

COUNCIL ELECTIONS
MOST IMMEDIATE

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (ELECTIONS.A) DEPARTMENT

Memo.No.3835/Elecs.A/2006-4,

Dated:21 .12.2006.

Sub:- ELECTIONS – Elections to the Legislative Council –
Andhra Pradesh – Location of Polling Stations –
Proposals Called for.

Ref:- 1.Govt.Memo.No.3597/Elecs.E/A2/2006-8, dt.10-10-2006.
2.Govt.Memo.No.3835/Elec.A/2006-1, dt.10-11-2006 and
last reminder dated 19-12-2006.
3. From the Election Commission of India, New Delhi
Letter No.64/AP-LC/2006 PLN-III, dated 21.12.2006.

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The attention of the Collector & District Election Officers (except Collector, Hyderabad) and Commissioner, M.C.H., Hyderabad is invited to the references cited and they are informed that the process of preparation of Electoral Rolls for the A.P. Legislative Council has commenced from date of publication of notice on 29.09.2006 and final publication of Electoral rolls would be completed by 06-01-2007. As the Publication of Draft Rolls is over, the next important item of work to be attended would be locating Polling Stations as per the strength of the Voters enrolled in the Graduates', Teachers' and Local Authorities' Constituencies. This issue was discussed in detail during the Video Conference held on 20-12-2006 with Collectors conducted by the Chief Electoral Officer & Prl.Secretary to Government.

2. All D.E.Os are informed that under Section 25 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, it is the responsibility of the District Election Officer to provide, with the previous approval of the Election Commission, a sufficient number of polling stations for the council constituency. There is no provision for *ex post facto* approval and any change in the approved list of polling stations without the prior approval of the Commission to such change would be tantamount to non-compliance with the provisions of Section 25, which may vitiate the election.

3. The draft list of polling stations must be forwarded to the Election Commission for scrutiny and approval through the Chief Electoral Officer.

4. In the reference 3rd cited, the Election Commission of India has sent detailed guidelines for setting up of Polling Stations in Council Constituencies and they are sent herewith for scrupulous compliance. All the points mentioned in the schedule as well as in the Paras 9.1 to 21.4 of Chapter II of the Handbook for Returning Officers for Elections to State Legislative Council should be scrupulously followed. For the sake of uniformity, this office will separately send a checklist for confirmation by RO/ARO/DEO on these points.

Pto.,

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5. The Collectors and DEOs of all the districts (except Hyderabad) and Commissioner, MCH., Hyderabad are further informed that draft list of polling stations for Teachers, Graduate and Local Authority Constituencies should be sent separately. They are also informed that the list of polling stations for Teachers Constituency have to be submitted by the Returning Officer (ie. Collectors of 8 districts) after consolidating proposals received from other districts in the constituency). Similarly the list of polling stations for Graduates' constituency have to be submitted by the respective Returning Officer (ie. Collectors of 8 districts) after consolidating proposals received from other districts in the constituency.
6. Wherever the same polling station are proposed for both for Teachers and Graduates Constituencies, the same should be mentioned clearly.
7. List of polling stations for Local Authority Constituencies should be submitted by the Returning Officer of each constituency (ie., Joint Collector/Commissioner, MCH).
8. These lists have to be finalized after following due procedure mentioned in the Returning Officers Handbook including consultation with the political parties.
9. All the District Election Officers are, therefore, requested to submit proposals regarding the number and location of polling stations in their districts based on the guidelines stipulated in the Hand Book of the Returning Officers from Paras 9.1 to 21.4 of Chapter-II.
10. Basing on the strength of electors in Graduates' and Teachers' rolls for a particular location, the Polling Stations can be single Polling Station restricting to maximum 750 voters for both the categories or separate, but it should be limited to 750 voters for station as advised in the Video Conference held on 20.12.2006.
11. As far as the Polling Stations for Local Authorities are concerned all the members of a Local Authority should be allotted to a Polling Station located in the polling area within the local limits of the Jurisdiction of the local authority vide para 21.1 of Hand Book for Returning Officers. In this connection please refer to item (xvi) of Council Rolls Circular-3 issued by this office on 10.10.2006, the Election Commission has clarified that in Local Authorities Constituencies, the polling station may be set up in those buildings/premises where the local bodies concerned meet to transact their official business even though such locations may not be in the jurisdiction of the local body. Please finalise the Polling Stations on this basis.

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12. Lists of Polling Stations for I) Graduates; ii) Teachers; and (iii) Local Authorities may be sent to this Office duly following the procedure **by** **26.12.2006** for obtaining the Commission's approval.

13. This may be treated as **"Most Immediate"**.

V.BHASKAR,
CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER &
PRL.SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To
All Collectors & D.E.Os (except Hyderabad (w.e)
Commissioner, MCH, Hyderabad (w.e)

// forwarded :: by order//