## GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (ELECS.F) DEPARTMENT

## **MESSAGE**

FROM: THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, A.P., HYDERABAD

To :The Dist. Collector & DEOs of East Godavari, West Godavari, Guntur, Krishna, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, Medak, Nizamabad, Adilabad, Karimnagar, Warangal & Khammam & Nalgonda Districts (w.es.)

FAX MESSAGE NO. 257/ELECS.F/2013-20

DATED:29.1.2013.

BIENNIAL-ELECTIONS TO A.P. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FROM EAST-WEST GODAVARI GRADUATES', KRISHNA-GUNTUR GRADUATES', MEDAK-NIZAMABAD-ADILABAD-KARIMNAGAR GRADUATES'. SRIKAKULAM-VIZIANAGARAM-VISAKHAPATNAM TEACHERS'. MEDAK-NIZAMABAD-ADILABAD-KARIMNAGAR TEACHERS'. WARANGAL-KHAMMAM-NALGONDA TEACHERS' CONSTITUENCIES -THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA IN ITS LETTERS DATED 7 4 2004 AND DATED. 2.5.2004 (COPIES ENCLOSED) DIRECTED THAT PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS SHOULD BE ALLOWED PRIORITY IN ENTRY IN THE POLLING STATIONS AHEAD OF OTHERS AND ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE FOR SUCH PERSONS TO FORM A SEPARATE QUEUE AND THE SENIOR CITIZENS (ELECTORS ABOVE 65 YEARS OF AGE) SHOULD ALSO BE PERMITTED TO JOIN SUCH SEPARATE QUEUE (.) FACILITY SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS TO TAKE THEIR WHEEL-CHAIRS INSIDE POLLING BOOTH AND WHEREVER POSSIBLE WOODEN RAMPS MAY BE PROVIDED FOR THIS PURPOSE (.) PERSONS ON POLLING DUTY SHOULD BE COURTEOUS TO THE PERSONS WITH DISABILITY AND RENDER THEM ALL NECESSARY SUPPORT TO EXERCISE THEIR FRANCHISE (.) PERSONNEL ON POLLING DUTY SHOULD BE SENSITIZED ABOUT THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF THE DISABLLED (.) YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FOLLOW THE ABOVE E.C.I INSTRUCTIONS AND ENSURE STRICT COMPLIANCE (.)

for CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER &
E.O. PRL., SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Copy to:

The Returning Officers concerned **through**District Election Officers concerned. (w.e).

ANNBAURG-R-1/2

## ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi, Dated: 7th April, 2004

No. 576/3/2004/JS - II

Sir

The Chief Electoral Officers of all States and Union Territories.

Subject: General Elections to the House of People and State Legislative Assemblies. 2004 - Facilities to be provided to the electors having physical disabilities - regarding.

I am directed to draw your attention to the provisions of the 'Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Projection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995' and to lie Commission's instructions, contained in its letter No. 576/3/98/JUD-II, dated 19.01.1998 (reproduced as Item No. 75 at page 147 of the Compendium of Instructions on Conduct of Flections, 2004 edition).

Provisions have been made in the said Act that the persons with disabilities have to be provided barrier-free facilities in public places. It has been brought to the notice of the commission through various representations that physically handicapped electors face difficulties while going to polling stations for casting their votes.

The Commission has directed that the instructions contained in its letter No. 576/3/98/JUD-II, dated 19.01.1998, referred to above, should be scrupulously followed by all concerned and it should be ensured that all physically handicapped voters are able to exercise their franchise with least inconvenience. Facility should be provided to the physically handicapped persons to take their wheel-chairs inside the polling booth and wherever possible wooden ramps may be provided for this purpose. As directed in the letter, dated 19.01.1998, physically handicapped persons should be allowed priority in entry in the polling stations ahead followers and arrangements should be made for such persons to form a separate queue. They should also be allowed the facility of a companion to assist them, having regard to the provisions of rule 40 of the Conduct of Elections Rules. 1961.

The Commission has also directed that the District Election Officers must sensitize all personnel on polling duty about the special needs of the disabled. The personnel on polling duty should be courteous to the persons with disability and provide all necessary support to mable them to exercise their franchise with least inconvenience. The Commission desires that the persons with speech and hearing impairment should also be given special care as persons with other disabilities.

Yours faithfully.

(K. F. WILFRED)
SECRETARY

## ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road; New Delhi -110 001.

No. 576/3/2004/JS-II

Dated: - 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2004.

To

The Chief Electoral Officer of all States/Union Territories.

Subject:-

General Elections to the House of the People and State Legislative Assemblies, 2004 – Facilities to be provided to the electors having physical disabilities – regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to invite your attention to paragraph 3 of Commission's letter of even number dated 7.4.2004 on the subject cited wherein the Commission had directed that arrangements should be made for physically handicapped persons to form a separate queue. The senior citizens (electors above 65 years of age) should also be permitted to join such separate queue.

Yours faithfully,

(S.R. K.AR) UNDER SECRETARY