned in section 7(1) of the Bombay Village Panchayat Act, 1958, will result in disqualifying the Sarpanch/Upa-Sarpanch. Recently in its Judgment in Special Civil Application No. 413 of 1969 the High Court has held that a Sarpanch/Upasarpanch shall be disqualified only if both the Statutory meetings of the Gram-Sabha prescribed in section 7(1) of the Act are not held by him and that failure to hold only one of these two meetings will not entail disqualification. The intention of Government was that the Sarpanch ought to hold the two Statutory meetings and that failure to hold even one of them should result in disqualification. Steps are being taken to amend the Act to make this position clear. However, pending enactment of such amendment, the interpretation put by the High Court on section 7(1) of the Act, shall prevail. The Government Circular dated the 14th May 1969 referred to above should be deemed to have been modified to that extent.

By order and in the name of the Governor of
Maharashtra,

Under Secretary to the Government of Maharashtra,
Rural Development Department.

To
The Commissioners of all Divisions,
The Collectors of all Districts (except the Collector
of Bombay and Bombay-Suburban -
District),
The Chief Executive Officers of all Zilla Parishads,
A-II/V Branches of Rural Development Department
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OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR,
RATNAGIRI.

1 OCT 1970
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Amended
see 1973
Act