

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, TELANGANA
South 'H' Block, Secretariat, Hyderabad.

Memo. No.3164/Elecs.D/2018-1

Dated:2.11.2018.

Sub:- General Elections to Telangana State Legislative Assembly, 2018 – Printing of Ballot Papers – Photograph of candidate to be also printed along with the other particulars - Instructions – Issued -Regarding.

Ref:- 1. ECI New Delhi Lr. No. 576/3/2015, dated 16.3.2015.
2. ECI New Delhi Lr. No. 576/3/2015/SDR, dt.19.01.2016.
3. ECI New Delhi Lr.No.576/3/2017/SDRJ, dt.18.10.2017.

The attention of all the Collectors and District Election Officers and the Commissioner, G.H.M.C. & D.E.O., Hyderabad is invited to the references cited regarding direction for printing of photograph of candidate on the Ballot paper.

2. In the reference 1st cited, the ECI has directed that the postal ballot papers, the ordinary ballot papers and the ballot papers to be displayed on the balloting unit of EVM shall, in addition to the particulars as per the existing directions, also contain the photograph of the candidate. The photograph of the candidate shall be printed in the panel for the name of the candidate and shall appear on the right side of the name in between the name and symbol of the candidate. The size of the photograph printed on the ballot paper shall be 2 cm X 2.5 cm. (two cm. in breadth and 2.5 cm. in height). A sample ballot paper (Annexure-I) is enclosed for reference.

3. The above direction for printing of photograph of candidate on the Ballot paper shall also apply in relation to elections by Assembly constituencies.

The specifications for the photograph are as follows:

- (i) Candidates are required to submit their recent photograph (taken during the preceding period of 3 months before the date of notification).
- (ii) Photograph should be of stamp size 2 cm.x2.5 cm. (two cm. in breadth and 2.5 cm. in height) in white/off white background, with full face view directly facing the camera, neutral facial expression with eyes open. The photo may be in colour or black and white as may be convenient for the candidate.
- (iii) Photograph should be in normal clothing. Photograph in uniform is not permitted. Caps/hats should be avoided. Dark glasses also to be avoided.

P.T.O.

4. The candidates required to submit their photograph conforming to the above requirements/specifications along with their nomination papers and, in any case, latest by the date fixed for scrutiny of nominations. The photograph should bear the signature of the candidate/election agent on the reverse side of the photograph. When the photograph is submitted, the candidate/election agent/proposer submitting the photograph shall be asked to give a declaration stating that the photograph being submitted is that of the candidate (mentioning the name and address) taken during the period of preceding 3 months. A printed format for the declaration as annexed (Annexure-2) to this letter shall be kept with the RO/ARO for this purpose.

5. When the nomination is filed, if the photograph of the candidate is not submitted, the RO shall give a **notice** asking the candidate to submit the photograph latest by the date of scrutiny of nomination. In the same Notice, it shall also be added that if the photograph is not submitted, his/her photograph will not be printed on the ballot paper. If any candidate still fails or refuses to give his photograph, that candidate will not have his photograph printed on the ballot paper. It may be added that non-submission of the photograph by the candidate shall NOT be a ground for rejection of the nomination of the candidate.

6. The Returning Officer shall display a list of validly nominated candidates with the photographs of the candidates against their names on the day following the date fixed for scrutiny of nominations. The Returning Officer shall inform the candidates at the time of scrutiny that the photographs to be printed on ballot paper will be displayed on his notice board on the next day (time may also be specified). If there is any error in the photograph or other particulars, the candidates/others will get an opportunity to point out the same to the Returning Officer for rectifying the error.

7. In the reference 2nd cited, the ECI has forwarded a format for the Notice to be given by the R.O. as referred at para 5 above for non-submission of Photograph of the candidate.

8. In the reference 3rd cited, the ECI has directed that, henceforth, **photographs of candidates shall also be printed against their names in the list of contesting candidates in Form-7A**. Thus, the copy of the said forms to be supplied to each contesting candidate should contain the photographs of the candidates. The same format with photographs of candidates shall be used for publishing of the Form in the Gazette as well as for displaying copies thereof in the polling stations. The correctness of the entries in the Form-7A shall be the responsibility of the Returning Officers.

9. The above instructions are not exhaustive. For detailed instructions in respect of serial numbers for the candidates, names of candidates and the election symbol allotted to each candidate and a panel for 'None of the Above' after the name of the last candidate, the particulars to be printed, also specification on other aspects, such as, size of the ballot paper, size of panels, number of columns, etc., have been given in the Hand Book for Returning Officer, and latest instructions of the E.C.I. issued from time to time should be referred and followed.

-:3:-

10. Copies of the references cited are once again sent herewith to all the Collectors & D.E.Os., and Commissioner, GHMC & DEO, Hyderabad and they are requested to bring these instructions to the notice of all concerned i.e., Returning Officers / Asst. Returning Officers and election related authorities concerned for strict compliance.

DR.RAJAT KUMAR,
CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER &
E.O. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To
All the Collectors & D.E.Os., **(w.es.)**
The Commissioner, GHMC & D.E.O., Hyderabad. **(w.es.)**
Copy to:
All the Returning Officers of Assembly Constituencies
through the D.E.Os., concerned. **(w.es.)**
Sf/Spare

// FORWARDED: BY ORDER //


SECTION OFFICER

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.576/3/2015/ SDR

Dated: 16th March, 2015

To,

The Chief Electoral Officers
of all States and UTs.

Sub: Printing of ballot papers- photograph of candidate to be also printed along with the other particulars.

Madam/Sir,

Under Rule 49B of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, the ballot paper to be displayed on the balloting unit of the EVM shall contain such particulars as the Commission may specify. Similarly, Rules 22 and 30 provide, inter alia, that the particulars on the postal ballot paper and ordinary ballot paper shall be as specified by the Commission.

2. In terms of the abovementioned Rules 22, 30 and 49B, the Commission has specified the particulars to be printed on the ballot paper to be displayed on the balloting unit and the postal ballot paper. The particulars so specified at present are the serial numbers for the candidates, names of candidates and the election symbol allotted to each candidate and a panel for 'None of the Above' after the name of the last candidate. The existing directions which apart from the particulars to be printed, also contain specifications on other aspects, such as, size of the ballot paper, size of panels, number of columns, etc., have been given in the Handbook for the Returning Officers.

3. The Commission has noted that there are many cases where candidates with same or similar names contest from the same constituency. Although appropriate suffixes are added to the names of candidates in the event of two or more candidates having same name, the Commission considers that additional measures are required for removing confusion in the minds of electors at the time of voting. There is also a writ petition on this very subject pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court [WP (C) No. 541 of 2014- Akash Gahlot Vs. Election Commission of India & another].

4. Having considered all aspects of the matter, the Commission in partial modification of its existing directions under Rule 22, Rule 30 and Rule 49B of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, hereby specifies that for elections to be held from 1st May, 2015 onwards, the

postal ballot papers, the ordinary ballot papers and the ballot papers to be displayed on the balloting unit of EVM shall, in addition to the particulars as per the existing directions, also contain the photograph of the candidate. The photograph of the candidate shall be printed in the panel for the name of the candidate and shall appear on the right side of the name in between the name and symbol of the candidate. The size of the photograph printed on the ballot paper shall be 2 cm.X 2.5 cm. (two cm. in breadth and 2.5 cm. in height). A sample ballot paper for election to Lok Sabha is enclosed for reference (Annexure-1).

5. The above direction for printing of photograph of candidate on the ballot paper shall also apply in relation to elections by Assembly members and elections from Council constituencies. In respect of the said elections, the directions are in exercise of powers under Rule 30 as made applicable to these elections by Rule 70 of the said Rules.

6. The specifications for the photograph are as follows:

- (i) Candidates are required to submit their recent photograph (taken during the preceding period of 3 months before the date of notification) .
- (ii) Photograph should be of stamp size 2 cm.X 2.5 cm. (two cm. in breadth and 2.5 cm. in height) in white/off white background, with full face view directly facing the camera, neutral facial expression with eyes open. The photo may be in colour or black and white as may be convenient for the candidate.
- (iii) Photograph should be in normal clothing. Photograph in uniform is not permitted. Caps/hats should be avoided. Dark glasses also to be avoided.

7. The candidates at every election shall be required to submit their photograph conforming to the above requirements/specifications alongwith their nomination papers and, in any case, latest by the date fixed for scrutiny of nominations. The photograph should bear the signature of the candidate/election agent on the reverse side of the photograph. When the photograph is submitted, the candidate/election agent/proposer submitting the photograph shall be asked to give a declaration stating that the photograph being submitted is that of the candidate (mentioning the name and address) taken during the period of preceding 3 months. A printed format for the declaration as annexed (Annexure-2)to this letter shall be kept with the RO/ARO for this purpose.

8. When the nomination is filed, if the photograph of the candidate is not submitted, the RO shall give a notice asking the candidate to submit the photograph latest by the date of

-3-

scrutiny of nomination. In the same Notice, it shall also be added that if the photograph is not submitted, his/her photograph will not be printed on the ballot paper. If any candidate still fails or refuses to give his photograph, that candidate will not have his photograph printed on the ballot paper. It may be added that non-submission of the photograph by the candidate shall **NOT** be a ground for rejection of the nomination of the candidate.

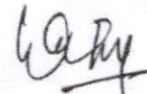
9. The Returning Officer shall display a list of validly nominated candidates with the photographs of the candidates against their names on the day following the date fixed for scrutiny of nominations. The Returning Officer shall inform the candidates at the time of scrutiny that the photographs to be printed on ballot paper will be displayed on his notice board on the next day (time may also be specified). If there is any error in the photograph or other particulars, the candidates/others will get an opportunity to point out the same to the Returning Officer for rectifying the error.

10. These directions may be brought to the notice of all DEOs, ROs and other election authorities in the State/UT. These may also be brought to the notice of all political parties based in your State, including the State Units of recognized parties. A press release may also be given for wider dissemination of the directions.

11. Please note that as mentioned in paragraph 4 above, these directions shall be applicable for elections to be held from 01-05-2015.

11. Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,



(K.F. WILFRED)

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Declaration by candidate/election agent/proposer while submitting the
photograph of the candidate

Subject – Election to _____ (mention the name of
the House) from _____ (name of the
constituency)/election to Council of States/Legislative Council by
Assembly Members.

I _____
(name and address), Son/daughter/wife of Sh. _____, nominated as
candidate for the abovementioned election, am submitting herewith my
photograph for the purpose of printing the same on the ballot paper. I declare that
the photograph has been taken during the last 3 months before the date of
notification of election.

(fill up this part when the candidate himself is submitting the photograph).

OR

I _____ (name), election agent/proposer of
Sh. _____
_____, (name and address of the candidate), son/daughter/wife of
Sh _____, a candidate for the abovementioned election,
hereby submit the photograph of the said candidate for the purpose of printing the
same on the ballot paper. I declare that the photograph has been taken during the
last 3 months before the date of notification of election.

(fill up this part when the election agent/proposer is submitting the photograph).

Date: _____

Name : _____

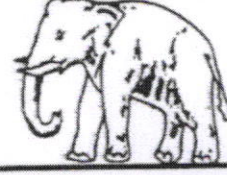
Address: _____

Tel No. _____

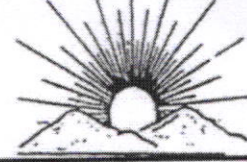
1. ఆశోక్ క్రమార్, కే.
అశోక్ కుమార్, కె.
అశోక్ కుమార్, కే.



2. శాన్ బాషా, యం.
చాన్ బాషా, ఎం.
బాన్ బాషా, ఎం.



3. శిన్ నాన్ పిల్లప్పా, పి.
చిన్నపిల్లప్ప, పి.
చిన్నపిల్లప్ప, పి.



4. గెశల్లకక్రమార్, లాకల్. ఆ.
శెల్లకుమార్, డాక్టర్. ఆ.
శెల్లకుమార్, డాక్టర్. ఆ.



5. కవులా, యన్. యస్. యం.
గౌడ. ఎన్. ఎస్. ఎం.
గౌడ, ఎన్. ఎస్. ఎం.



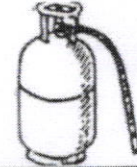
6. శున్ ద్రయం, యస్.
సుందరం, ఎస్.
సుందరం, ఎస్.



7. మణి, జి. కే.
మణి, జి. కే.
మణి, జి. కే.



8. మునిరాజ్, కే.
మునిరాజ్, కే.
మునిరాజ్, కే.



9. ఆశోక్ క్రమార్, య.
అశోక్ కుమార్, ఎ.
అశోక్ కుమార్, ఎ.



16. మేర్కాణుం నరకణిల్
యవరుమిలయె
పైన్ తెలిసిన వ్యక్తులలో ఎవరులేరు.
మోలే తెలిసిన వ్యక్తులల్లి యారులు.

NOTA

By Speed Post/E- Mail

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashok Road, New Delhi-110 001

No.576/3/2015/SDR

Dated: 19th January, 2016

To,

The Chief Electoral Officers
of all States/UTs.

Sub: - Printing of ballot papers-photograph of candidate to be also printed along with the other particulars-reg.

Sir,

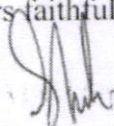
I am directed to invite reference to the Commission's letter of even number dated 16th March, 2015 on the subject cited above. In paragraph 8 of the said letter it has been directed that if the photograph of the candidate is not submitted alongwith nomination paper, the RO shall give a notice asking the candidate to submit the photograph latest by the date of scrutiny of nomination.

There have been some suggestions that a format for this notice to be given, as referred to above, should also be prescribed by the Commission. Accordingly, the Commission has now prescribed a standard format for such notice. Copy of the format approved for this purpose is enclosed.

This may be brought to the notice of all DEOs, ROs and other authorities concerned for compliance to all future election. The political parties based in the States may also be informed.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,


(N.T. Bhutia)
Under Secretary

Notice by Returning Officer for non-submission of Photograph of the candidate

Name of constituency
Name of the candidate
Date and time of filing nomination paper
Sl. No. of nomination paper

As per the direction of the Election Commission, photograph of the candidate is required to be printed on the ballot paper.

It is hereby brought to your notice that you have not submitted your photograph for this purpose.

You are required to submit your photograph by 3 P.M. on _____ (date fixed for scrutiny of nominations).

The specifications for the photograph are as follows:

- (i) Candidates are required to submit their recent photograph (taken during the preceding period of 3 months before the date of notification).
- (ii) Photographs should be of stamp size 2cm. X 2.5 cm. (two cm. in breadth and 2.5 cm. in height) in white/off white background, with full face view directly facing the camera, neutral facial expression with eyes open. The Photo may be in colour or black and white as may be convenient for the candidate.
- (iii) Photo graph should be in normal clothing. Photograph in uniform is not permitted. Caps/hats should be avoided. Dark glasses has also to be avoided.

The photograph has to be submitted along with the declaration in the enclosed format.

It may be noted that if photograph is not submitted by the time mentioned above, your photo will not be printed on the ballot paper.

Received

.....

(Signature of candidate)

Date & time:
Place:

.....

Signature of RO/ARO

Declaration by candidate/election agent/proposer while submitting the photograph of the candidate

Subject – Election to _____ (mention the name of the House) from _____ (name of the constituency)/election to Council of States/Legislative Council by Assembly Members.

I _____
(name and address), Son/daughter/wife of Sh. _____, nominated as candidate for the abovementioned election, am submitting herewith my photograph for the purpose of printing the same on the ballot paper. I declare that the photograph has been taken during the last 3 months before the date of notification of election.

(fill up this part when the candidate himself is submitting the photograph).

OR

I _____ (name), election agent/proposer of Sh. _____
_____, (name and address of the candidate), son/daughter/wife of Sh _____, a candidate for the abovementioned election, hereby submit the photograph of the said candidate for the purpose of printing the same on the ballot paper. I declare that the photograph has been taken during the last 3 months before the date of notification of election.

(fill up this part when the election agent/proposer is submitting the photograph).

Date: _____

Name : _____

Address: _____

Tel No. _____

-15-

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 576/3/2017/SDR/

Dated: 18-10-2017

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States and Union Territories.

Sub: List of contesting candidates in Form 7A/7B- displaying therein photographs of candidates against their names.

Sir/Madam,

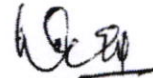
Reference is invited to the Commission's letter No. 576/3/2015, dated 16th March, 2015, regarding directions for printing photographs of candidates also in the ballot papers.

2. The Commission has now directed that, henceforth, photographs of candidates shall also be printed against their names in the list of contesting candidates in Form-7A or 7B, as the case may be. Thus, the copy of the said forms to be supplied to each contesting candidate should contain the photographs of the candidates. The same format with photographs of candidates shall be used for publishing of the Form in the Gazette as well as for displaying copies thereof in the polling stations.

3. A clarification has also been sought as to whether 'NOTA' is to be printed in Form 7A and 7B. It is clarified that since Form 7A/7B denotes list of contesting candidates, 'NOTA' is not to be printed therein.

4. This direction may be conveyed immediately to all Returning Officers including the Returning Officers for Rajya Sabha election and Legislative Council elections.

Yours faithfully,



(K.F. WILFRED)

SR. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY