

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTION COMMISSION
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No. 29(2)-SEC/1D-155/2014

Date: 09.01.2014

From : The Secretary,
West Bengal State Election Commission

To : 1) The Chairman,
Dankuni Municipality,
Dist.- Hooghly.

2) The District Municipal Election Officer &
District Magistrate,
Hooghly.

Sub : Delimitation Proposal

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to state that in terms of Section 8 of the West Bengal Municipal Act, 1993 (W.B.Act XXII of 1993) the State Govt. has since determined the number of Wards for Dankuni Municipality in the district of Hooghly as 21(twenty one) vide Notification No. No.04/MA/O/C-4/1M-5/2004 Pt.-II dated.02.01.2014of the Department of Municipal Affairs.

On the basis of the number thus determined, the work of delimitation of wards in the Municipality is to be taken up immediately. The Municipal Authority is to initiate the proposal. The following general guidelines are therefore, laid down for necessary guidance of all concerned.

1. In formulating their views / proposals the Municipal Authority shall have due regard to the population, dwelling pattern, geographical condition and economic considerations as indicated under Section 3(1) of the West Bengal Municipal Election Act, 1994. The factors of convenience of voters and distribution of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population should also be taken into account.

2. The proposal must be accompanied by necessary resolution of the Municipality dividing the municipal area into as many number of wards as are determined by the State Govt. by Notification under Section 8 of the West Bengal Municipal Act, 1993 and showing therein the distribution of voters and population among the Wards of the Urban Body as per Census, 2011.

3. In dividing the municipal area into wards, parity in the number of voters among the wards should be maintained as far as practicable. In cases of wide variation the reasons / justification for the same should be indicated in clear terms.

The area covered by a part of the Assembly Electoral Roll should be considered as a Unit and no part should be broken between two Wards of the Municipality.

4. Unusually long and narrow shapes for any ward should be avoided and the proposed division into wards should be indicated on a map prepared for the purpose on a scale of 4" = 1 mile map. The boundaries should be marked in colour and the old boundaries, should also be indicated in a different colour.
5. The description of the boundaries of all the new wards as well as sketch map should be made a part and parcel of the resolution.
6. The boundaries of each ward should be described clockwise i.e. in the order of North, East, South and West boundaries of each ward. Numbering of wards should start from the North East corner and then proceeding in a zigzag manner to end at South West corner.
7. Such ward boundaries should always be defined with reference to streets and /or identifiable land marks. If, however, there is no such identifiable land mark, they may be defined with reference to C.S. / R.S Plot No. with the name of Mouza and J.L. No. The position of such land marks should invariably be pointed out in the sketch map so that comparisons may be made wherever required.
8. The serial no. of the existing Municipal Wards should be kept undisturbed as far as practicable. When in the process, an area of a ward is required to be divided, the original serial no. of ward should be assigned to the ward having larger part of the original ward. Otherwise, the changed sequence of the Constituency / Ward will create a problem for reservation of seats following the roaster as prescribed for the 1st term of election.
9. Population in the old wards and the proposed new wards should also be separately indicated. The S.C. & S.T. population may also be similarly indicated with percentage thereof.
10. The proposal should be accompanied by a certificate in the following terms “in delimiting the wards no area of the municipality has been left out and no area outside the municipal areas has been included”.
11. Those proposals including all necessary papers, maps etc. should be sent by special messenger in triplicate to the concerned District Municipal Election Officer under intimation to the State Election Commission by 30th January, 2014.
12. The District Municipal Election Officer who has already been entrusted with the functions of scrutinizing and making recommendations on this proposals by the Commission under Section

5(2) of the West Bengal Municipal Elections, Act, 1994 will thereafter scrutinize such proposal in the manner indicated in subsequent paras.

13. Immediately on receipt of the proposal a public notice containing a summary of the proposal shall be issued intimating that such proposal in full shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Municipality concerned and at principal administrative offices like the office of the District Municipal Election Officer, Municipal Electoral Registration Officer, etc. for a period of not less than seven days and upto a maximum of 14 days at the discretion of the District Municipal Election Officer if the time schedule permits and that any suggestion / objection may be filed within that period. Such notices should also be sent to all recognized political parties (Local Units) for their information and similar action.

14. At the end of that period the District Municipal Election Officer should consider all such proposals in the light of the guidelines enumerated at 1 to 10 above and shall hold a meeting with recognized political parties to discuss the proposal and objections / suggestions thereon. After taking into account the suggestions / objections received from the members of the public / recognized political parties, the District Municipal Election Officer shall formulate his own recommendations indicating briefly the reason for rejection or acceptance of any suggestions / objections received by him.

15. The District Municipal Election Officer will then forward his recommendations to the Commission along with the following documents:

- i) two copies of the original proposal of the Municipal Authority ;
- ii) copies of the suggestions/objections received in responses to the public notice;
- iii) two sketch maps drawn to scale showing the proposed delimitations of wards and indicating the departures, if any, from the suggestions from the Municipal Authority and explaining briefly the reasons thereof;
- iv) the total population as also the S.C. & S.T. population in each ward indicated separately.

16. The recommendations along with all the papers may please be sent by Special Messenger so as to reach the Commission latest by 26th February, 2014.

Sd/
Secretary,
West Bengal State Election Commission