

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTION COMMISSION
18, Sarojini Naidu Sarani
(Rawdon Street)
Kolkata – 700 017
Ph No. 2280-5805;
Tele FAX- 2289-2320

No. 406-SEC/5P-15/2013

Date: 06.03.2013

ORDER

In exercise of the power conferred under Section 27 of the West Bengal Panchayat (elections) Act, 2003, the West Bengal State Election Commission hereby issues the following directions and guidelines regarding setting up of polling stations in connection with the ensuing Panchayat General Elections, 2013:-

1) The District Panchayat Election Officer shall provide generally one polling station in each of the constituencies of a Gram Panchayat for election of members to Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad during the 8th Panchayat General Elections, 2013.

2) The polling area of an existing Assembly polling station will normally be the area of a Gram Panchayat Constituency and the premises of the Assembly polling station shall remain unaltered for Panchayat election unless there are unavoidable and compelling reasons for any alteration.

3) Where the polling areas of two Assembly polling station i.e. parts of an Assembly Electoral Roll are merged to form the area of one constituency of Gram Panchayat, the Assembly polling station considered more convenient to the majority of the electors may be selected for the said Gram Panchayat constituency. Alternatively, both the polling stations may be retained i.e. the constituency will have two Polling Stations. One of the stations should be treated as an additional polling station. Both polling stations will have same serial number with suffix of (1) and (2).

4) Though there should be one polling station in a Gram Panchayat Constituency, it may, however, be necessary to provide an auxiliary polling booth in polling stations which have more than 1200 (one thousand two hundred) voters. Such additional polling booth should be accommodated in the same premises. However, the criterion of one thousand two hundred voters need not be followed rigidly and the necessity and feasibility of an auxiliary polling booth should be examined pragmatically on the basis of ground realities. However, if the numbers of electors exceed 1,200 such auxiliary polling booth may become unavoidable.

5) In case of any change of location of polling stations a proposal giving full justification along with the resolution adopted in a meeting with Political parties in the appropriate level may please be sent to the Commission as early as possible for approval.

6) The list of polling stations should be prepared Block-wise showing the location of polling station, premises in which it will be located, the polling area indicating the Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad constituencies in the format enclosed.

7) The polling stations should be numbered in running serial separately for each Block. Where an additional booth is provided to a Polling station the booth will have the same serial number as the main polling station suffixed by the Bengali letter 'Ka'****.

8) The District Panchayat Election Officer should hold a meeting with the District level representatives of recognized political parties and local political parties before finalizing the list of polling stations.

9) The list of polling stations should be prepared in Bengali.

10) The list of polling stations should be printed locally and distributed to the Returning Officers according to their requirement.

11) Two copies of the list should be supplied to each recognized / local political party and one copy of the relevant part of such list to each of the contesting candidates for Gram Panchayat Constituency and two copies to each contesting candidate for Panchayat Samiti or Zilla Parishad constituency, free of cost.

12) The District Panchayat Election Officer should keep a good number of copies for use in his office and sufficient number of copies should also be made available to the Superintendent of Police, spare copies of the list may be sold at a rate fixed on no-profit-no-loss basis.

13) The date of publication of the list of polling stations will be communicated in due course. The District Panchayat Election Officer & District Magistrate are requested to take necessary steps for preparing the list of polling stations and keep ready for publication of the same on such date as may be fixed for.

14) A copy of the list of polling station shall be sent to the office of the West Bengal State Election Commission for record.

By order of the
West Bengal State Election Commission

Sd/
Secretary
West Bengal State Election Commission

No.406/1(18)-SEC/5P-15/2013

Date: 06.03.2013

Copy forwarded for the information and necessary action to the :

1. District Panchayat Election Officer & District Magistrate,
(except Darjeeling).
2. Deputy Secretary, Panchayats & Rural Development Department, Government of West Bengal,
Panchayat Bhavan, 63, N.S. Road, Kolkata-700001.

Sd/
O.S.D. & E.O.
Joint Secretary
West Bengal State Election Commission