

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE NADIA
DISTRICT ELECTION SECTION

Memo. No. 1057(13)/Elec.

Dated. 30 / 10/2010

From : *The District Magistrate*
&

District Election Officer, Nadia

To : 1-4) The Sub-Divisional Officer & ERO, Sadar / Ranaghat /
Kalyani / Tehatta.

5-13) The ERO, 77 A.C. & DMDC-I SDO's Office, Tehatta / ERO, 80 AC &
DWO(BCW), Nadia / ERO, 81 AC & DPLO, Nadia / ERO, 82 AC & Spl. L.A.O. / ERO, 84
AC & DP&RDO, Nadia / ERO, 86 AC & DMDC-I SDO's Office, Ranaghat / ERO, 88 AC &
DMDC-II SDO's Office, Ranaghat / ERO, 89 AC & DMDC-III SDO's Office, Ranaghat /
ERO, 93 AC & DMDC-I SDO's Office, Kalyani

Sub. : **Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls-2011 w.r.t. 01-01-
2011 as the qualifying date - Posting of Adequate Staff to fill up
vacancies and Ban on Transfer/Posting- Guidelines thereof.**

Ref. : No.2087(20)-Home(Elec) dt. 12-10-2010 with enclosures of the
OSD & Ex-Officio Spl. Secretary.

In pursuance of orders received under referred memos on the subject cited
above, you are requested to please circulate the above among all EROs/BDOs &
AEROs and to all those concerned, as directed therein regarding Posting of adequate
staff to fill up vacancies and Ban on Transfer/Posting etc., under your jurisdiction
immediately. Further, BDOs under your jurisdiction may also be instructed to
circulate the above guideline among all Supervisors/BLOs/DOs under their Electoral
Jurisdiction who in turn will follow the same scrupulously.

Enclo. : As stated above.

1057(13)/1(26)
Memo No. /Elec.

[Signature]
Addl. District Magistrate (General), Nadia

Dated : 30 / 10/ 2010.

Copy forwarded for information, wide circulation and strict compliance to :-

1) The Senior Deputy Collector, Nadia Collectorate.

2) The Nezarath Deputy Collector, Nadia Collectorate.

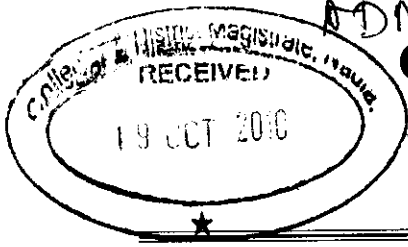
3-19) The Block Dev. Officer, Karimpur - I / Karimpur - II / Tehatta - I / Tehatta -
II / Kaliganj / Nakashipara / Chapra / Nabadwip / Krishnagar -I / Krishnagar
- II / Santipur / Ranaghat - I / Ranaghat - II / Krishnaganj / Hanskhali /
Chakdaha / Haringhata Dev. Block.

20-) PA to the D.M. & D.E.O. / A.D.M.(Genl.) / A.D.M.(Dev.), / A.D.M.(L & LR) /
A.D.M.(ZP), Nadia with the request to please place it before the D.M. & D.E.O.
/ A.D.M.(Genl.) / A.D.M.(Dev.) / A.D.M.(L & LR) / A.D.M.(ZP), Nadia for kind
appraisal.

26) *The Supervisor, Dt. Election Section, Nadia Collectorate.*
Enclo. : As stated above.

[Signature]
Addl. District Magistrate (General), Nadia

[Signature]
29/10/10



ADM (C) & M. 18301-Elec. 2. 26/10/10
Government of West Bengal
Home (C & E) Department
Election Wing
21, NS Road, Kolkata-700001

No.2087(20)-Home(Elec)
R10E-11/2010

Kolkata, 12 October 2010

From: Officer on Special Duty
and
ex officio Special Secretary to the Govt of West Bengal

To: 1) All District Election Officers
2) Kolkata Electoral District Officer

2087/CB
O/o. Election
Ru
26/10/10

Subject: Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls with reference to 1 January 2011 as the qualifying date — Posting of Adequate Staff to fill up vacancies and Ban on Transfers/Postings

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to the Election Commission of India's circular, bearing F. No 434/1/2010/ERS of 27 September 2010 along with enclosures addressed to, among others, the State's Chief Secretary on the subject indicated above, a copy of which is given to the Chief Electoral Officer, West Bengal.

A copy of the complete set is also enclosed herewith for your perusal. In this connection, you are requested to communicate the Commission's instructions to all those concerned.

Receipt may kindly be acknowledged immediately.

Yours faithfully,

(NK Sahana)
Officer on Special Duty
and

ex officio Special Secretary to the Govt of West Bengal

T.L
Pl. circulate
25/10/10

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road , New Delhi –110001.

No. 434/1/2007/ERS

Dated: 26th October, 2007.

To

The Chief Secretaries of
all the States / Union Territories.

Subject: Revision of Electoral Rolls w.r.t. 1st January as the qualifying date –
Adequate Staff & Ban on Transfers / Postings.

Sir,

You are aware that under the provisions of Section 21(2)(a) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, the electoral rolls for each constituency shall be revised in the prescribed manner with reference to 1st January as the qualifying date before each general election / bye-election, unless otherwise directed by the Election Commission for reasons to be recorded in writing. The Commission, as a matter of principle, orders revision of electoral roll every year. The nature of the revision may be of summary or an intensive one. The prime objective of the revision is to produce clean and accurate rolls with the cooperation and involvement of the electors, political parties, Rural and Urban local bodies, NGOs etc.

Provision of adequate staff

This exercise requires a massive effort on the part of the electoral authorities in the State and you will appreciate that this cannot be completed without strengthening them with adequate staff. All vacant posts related to revision of rolls shall therefore be filled up.

Ban on Transfers during the revision period

The existing provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 stipulates that any officer or staff employed in connection with the preparation, revision and correction of the electoral rolls shall be deemed to be on deputation to the Election Commission for the period during which they are so employed and

such officer and staff shall, during that period, be subject to the control, superintendence and discipline of the Election Commission.

Transfer of officials engaged in roll-revision during the period of revision will adversely affect the work and the quality of revision process. The entire process has a very tight schedule within which vast amount of work has to be completed. It involves meticulous planning, professional management, close supervision and monitoring. It is, therefore, necessary that during the aforesaid period the transfer of any officers engaged in this exercise should be avoided. In view of the extant provisions of the law the Commission reiterates its existing direction that no officials connected with the exercise of Revision of Electoral Rolls like the District Election Officers, the Electoral Registration Officers, the Assistant Electoral Registration Officers and the Booth Level Officers (BLOs) should be transferred from their places of posting without the prior concurrence of the Election Commission from the commencement of the work till its completion. In case it becomes absolutely necessary to make any transfer of the key election officers connected with the revision of rolls or there is any need for shifting of officers due to their promotion etc., the Election Commission would consider the same on merits on a case to case basis. Any proposal for inevitable transfer may be sent to the Commission giving detailed and full justification for the same. The Commission expects that the State government will not take any action, which might in any way impede the smooth completion of the work relating to the Revision of Electoral Rolls.

Ban on deployment of certain officials

The Commission further desires that no officer / officials against whom the Commission has recommended any disciplinary action or against whom a criminal case is pending in any court of law, be associated with the election work or election related duty or with any revision work connected with electoral roll.

While implementing these directions, the CEO of the State / Election Commission of India shall be consulted while posting the new persons who stands transferred as per this direction.

The Chief Electoral Officers have been directed to intimate you about the announcement of the programme of revision and changes thereof, as and when made.

I am further directed to inform you that all transfers arising out of regular promotions including that of probationers (AIS as well as SCS) have been kept out of the purview of the ban on transfers during the revision process.

Copies of the instructions whenever issued in the above matter may kindly be sent to the Commission for its information and record.

Kindly acknowledge receipt immediately.

Yours faithfully,


(RITVIK PANDEY)
SECRETARY

Copy to: -

The Chief Electoral Officers of all the States / Union Territories. They are requested to intimate the State Govt. of the announcement of the programme of revision and changes thereof, whenever made, so as to enable the State Govt. to issue necessary instructions in time.

By e-mail/Speed Post

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No. 23/2010-Vol-III/ERS

Dated: 14th September, 2010.

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States and Union Territories
(Except Bihar)

Sub: Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls with reference to 1st January, 2011 as the qualifying date – Schedule – Regarding

Sir/Madam,

The Commission has decided to take up the revision of electoral rolls with reference to 1st January, 2011 as the qualifying date. The revision shall be a Special Summary Revision in all States and Union Territories (except Bihar) and shall be undertaken in accordance with ERO's Handbook 2008 plus any subsequent instructions of the Election Commission of India with regard to revision of electoral rolls/registration of voters.

2. Following preparatory steps have to be taken before the process of summary revision is started:-

(i) Rationalization of Polling Station –As per the Commission's standing instructions rationalization of Polling Stations must be done before the draft publication. However, in view of the short time available, the Commission has directed that the process of the rationalization may be restricted to the auxiliary polling stations, created if any. These polling stations may be converted to new polling stations by rearranging and distributing the electors equitably in the new polling station and auxiliary polling station. The process must be completed before 19th October 2010.

(ii) Appointment of Booth Level Officers (BLOs) – Separate BLOs must be appointed for all Polling Stations before 19th October 2010 in accordance with the ERO's Handbook 2008 and the Commission's instructions subsequent to 2008 (Copies of the relevant instructions enclosed)

21.10.10

(iii) Training & Orientation of BLOs must be completed before 30th October 2010. Each State must send their detailed training programmes.

(iv) Other Pre-revision activities for draft publication of Rolls that need to be accomplished in a time bound manner are given below:-

Sl. No	Pre-revision Activities	Time Frame
1	2	3
(i)	De-duplication campaign to remove duplicate entries of same voter	4 th October, 2010 (Monday) to 19 th October, 2010 (Tuesday)
(ii)	Photography campaign for non-photo electors in the roll	4 th October, 2010 (Monday) to 19 th October, 2010 (Tuesday)
(iii)	Preparation of CEO's Website for draft publication of integrated rolls and providing search facility	By 24 th October 2010(Sunday).
(iv)	Standardization of search facility at website	By 24 th October 2010(Sunday).
(v)	Updation of Control Tables (including polling station Updation) & database	By 27 th October 2010(Wednesday)
(vi)	Preparation of supplement of continuous revision and integration of rolls	By 27 th October 2010 (Wednesday).
(vii)	Providing of the electors information in Format 1-8	By 27 th October 2010 (Wednesday)

3. The schedule of revision of Electoral Rolls for 2011 is as follows:

Schedule of Revision

Sl. No	Stages of Revision	Period allowed for Stage
1	2	3
1.	Draft Publication of Rolls	30 th October, 2010 (Saturday)
2.	Period for filing of claims and objections	30 th October, 2010 (Saturday) to 23 rd November, 2010 (Tuesday)
3.	Reading of relevant part/section of photo electoral rolls in Gram Sabha/Local Bodies and RWA meetings etc & verification of names	06 th November, 2010 (Saturday) and 09 th November, 2010 (Tuesday)
4.	Special Campaign dates with Booth Level Agents of political parties for receiving Claims and Objections	7 th November, 2010(Sunday), 13 th November, 2010 (Saturday) and 21 st November, 2010 (Sunday)
5.	Disposal of Claims and Objections	By 23 rd December, 2010 (Thursday)
6.	Updating the database, merging of photographs, updating the Control Tables and preparation and printing of supplementary list	From 23 rd December, 2010 (Thursday) to 03 rd January, 2011 (Monday)
7.	Final Publication of Electoral Rolls	05 th January, 2011 (Wednesday)

4. The Commission shall depute its observers to randomly check and supervise the Roll Revision process. All records should at all times be kept up to date and reports of progress as well as lists of the locations where field operations are in progress should be available with the officers concerned

5. Adequate publicity and awareness drive shall be ensured by DEOs & CEO regarding the summary revision programme. All the DEOs and the CEO shall get the revision schedule properly disseminated to media, political parties and social organizations and reach out to voters intensively before the due date of publication. For making the purpose of publication of draft rolls effective, series of events, multiple

meetings with political parties at Taluk, district and state levels and press meets may be organized for widest possible dissemination. All DEOs and CEO shall separately call meetings of political parties and explain the schedule and the cooperation expected of them before the date of draft publication. The draft publication should be done on the due date with fanfare and the copies of draft rolls should be handed over to political parties in public meeting in the presence of press, media and celebrities.

6. CEOs will take up with political parties to identify a Booth Level Agent (BLA) who would take up a Special Campaign for Roll Revision process on 7th, 13th and 21st November 2010 under the aegis of BLOs. On these Special Campaign dates, the BLO will go through the voter rolls with BLAs of recognized political parties of State concerned and identify the corrections etc.

7. The electors information in prescribed format 1-8 related to final publication of the electoral roll shall be furnished by the Chief Electoral Officer along with his studied comments and explanatory memoranda to the Commission latest by 27th December 2010.

8. The Chief Electoral Officers shall take prior written clearance of the Commission for final publication of the electoral rolls. A request to that effect shall be made to the Commission by the Chief Electoral Officer along with Format 1-8, so that clearance may be conveyed at least seven days before the date of final publication.

9. It may be further noted that all communications and clarification relating to the Special Summary Revision, 2011 shall be addressed to the Secretary in charge of the State/UT in the Commission who will be taking necessary orders of the Commission and communicating the same to the CEOs concerned. Secretary in charge of respective states will be responsible for any slippage in the roll revision programme in their states. For the purpose, Secretaries will closely monitor the pre-revision activities and roll revision programme of their respective states at least fortnightly in Format 4 and keep the Commission briefed on the progress.

10. Preparation of Elector Photo Identity Card (EPIC) for those getting enrolled on the basis of becoming 18+ for the first time may be done within period upto 10th January 2011 and be handed over to BLO/ERO/DEO etc. by 15th January 2011 for ceremonial distribution on 25th January 2011, the National Voters' Day.

11. The CEOs and all officers are further requested to extensively use the e-mail facility in the regard for prompt and accurate exchange of communication.

12. A copy of this letter should also be circulated to the DEOs/EROs in the State for taking immediate appropriate necessary action.

Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,



(K.AJAYA KUMAR)
SECRETARY

Standard Distribution

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BY E-MAIL/SPEED POST

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-11000.

K.R. PRASAD

Ph.- 23318497

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Fax-23356027

No 23/BLO/2006-PS-II

Date: 09.08.06

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of All
States & Union Territories,

Sub.- Appointment of Booth Level Officers for ensuring fidelity of electoral rolls.

Sir,

I am directed to say that the Commission has decided on the basis of recent experience in West Bengal General Election to introduce the concept of appointing Booth Level Officers (BLOs) who can act as an instrument for collecting actual field information with regard to electoral rolls corresponding to a polling station assigned to them. Presently, when the electoral rolls are under revision intensive/summary, designated officers are appointed for being stationed at the designated locations during the period allowed for filing claims and objections after draft publication. They are required to keep the electoral rolls for display and are expected to keep sufficient numbers of Form 6, 7, 8 & 8A and are responsible for supplying of those Forms to persons on demand and for receiving back filled up Forms and preparation of lists of Forms received at the designated location in Forms 9, 10, 11, and 11A. However, the experience shows that this system alone has not adequately taken care of the requirement of ensuring the fidelity of rolls by effectively removing the names of the dead voters and shifted voters and inclusion of eligible voters. It is observed that whereas an intensive revision is by and large effective, the summary revision are not that effective in removal of names of dead & shifted electors due to the apathy and lack of participation on the part of stake holders. Fidelity of electoral roll being the essential pre-requisite for a free and fair poll, it becomes imperative to address the issue effectively. Under these circumstances, the

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Commission has decided to introduce the concept of appointing BLOs who would be accountable for ensuring the fidelity of electoral roll.

2. The Commission directs that the BLOs will be appointed from amongst the officers of the State Govt./Local Bodies. Efforts should be made to ensure that one BLO is made responsible for one part of the electoral roll. However, in case of inadequacy of manpower, one BLO can be made to remain in charge of at the most two Parts of electoral roll.

3. The DEOs in consultation with the EROs of the Assembly Constituency will appoint the BLOs. In rural areas, the BLOs can be drafted mainly from the field staff of Revenue Department/Block Development Officers' establishment/various other Govt. Departments. In urban areas, the staff can be drawn from various Govt. Departments as well as the staff of Municipal Corporation/ Municipality/Town Panchayat and so on. However, efforts should be made to minimize the use of teachers for this purpose as far as possible in order not to disturb the education system. If the use of teachers become inevitable, care should be take to ensure that teacher of a 'Single-teacher School' is not deployed for this purpose.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BLOs:

4. The BLOs will function as a custodian of the electoral roll of the Part (a polling booth) assigned to them. They will make a thorough study of the roll, section-wise, make frequent field visits to different villages/Tolas and interact with local people particularly village elders, grass root level elected representatives and so on and identify the names of the dead voters still remaining in the rolls, which needs to be removed by the ERO under relevant provisions of law. Similarly, the BLOs should identify the names of the voters who have since shifted out and resultantly not an ordinarily resident now in the relevant village. However, with regard to identifying of the shifted voters, the BLOs should take sufficient precaution to ensure that the information gathered is authentic one. It is to be kept in mind that no name shall be removed from the electoral rolls on account of not being ordinary resident without following due procedure

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5. Having done this enquiry, the BLOs should submit a report to the ERO/AERO so that notices can be issued for deletion of names of non-existing/non-residing voters. Apart from this, during the revision period, the BLOs should hold a field enquiry into the Form No. 6,7,8 and 8A received by the designated officers and assigned to the BLOs for enquiry by the EROs either during the revision process or during the continuous updating process and submit their reports in time.
6. Apart from helping the EROs in the process of removing the dead voters' names and thereby contributing to the improvement of fidelity of the electoral roll, the BLOs will also play a crucial role in maximizing the EPIC coverage in the Part assigned to them. Having identified the names of the non-EPIC voters, the BLOs will coordinate with the field administration in EPIC maximization campaign. In coordination with the officials involved in EPIC programme the BLOs will ensure the photo coverage of the voters as per schedule and will see that the EPIC after preparation is handed over to the right person and not to any other intermediary.
7. As the BLOs are expected to do an important job, they need to be given proper orientation and training. Accountability factor should be spelt out very clear to them and it should be brought to their notice that the Commission envisags to evaluate their performance at Booth Level through random verification and through a well defined layers of supervision and control, i.e CEO/Divisional Commissioner/DEO/ERO/AERO. The CEOs are advised to devise and standardize the reporting format at their level in consultation with DEOs so that there is uniformity in approach.
8. The BLOs shall be accountable for their omissions and commissions to the DEO/ERO/AERO. Since they will be engaged in the activities relating to revision of rolls like any other officials they will also be deemed to be on deputation to the Election Commission of India and as such under the disciplinary control of the Commission under Section 13 CC of the R.P. Act, 1950. The CEOs are also advised to device a supervision mechanism at various levels. Senior officials should make random verifications from time to time and maintain the records so that the effectiveness of the system is evaluated from time to time.

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9. Action taken in this instructions should be submitted by the CEOs at the earliest.

Kindly acknowledged the receipt.

Yours faithfully,

K.R. PRASAD

(K.R. PRASAD)

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By e-mail/Speed Post

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110 001

No.23/BLO/2006-PLN-II

Dated 28th November, 2006

To
The Chief Electoral Officers
of all States and UTs

Subject: Revision of electoral rolls – Appointment of Booth Level Officers

Sir,

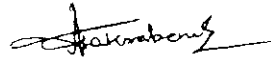
Kindly refer to Commission's letter of even number dated 9th August, 2006, on the above subject, communicating its decision to appoint Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to increase the efficacy of electoral rolls and increase EPIC coverage during such campaigns as and when conducted. Among others, in para 3 of the above referred letter, it was mentioned that the DEOs in consultation with the EROs of the Assembly Constituency will appoint the BLOs. Suggestions have been received that the appointment of BLOs may be made by the EROs under sub-section (2) of section 13B of the R.P. Act, 1950, as primarily the duties of the BLOs are connected to revision of electoral rolls.

2. The Commission has considered the suggestion and has decided that the first sentence of para 3 of the above referred letter dated 9-8- 2006 may be amended to read as under:-

“3. The ERO of the Assembly Constituency will appoint the BLOs after obtaining approval of the DEO. The DEO should have the up to date assembly constituency-wise list of BLOs appointed by the EROs within his jurisdiction at any given point of time.”

3. Kindly carry out the amendment in the instructions issued vide letter dated 9th August, 2006 and confirm.

Yours faithfully,


(Ashish Chakraborty)
Under Secretary

STANDARD DISTRIBUTION

Through Speed Post / e-mail

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110 001

No. 23/BLO/2006-ERS

Dated 15th November, 2007

To

The Chief Electoral Officer,
All States & UTs.

Subject: Appointment of BLOs – Clarifications – Regarding

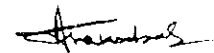
Sir,

In continuation of the Commission's letter No 23/BLO/2006-PS-II dated 09.08.2006 and subsequent clarification dated 28th November, 2006, on the above subject, the Commission has received some more references on whether Central Government employees can also be appointed as Booth Level Officers. In this connection, it is clarified that appointment of BLOs can be made from among the Central Government employees. However, Central Government employees should be drafted for such duty as a last resort only after exhausting the State Government resources. While doing so, the following points should be kept in view:

- 1) No Group 'A' and 'B' officers of the Central Government departments / offices should be appointed as BLOs;
- 2) No employee associated with security services, essential services, public utilities and those involved in economic / revenue related activities should be appointed as BLOs;

Kindly acknowledge receipt by e-mail followed by post.

Yours faithfully,



(Ashish Chakraborty)

Under Secretary

ashish@eci.gov.in

Standard Distribution

By e-mail/Speed Post

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001.

No.23/BLO/2006/ERS

Dated 16th June 2008.

To

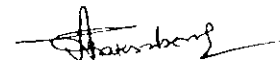
The Chief Electoral Officers
of all States & Union Territories

Subject:-Revision of electoral rolls - Appointment of BLOs - regarding.

Sir,

In continuation of Commission's letter of even number dated 9th August, 2006 outlining in brief the duties and responsibilities of the BLOs and letter dated 24th November, 2006, forwarding the Checklist detailing the year round activities of the BLOs during post revision, pre-revision period, revision period and during EPIC campaign, I am directed to inform you that the Commission has since decided to authorize the BLOs to receive Form 6, 7, 8 & 8A presented to them. The BLOs will hand over the Forms received by him during the revision period to the Designated Officer and to the EROs during the period of continuous updation for further action.

Yours faithfully,



(Ashish Chakraborty)
Under Secretary

Standard Distribution

By e-mail/speed pos

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi – 110001.

No. 23/BLO/2009/ERS

Dated: 27th February, 2009.

To,

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States and Union Territories.

Subject: Appointment of Booth Level Officers– regarding.

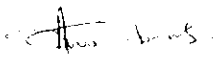
Sir,

Kindly refer to the existing instructions of the Commission regarding appointment of Booth Level Officers given in Para-8, Chapter-II of Handbook of Electoral Registration Officers (2008 edition). The Commission has since decided that physically challenged persons (including visually handicapped and hearing and speech impaired persons), may not be requisitioned for duties of Booth Level Officers unless they express willingness to take up the work. EROs shall take due precaution and give exemption in such cases after he or she is satisfied about the disability of the person concerned. As the ERO may not be aware of the physical disability of any person in advance, he/she should sympathetically consider the request for exemption on the above ground as soon as the same comes to his notice/brought to his notice by the person appointed as BLO.

The above instructions shall be brought to the notice of all DEOs & EROs for compliance. A copy of the instruction issued may be forwarded to Commission for record.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,


(Ashish Chakraborty)
Under Secretary

By Fax/Speed Post

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001.

ASHISH CHAKRABORTY
UNDER SECRETARY

No. 23/2007/ERS

Date: 28.01.08

To

The Chief Electoral Officers
of all States & Union Territories,

Sub.-Revision of electoral rolls-deployment of teachers regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to say that the Hon'ble Supreme Court has passed its judgement and order on 06.12.07 in C.A 5659 of 2007 filed by the Commission against the judgement and order dt. 11.08.04 passed by a Division Bench of the Delhi High Court in W.P.C No.-1076 of 2003-St. Mary's School Vs. U.O.I & Others.

The Election Commission of India, in the above litigation had stated before the Hon'ble Court that, as far as possible, teachers would be put on electoral roll revision work on holidays, non-teaching days and non-teaching hours; whereas non-teaching staff be put on duty any time. On this, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed that all teaching staff shall be put on duty of roll revision and election works on holidays and non-teaching days. The Court has further directed that teachers should not ordinarily be put on duty on teaching days and within teaching hours and non-teaching staff, however, may be put on such duty on any day and any time, if permissible in law.

In the context of electoral roll revision, the teachers are normally used in two capacities, i.e, as designated officer and as a Booth Level Officer. The Commission earlier had given instructions that in the appointment of BLOs, the use of teachers shall be avoided as far as possible. However, it is noticed that due to paucity of other Govt. staff in adequate numbers, the teachers are still being used as BLOs.

Considering the above situation and in view of the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Election Commission has directed as follows:-

1. Wherever teaching staff is put on duties of roll revision, the DEOs/EROs, shall prescribe holidays and non-teaching days and non-teaching hours as duty period for this work. Such appointees may be asked to avoid teaching

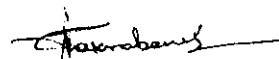
days and teaching hours for undertaking the roll revision work. During roll revision, wherever the teachers are appointed as designated officers to make various Forms (Form-6, 7 etc.) available to the voters and to receive the Forms from the voters, the DEOs/EROs shall prescribe a specific time during non-teaching hours for the purpose of providing and receiving such Forms. Preferably, minimum of one hour time immediately after the closure of teaching hours can be earmarked for this purpose. Depending on the prevailing teaching hours, the DEO/ERO shall issue specific instruction and bring the same to the knowledge of all political parties and to the public well in advance.

- 2. Wherever special campaign dates are prescribed during the revision period, such campaign shall invariably be held on holidays only.
- 3. When an intensive revision is to be ordered, the schedule for revision shall be devised keeping the availability of holidays in mind. If the door-to-door verification has to be done on teaching days, such verification may be asked to be done after teaching hours and on holidays.
- 4. whenever the teachers are used as Booth Level Officers for the purpose of door-to-door verification, for finding out cases of photo mismatches in the photo roll etc., the same exercise shall be done during non-teaching hours and on holidays.
- 5. Whenever needed, the period for enumeration work may be extended for this purpose so that the enumeration work is carried out without hampering the teaching hours.

This may be brought to the notice of all concerned.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,


(Ashish Chakraborty)