The Orissa Grama Panchayats Election Rules, 1965

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Rule

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The Orissa Grama Panchayats Election Rules, 1965Published vide Notification No. 6921-1-151/65-G.P., dated 3rd April, 1965., Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 468/1965Notification No. 6921-1-151/65-G.P., dated 3rd April, 1965. - In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 150, read with Section 27 of the Orissa Grama Panchayats Act, 1964 (Orissa Act 1 of 1965), the State Government hereby make the following rules, the same having been previously published as required by Sub-section (1) of the said section of the said Act.

1. Short title.

- These rules may be called the Orissa Grama Panchayats Election Rules, 1965.

2. Definitions.

- In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires-(a)"Act" means Orissa Grama Panchayats Act, 1964;(b)["Ballot Box" means any box, bag or any other receptacle of such design and specification as the Commissioner may decide, used for receiving ballot papers in the course of polling at a polling station and be so constructed that ballot papers can be inserted through an opening without affecting the secrecy of voting but the ballot papers cannot be removed without opening, breaking or otherwise tampering the ballot box;] [Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.](c)"Block Development Officer" means an officer appointed for the Block under Section 15 (a) of the Orissa Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad Act, 1959;[(c-1) "Commissioner", means the State Election Commissioner appointed under Article 243-K of the Constitution;] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.](d)"Election Officer" means [unless the Commissioner otherwise directs] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.] the Collector of the

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district or any other officer or person authorized by the Collector by general or special orders to exercise all or any of the powers and perform all or any of the duties of the Election Officer under these rules;[(d-1) "Electoral Registration Officer" means unless the Commissioner otherwise directs, the Collector of the District or any other officer or person authorised by the Collector in that behalf; and] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.][(d-2)] [Re-numbered vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.] "Forms" means a form appended to these rules; [(d-3)] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.] "List" means the list of wards as referred to in Clause (b) of Sub-section (4) of Section 10;(e)"Local area" means the village or group of villages notified as a Grama under Section 3 of the Act;(f)"Polling agent" means a person duly authorised by a contesting candidate for whom votes are polled during the election in respect of one or more Polling stations or places specified for counting of votes;(g)"Polling Officer" means the person appointed by the Election Officer to assist him or the Presiding Officer for conducting the elections of one or more polling stations within the local area of one or more Grama Panchayats.(h)"Polling Station" means the place fixed by the Election Officer for conduct of the Poll in respect of Election of members, Sarpanch or Naib-Sarpanch of the Grama Panchayat as the case may be;(i)"Presiding Officer" means any person appointed by the Election Officer to preside over the conduct of Elections at one or more polling stations within the local area of one or more Grama Panchayats;(j)"Section" means a section of the Act;(k)Words and expressions used herein but not defined shall have the same meaning as assigned to them respectively in the Act.

3. [[Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, vide SRO No. 1260/95.]

(1) The list of wards shall be serially numbered beginning with North-West to South-East direction.(2)[(a)] Subject to the directions issued by the Governor of Orissa under Paragraph 5 of the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution of India, out of the wards left in the list for candidates other than the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe, reservation of wards, for the members of backward class of citizens, shall begin from the ward which appears first and continue one by one until the required quota is completed [and shall rotate at every general election] [Added vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 2480 dated 21.12.2001.].(b)[In the list of wards reserved for the backward class of citizens under Clause (a), the ward which appears first and, thereafter, every third ward shall be reserved for women belonging to such backward class until the required quota is completed.] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 2480 dated 21.12.2001.](3)The statement in Form No. 13 showing the total number of wards in the Grama including those reserved for the members of the Scheduled Caste, the Scheduled Tribe, the backward class of citizens and women and the extent of each ward shall be published at any conspicuous place of the Grama together with a notice in Form No. 12 stating the date by which objection may be received. (4) Seven days' notice may be given for inviting objections.(5)Objections or suggestions may be filed with or sent to the Collector so as to reach him within the period specified in Sub-rule (4).]

3A. [[Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, vide SRO No. 1260/ 95.]

(1)The procedure prescribed in Rule 3, relating to reservation of wards for member shall mutatis mutandis apply in respect of reservation of offices of Sarpanches in a Block.(2)For the purpose of Sub-rule (1), notice inviting objection and suggestions shall be issued in Form No. 12 and the statement showing the offices of Sarpanches reserved for the Scheduled Caste, the Scheduled Tribe [backward class of citizens and women] shall be notified in Form No. 15.]

3B. [[Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 2480 dated 21.12.2001.]

(1)On receipt of the report from the Election Officer under Rule 30 regarding failure of election for second time on the ground that no person belonging to any particular category, for which the seat of the member or the office of the Sarpanch has been reserved, is available in the voter list of the concerned ward or, as the case may be, of the Grama, even for nomination under Sub-section (1) of Section 13, the Sub-Collector shall send his recommendation as required under Sub-section (2) of the said section to the Collector for dereservation of such seat or office, as the case may be.(2)The recommendation of the Sub-Collector shall comprise-the following, namely:(i)working copy of the voter list of the ward or, as the case maybe, of the Grama; (ii) copy of Form No. 13 or Form No. 15 showing the reservation status of the membership or of the office of the Sarpanch, as the case may be; and(iii) a certificate to be signed jointly by the Election Officer and the Sub-Collector in the following form: "Certified that we have carefully verified the voter list of the ward/ Grama and found that no person belonging to the reserved category is available in the said voter list for nomination under Sub-section (1) of Section 13.We, therefore, recommended that the office of the Sarpanch/ the seat of Ward Member of Ward No......of..........Grama Panchayat now reserved for......be de-reserved under Sub-section (2) of the said Section. Election OfficerSub-Collector(3) The recommendation made under Sub-rule (1) shall be addressed to the Collector. (4)On receipt of the recommendation from the Sub-Collector under Sub-rule (1), the Collector shall verify the voter list and after having been satisfied on the correctness of the recommendation of the Sub-Collector, shall de-reserve such seat or office, as the case may be, by publishing a notification in his notice board.(5)Copy of the notification published under Sub-rule (4) shall forthwith be communicated to the Commissioner for filling up of the seat or office as the case may be, by fresh election and a copy of such notification shall also be forwarded to the Director, Sub-Collector, Election Officer and the concerned Grama Panchayat.

3C.

The statements in Form No. 13 and Form No. 15 referred to in Rule 3 and 3-A respectively, as finally published after consideration of the objections and suggestions invited therefor, shall be submitted to the Commissioner by such date as the Commissioner may fix which shall not, unless the Commissioner otherwise directs, be less than six weeks before the date fixed for issue of the order under Rule 13.]

4. [[Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, vide SRO No. 1260/95.]

(1)Where the Commissioner otherwise directs under Sub-section (2) of Section 9, to have a separate electoral roll for every ward, he may by order, direct for the preparation of such electoral roll and in such case he may prescribe, in the order, the procedure thereof including the procedure of its revision, addition or alteration to be followed.(2)So much of the electoral roll of the Assembly Constituency, for the time being in force, as it relates to the ward shall be the electoral roll in respect of the ward and for the purpose of its preparation, final publication including revision, addition or alteration, the procedure hereinafter prescribed shall apply.(3)Every order passed under Sub-rule (1) shall be published in the Official Gazette.

5.

(1)The Electoral Registration Officer shall split up or cause to be split up the electoral roll of the Assembly Constituency into separate electoral rolls for every ward in a Grama and the electoral roll so prepared shall be the preliminary electoral roll for the ward.(2)The list of voters for each ward shall be prepared in the order and in the language they occur in the electoral roll for the Assembly Constituency.(3)The preliminary electoral roll of the ward so prepared under Sub-rule (1) shall be published by the Electoral Registration Officer at a conspicuous place at the headquarters of the Grama Sasan together with a notice in Form No. 2, at least three weeks before the date of issue of notice under Rule 24, stating the date by which objections or claims may be received and the place and date on which enquiries shall be taken up.(4)The notice in Form No. 2, issued under Sub-rule (3) shall also be affixed in the notice-boards of the office of the concerned Panchayat Samiti, Sub-Collector and Collector.(5)A period of seven days from the date of publication of the notice under Sub-rule (3) shall be allowed for filing of objections or claims, if any.

6.

(1)No person shall be eligible to be registered in the electoral roll for more than one ward in any Grama.(2)Any person who is qualified under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 or the Orissa Grama Panchayats Act, 1964 to be registered as a voter in any Grama, shall be eligible to be registered in the electoral roll of a ward and the name of a person who is disqualified under the provisions of the said Acts shall be liable for removal from the electoral roll of the said ward.(3)Any person who claims to be entitled to be registered as an elector and whose name is not entered in or entered in an incorrect place or manner or with incorrect particulars in the preliminary electoral roll and any person whose name is on the roll and objects to the inclusion of his name or the name of any other person in the electoral roll may prefer a claim in Form No. 16 or an objection in Form No. 17 to the Electoral Registration Officer for consideration and necessary corrections.(4)Claims or objections, if any, shall be presented either in person or be sent by post.(5)Claims and objections received after the date specified in Sub-rule (5) of Rule 5 shall not be considered.

7.

(1)The Electoral Registration Officer shall sit at the place and on the date fixed under Sub-rule (3) of Rule 5 and shall hold a summary enquiry of all the claims and objections.(2)The Electoral Registration Officer shall may make such further inquiry as he may deem fit with regard to a claim or an objection.(3)The Electoral Registration Officer may suo motu remove the names of persons from the Electoral Roll whom he knows or has reason to believe to be dead and may also correct such entries in the electoral roll concerning clerical mistakes.(4)The Electoral Registration Officer shall, after considering the objections or claims, prepare the final electoral roll of the ward in a register in Form No. 1.

8.

(1)The final electoral roll, as published by the Electoral Registration Officer, shall be the conclusive proof of the right of every person included therein to vote.(2)Two copies of the final electoral roll for each ward shall, after duly authenticated by the Electoral Registration Officer, be kept in his office and two copies thereof shall be sent to the Commissioner.(3)The Commissioner, on receipt of copies of the final electoral roll from the Electoral Registration Officer under Sub-rule (2) shall cause to be prepared such number of copies thereof as may be required for conducting elections to the Grama Panchayats and shall supply to the Election Officer at the time of the Election.

9.

The final electoral rolls of all the wards in a Grama shall together form the complete and final electoral roll of that Grama and shall be divided into parts for each polling station before the date of poll.]

10.

[* * *] [Omitted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.]

11.

The procedure laid down in Rules 4 to 10 shall be applicable if a general election is held either by efflux of time or for any other reason to even a single Grama Panchayat. Such rules shall not, however, be applicable to bye-elections held to fill up casual vacancies in any office either due to death, resignation or otherwise.

12.

[* * *] [Omitted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.]

12A.

[* * *] [Omitted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.]

13. [[Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.]

(1)The order under Section 12 shall be issued on such date as may be recommended by the Commissioner and immediately, after it is issued, the Commissioner shall, draw up [and notify] the programme of election in such manner that, as far as practicable, the election in all the wards in the Grama including the election for the Office of the Sarpanch be conducted on one and the same day and communicate the programme to all Election Officers.]

14.

The Election Officer shall provide a ballot box which shall have arrangements so that ballot papers can be inserted through an opening without affecting the secrecy of voting and also cannot be removed without opening, breaking or otherwise tampering with the arrangements of the receptacle.

15.

Inside a polling station, there shall be an enclosure which will be used by voters for marking the ballot paper secretly.

16.

The ballot boxes shall be placed in the view of Presiding Officer.

17.

There shall be ballot papers in two different colours or printed in different ink one for the election of the Sarpanch and the other for election of the ward member in Form No. 6. The ballot paper for election of the Sarpanch shall bear the following six symbols in the same order in which they are shown herein:(1)[Book (open)] [Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903. dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.](2)Fish(3)Sun(4)Umbrella(5)[Plough] [Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903. dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.](6)LadderThe ballot paper for the election of Ward Member shall bear the following six symbols in the same order in which they are shown herein:(1)Bullock cart(2)Scales(3)[Pen] [Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1615/8.12.1983.](4)Cocoanut tree(5)[A child planting a sapling] [Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903. dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.](6)CycleIt shall not be necessary to show the names of the contesting candidates in the ballot papers. The ballot papers shall be serially numbered by the Election Officer or the Presiding Officer and shall contain the seal and signature of

the Presiding Officer before they are issued to the voters.

18. [[Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.]

The polling shall take place at the polling station during such hours as may be fixed by the Commissioner]

19.

The polling station for a ward shall be located within the area of the ward; provided that the Election Officer may, if necessary, have a single polling station for group of wards in which case there shall be separate compartments for each ward at the polling station.

20. [[Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 2480 dated 21.12.2001.]

(1)The marking system of voting shall be followed and for that purpose the symbols specified in Rule 17 shall be adopted.(2)The list of duly nominated candidates shall be arranged in Oriya alphabetical order and symbols shall be assigned to each of them in the corresponding order in which the symbols appear in Rule 17.(3)In case the number of contesting candidates exceeds the number of symbols prescribed under Rule 17, the Commissioner may, by order, prescribe additional symbols to be used for the purpose:Provided that the Commissioner shall not prescribe such symbols as are allotted to political parties, by the Election Commission of India.(4)Every order passed under Sub-rule (3) shall be published in official Gazette.]

21.

The ballot papers shall be marked by voters either by means of a rubber stamp or in any other suitable manner as may be decided by the Election Officer.

22.

There shall be a Presiding Officer at each polling station who shall be responsible for proper conduct of polling and he shall exercise such powers of the Election Officer as may be delegated to him. There may also be Polling Officers for each polling station according to requirement to assist the Presiding Officer, as may be appointed by the Election Officer.

23.

Each contesting candidate shall be allowed to appoint not more than two Polling Agents to remain present at the polling station during the poll as well as counting.

24. Filling and scrutiny of nomination.

- The Election Officer shall at least [four weeks] [Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.] before the date fixed for election, issue separate notices in Form No. 3 calling for names of candidates for the office of Sarpanch of each Grama Panchayat and member for each ward of such Grama Panchayat. Such notice shall be published in every ward.

25.

The Election Officer shall arrange for supply of nomination forms at the office of the Block concerned.

26.

A nomination can be presented to the Election Officer at the appointed date, time and place specified in the notice either by candidate himself or his proposer or seconder.

26A. [[Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.]

On the date fixed for presentation of nomination papers, each candidate intending to stand for the election as a ward member or for the office of Sarpanch, as the case may be, shall deposit or cause to be deposited a sum of rupees fifty and hundred, respectively other than the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with the Election Officer. In case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes the amount of deposit to be made with the Election Officer shall be rupees twenty five and fifty, respectively. The candidate shall be given a receipt in Form No. 5 prescribed under the Orissa Grama Panchayat Rules, 1968 for the amount so deposited. No candidate shall be allowed to contest or deemed to be duly nominated for election to the said office unless proper receipt in support of such deposit is annexed to the nomination paper.]

26B.

If a candidate by whom or on whose behalf the deposit referred to in Rule 26-A has been made is not elected and the number of votes polled by him does not exceed one-sixth of the total number of valid votes polled, the deposit shall be forfeited and credited to the Panchayat Fund.

26C.

If the nomination in respect of a candidate by whom or on whose behalf the deposit referred to in Rule 26-A has been made is rejected or declared invalid, or if he withdraws his candidature in the manner and within the time specified in Rule 34, or if he dies before the commencement of the poll or if he, though not elected, does not forfeit his deposit under Rule 26-B, or if he is elected, the deposit shall be returned to the candidate or to the person by whom the deposit was made on his

behalf or in the event of the death of the candidate to his legal heir.

26D.

Notwithstanding anything contained in this rule, a deposit made under Rule 26-A shall not be returned unless a claim is preferred by the person who made the deposit or by his legal heir, as the case may be, to the Grama Panchayat concerned as soon as may be after the publication of the result of the election.

26E.

After the publication under Section 15 of the Act, of the names of members elected, the Election Officer shall send a list to the Grama Panchayat concerned showing separately the names of candidates to whom the deposit made by them under Rule 26-A shall be returned and of those the deposit made shall be forfeited to the Grama Panchayat.

27.

No person shall be eligible to be a candidate for election as a ward member unless his name finds place in the electoral roll for the ward. No person shall also be eligible either to be a proposer or a seconder in respect of a candidate for ward membership unless his name so finds place in the electoral roll for the ward.

28.

No person shall be eligible to stand as a candidate for the office of Sarpanch unless his name finds place in the electoral roll of the Grama. No person shall similarly be eligible to be either the proposer or seconder of a candidate for the office of Sarpanch unless his name finds place in the electoral roll of the Grama.

29.

(a)The Election Officer shall at the appointed time, date and place receive nomination papers separately for the office of members and Sarpanch in Form No. 4 and scrutinise them in the presence of the candidate, their proposers and seconders, if any, who may be present. If he finds that the candidates are duly qualified in accordance with the provisions of Section 11 and not disqualified under any of the clauses of Section 25 of the Act, he shall approve their candidature. Objections, if any, filed in the course of scrutiny shall be enquired into summarily by the Election Officer and his decision accepting or rejecting the nomination papers shall be endorsed on the body of the nomination papers with reasons for the decision.(b)The election Officer shall not reject a nomination paper merely on account of some discrepancy between the age, name or other particulars of a candidate or his proposer or seconder as given in the nomination paper and in the electoral roll; provided that the Election Officer is otherwise satisfied that the identity of a candidate

is not in doubt and the question of eligibility is not involved.

30.

If no nomination is filed [or if all the nominations are rejected] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.] for the office of Sarpanch of the Grama Panchayat or for the membership of any ward, a notice for fresh election shall be issued as laid down in Rule 24. If there is a failure of the election so held for the second time the Election Officer shall forthwith report the matter to the [Sub-Collector] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.] for nomination of a person under Section 13 to fill up the vacancy. The provisions of this rule shall be applicable for election to the office of any member of the Grama Panchayat, Sarpanch or Naib-Sarpanch.

31.

If after scrutiny under Rule 29 the Election Officer finds that there is only one candidate each duly nominated for the office of Sarpanch of a Grama Panchayat and for the office of member from each ward of a Grama Panchayat, there shall be no poll and the Election Officer shall immediately declare the person so nominated to have been duly elected.

32. [[Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.]

(1) The Election Officer shall, immediately, after the scrutiny, prepare a list of the nominated candidates in Form No. 5 and arrange the names in Oriya alphabetical order.(2)[* * *](3)A copy of the list of the validly nominated candidates shall be published in the notice board of the Grama in Form No. 5 at least [three weeks] [Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated, 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.] before the date fixed for Election.(4)A validly nominated candidate for any ward or for the office of Sarpanch may withdraw candidature by presenting an application in Form No. 9 personally to the Election Officer within forty eight hours after the list of validly nominated candidates has been published under Sub-rule (3). [Provided that the Election Officer shall verify the signature of the candidate before allowing the candidature to be withdrawn.] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated, 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.](5)Immediately after the withdrawal of nomination under Sub-rule (4), the Election Officer shall publish the final list of contesting candidates [and allot symbols to each of them in Form No. 5 at least two weeks] [Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated, 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.] before the date of Election.(6)If there were only two contesting candidates including the person withdrawing his candidature under Sub-rule (4), the other candidates shall be declared July elected uncontested. (7) The Election Officer shall proceed with election if, upon withdrawal of candidature under Rule (4), the number of validly nominated candidates exceeds one.

33.

(a)A validly nominated candidate who has not withdrawn his candidature under Sub-rule (4) of Rule 32 dies and a report of his death is received by the Election Officer, before publication of the list of contesting candidates; or(b)A candidate dies after the publication of the final list of contesting candidates under Sub-rule (5) of Rule 32 and before the commencement of poll; the Election Officer shall, upon being satisfied of the fact of the death of the candidate, countermand the poll and report the fact to the Commissioner.

34.

If at an election, a candidate dies at any time on or after the date of the poll but before publication of the result under Section 15, there shall be no countermanding and the result shall be declared as if the candidate has not died.

35.

In case upon declaration of result of the election, the deceased candidate as referred to in Rule 34 declared to have been duly elected, the Election Officer shall forthwith issue a notification to the effect that casual vacancy has occurred and the provisions of these rules for conducting bye-election to fill up the casual vacancy shall be applicable in such cases.]

36. Conduct of polling.

- After the procedure for acceptance of nominations is completed, the Election Officer shall supply to the Presiding Officer appointed for each polling station the following papers:(a)A list of validly nominated candidates in Form No. 5 separately for offices of Sarpanch and ward members concerned;(b)A working copy of the electoral roll for the ward for use of the Presiding Officer;(c)Another copy of the electoral roll of the ward to be exhibited at the polling station;(d)Required number of ballot-papers for the office of Sarpanch as also ward members in Form (No. 6);(e)Form No. 7 for ballot-paper account;(f)Form No. 8 for recording the results of counting;(g)Form No. 8-A, for recording the results of counting of votes to the office of Sarpanch.

37.

It shall be the responsibility of the Presiding Officer to proceed to the polling station well in advance of the time fixed for the poll and make the required arrangement so as to ensure that polling commences exactly at the time notified.

38.

Shortly before the commencement of the poll, a copy of the list of contesting candidates for each office arranged in alphabetical order together with a description of the symbol assigned to each shall

be exhibited prominently at the polling station. A copy of the electoral roll, a notice specifying the polling station, area and the date and time of poll shall also be exhibited.

39.

The Presiding Officer shall examine the authority of the polling agents authorised by the candidates and decide the admissibility according to rules. He may also fix up one or two local persons who may be of assistance in identifying voters.

40.

Immediately before the commencement of the poll, the Presiding Officer shall demonstrate to the candidates and the voters present that the ballot-box is empty and is either locked up or so secured by any device that ballot-papers can be inserted therein but cannot be withdrawn except by breaking or otherwise tampering with the box.

41.

(a) Polling shall then commence at the appointed hour. (b) As each voter approaches the Presiding Officer, he shall check up the eligibility with reference to the working copy of the electoral roll and issue a ballot-paper to the voter for the Office of Sarpanch after putting an indelible ink mark on his left forefinger. The Presiding Officer shall clearly explain to each voter the procedure to be followed in putting his mark. The voter shall then proceed along with the ballot-paper to the enclosure and [affix a cross mark] [Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.] secretly against the candidate whom he wishes to vote either with the stamp provided for the purpose or by any other method as may be decided by the Presiding Officer. After affixing the mark the voter should fold the ballot-paper on the inner side so as to maintain secrecy of the vote and proceed to the Presiding Officer and insert the folded ballot-paper into the box specified for the purpose.(c)The Presiding Officer shall then issue another ballot-paper for the office of ward member. At the time of issuing such ballot-paper, the voter shall on being asked allow his left forefinger to be marked with indelible ink if no such marking is already made as per the foregoing sub-rule. The voter shall then proceed along with ballot-paper to the enclosure and affix a mark secretly against the candidate whom he wishes to vote either with the stamp provided for the purpose or by any other method as may be decided by the presiding officer. After affixing the mark the voter should fold the ballot-paper on the inner side so as to maintain secrecy of the vote and then wilt insert the told ballot-paper into the box specified for the purpose.(d)Any reference in this rule to the left fore-finger of a voter shall, in the case where the voter has his left fore-finger missing, be construed as a reference to any other finger of his left hand and shall in the case where all the fingers of his left hand are missing, be construed as a reference to the forefinger or, as the case may be, any other finger of his right hand and shall in the case where all his fingers of both the hands are missing, be construed as a reference to such extremity of his left or right arm as he possesses.

42. [[Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.]

In case of a voter who is physically incapcitated or is blind the Presiding Officer shall, at the request of such voter, allow him to take a companion to the place set apart for voting]

43.

After the issue of the ballot-papers, the Presiding Officer shall tick-mark the name of the voter in the working copy of the electoral roll.

44.

[(1)] [Re-numbered vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.] Any contesting candidate or his authorised polling agent may object to the identity of a voter on the only ground that he is not the person he claims to be as per entry in the electoral roll. For every objection a fee of Rs. 2 shall be deposited with the Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer shall decide the objection summarily and his decision shall be final. If the objection is rejected the deposit shall be forfeited. If, on the other hand, the objection is allowed, the deposit stall be refunded to the person who deposited the amount.(2)[In case of forfeiture of deposit under Sub-rule (1), a receipt in Form No.. 5 prescribed under the Orissa Grama Panchayat Rules, 1968 shall be issued to the person who has made the deposit.] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.]

45.

A Presiding Officer shall so regulate the entry of voters that polling proceeds in an orderly manner. All registered voters who appear between the hours fixed for the poll within the polling station shall be allowed to vote. No voter shall be admitted inside the polling station after the time fixed for the poll is over.

46.

When a Presiding Officer is unable to remain at the polling station for reasons beyond his control, he will authorise one of the Polling Officers, if so appointed, to act as the Presiding Officer. In the absence of any such Police Officer, the Presiding Officer may select any person not interested in any of the contesting candidates to function as the Presiding Officer in the aforesaid circumstances.

46A. [[Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.]

(1)Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules, the giving and recording of votes by voting machines may be adopted in such of the elections to the office of Sarpanch or members of Grama

Panchayat or both, as the Election Commission having regard to the circumstances of each case, may specify. Explanation - For the purpose of these rules "voting machine" means any machine or apparatus whether operated electronically or otherwise used for giving or recording of votes or both any reference to ballot box or ballot paper in these rules shall be construed as and including a reference to such voting machine used at an election under these rules.(2) Every voting machine shall have a control unit and a balloting unit and shall be of such design as may be approved by the Election Commission.

46B.

(1)The balloting unit of the voting machine shall contain such particulars and in such languages as the Election Commission may specify.(2)Subject to the foregoing provisions of this rule, the Election Officer shall,-(i)fix the label containing symbol of the contesting candidates in the balloting unit and secure that unit with his seal and seals of the contesting candidates or their polling agents present who are desirous of affixing the same; and(ii)set the number of contesting candidates, and close the candidates section in the control unit and secure it with his seal and seals of such of the contesting candidates or their polling agents present who are desirous of affixing the same.

46C.

(1)The control and balloting units of every voting machine used at a polling station shall bear a label marked with,-(i)the number of the ward, name of the Grama Panchayat;(ii)the serial number and name of the polling station or stations;(iii)the serial number of the unit; and(iv)the date of poll.(2)Immediately before the commencement of the poll, the Presiding Officer shall demonstrate to the candidate/polling agents/voters and other persons present that no vote has been already recorded in the voting machine and it bears the label referred to in Sub-rule (1).(3)A paper seal shall be used for securing the control unit of the voting machine and the Presiding Officer shall affix his own signature on the paper seal and obtain thereon the signature of such of the candidate or their polling agents present who are desirous of affixing the same.(4)The Presiding Officer shall thereafter fix the paper seal so signed in the space meant for the purpose in the control unit of the voting machine and shall secure and seal the same.(5)The seal used for securing the control unit shall be fixed in such manner that after the unit has been sealed it is not possible to press the result button without breaking the seal.(6)The control unit shall be closed and secured and placed in full view of the Presiding Officer and the candidate/candidates/polling agents but the balloting unit shall be placed in the voting compartment.

46D.

(1)As each voter approaches the Presiding Officer, he shall check up the eligibility with reference to the working copy of the Electoral Roll and after being satisfied shall send him to the Polling Officer who shall put an indelible ink mark on the voter's left forefinger.(2)Any reference to the left forefinger in Sub-rule (1) shall mean the left forefinger as prescribed in Clause (d) of Rule 41.

46E.

(1)Before permitting an elector to the vote, the Presiding Officer shall,-(i)record the electoral roll number of the elector as entered in the working copy of the electoral roll in a register of voters in Form No. 7-A;(ii)obtain the signature or the thumb impression of the elector in the said register of voters; and(iii)tick mark the name of the elector in the working copy of the electoral roll to indicate that he has been allowed to vote: Provided that no elector shall be allowed to vote unless he puts his signature or thumb impression on the register of voters.(2)It shall be necessary for any polling officer to attest the thumb impression of the elector in the register of voters.(3)The elector shall be allowed to vote for the office of the Sarpanch first and thereafter for the office of the Ward Member.

46F.

(1)Immediately on being permitted to vote, the elector shall proceed to the Polling Officer in-charge of the control unit of the voting machine who shall press the appropriate button of the control unit to activate the same and shall,(a)proceed to the voting compartment;(b)record his vote by pressing the button on the balloting unit against the symbol of the candidate for whom he intends to vote; and(c)come out of the voting compartment,(2)Every elector shall vote without undue delay.(3)No elector shall be allowed to enter the voting compartment when another elector is inside.]

47.

After the close of polling the Presiding Officer shall proceed to take up counting of the votes polled in the presence of the candidates and their polling agents who may be present at the polling stations. He shall first take up counting of the votes in the ballot-box relating to the membership of the ward. Each ballot-paper shall be carefully scrutinised by the Presiding Officer in the course of counting and a ballot-paper shall be liable to rejection on one or more of the following grounds, namely:(a)If it bears any mark or writing by which the voter can be identified;(b)If no vote is recorded thereon;(c)If votes are recorded in favour of more than one candidate;(d)If the mark indicating the vote is placed in such a manner so as to make it doubtful as to which candidate the vote has been given;(e)if the ballot-paper is spurious;(f)If it so damaged or mutilated that its genuineness cannot be established;(g)If it is of a design different from the one authorised for use at the polling station;(h)[If it does not bear the seal and signature of the Presiding Officer.] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995, SRO No. 1260/95.]The Presiding Officer shall summarily decide at the time of scrutiny and in case of rejection shall so endorse under his signature on the ballot-paper itself. He shall also record the reason for each ballot-paper so rejected in a separate paper.

48.

[The result of counting the ballot papers in respect of membership of the Grama Panchayat shall be recorded in Form No. 8 and the Presiding Officer shall announce the votes polled by each contesting candidate.] [Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No.

228/2001.]

49.

The Presiding Officer shall next proceed to count the ballot-paper relating to the office of Sarpanch of the Grama Panchayat in accordance with the aforesaid procedure.

50.

The results of counting the ballot-papers in the ballot-box relating to office of Sarpanch shall be recorded in Form No.8-A. The Presiding Officer may announce the votes polled by each contesting candidate.

50A. [[Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001]

Notwithstanding anything contained in Rules 47 to 50 where polling has been conducted through voting number, the following procedure shall be followed for counting of votes:(1)The Presiding Officer shall, after close of the poll, proceed to take up counting of the votes polled in presence of candidates or their polling agents who may be present. (2) He shall first take up counting of votes in respect of the voting machine relating to the membership of the Ward, prepare an account of votes recorded in Form No. 7-B and thereafter press the appropriate button marked "Result" provided in the control unit to display the total votes polled and votes polled by each candidate on the display panel provided for in the unit.(3)As the votes polled by each candidates are displayed on the control unit, the Presiding Officer shall, -(i)record the number of votes recorded in respect of each candidates in Part II of Form 7-B for Ward-Member.(ii)fill up Part II of Form 7-B in all respect and signed by him and also by the candidates or their election agents present; and(iii)make corresponding entries in the result sheet in Form 8 for Ward-Members. (4) The Presiding Officer shall announce the votes polled by each contesting candidates.(5)(i)The Presiding Officer shall next proceed to count the votes polled by each contesting candidates to the office of the Sarpanch in accordance with the procedure prescribed under the preceding sub-rule's.(ii)The Presiding Officer shall announce the votes polled by each contesting candidates for the office of the Sarpanch after recording the same in Part II of Form No. 7-B.

50B.

(1)After the result of voting is ascertained candidate-wise and entered in Part II of Form No. 7-B and Form No.8, the Presiding Officer shall seal the units(s) with his seal and seals of the candidates or their election agents who may be present and desire to affix their seal thereon in order to ensure that the result of voting recorded in such unit is not obliterated and the unit retains the memory of such result.(2)The control unit so sealed shall be kept in a box specially prepared for the purpose on which the Presiding Officer shall record the following particulars namely:(a)the name of the ward;(b)the office of which poll was conducted;(c)particular of polling station where the control unit

was put to use;(d)serial No. of the control unit; and(e)date of poll and counting.(3)The Presiding Officer shall after close of counting, prepare separate bundles of all papers, reports and results of counting for the office of Sarpanch and membership of the Grama Panchayat and forward such packets duly sealed to the Election Officer along with the voting machines.(4)The provisions of Rules 36 to 39, 42 to 46 and 51 to 57, shall apply to the voting by voting machine and any reference in those rules to ballot box or ballot paper shall be construed as and including a reference to the voting machine.]

51.

[(1)] [Re-numbered vide SRO No. 869/96, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1204, dated 18.11.1996.] Immediately after the close of counting, the Presiding Officer shall prepare separate bundles of all the papers, reports and unused ballot papers in respect of polling for the office of Sarpanch and polling for the membership of the Grama Panchayat arid forward two packets duly sealed to the Election Officer for the local area. It will be open for the candidates or their Polling Agents to affix their seals to the aforesaid packets. On the date fixed for declaring the result of elections to the office of Sarpanch, [or Ward Member, as the case may be] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.], the Election Officer shall carefully total the election results received from different Presiding Officers [and count the ballot papers contained in the sealed packets received under Rule 92-G] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.] in the presence of the candidates concerned, their polling agents as may be present and declare the results [of the Ward Member and the Sarpanch in Form No. 8 and Form No. 8-B] [Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 2480 dated 21.12.2001.] after recording in a separate report the total number of votes polled by each contesting candidate. The candidates securing the largest number of votes shall be declared duly elected as the Sarpanch. In the case of an equality of votes, the result shall be decided by drawing lots and the candidate whose name is drawn first shall be declared elected:(2)[After the declaration under Sub-rule (1) has been made, a candidate or, in his absence, his polling agent may apply in writing to the Election Officer to recount the votes either wholly or in part stating the grounds for such recounting.(3)On an application made under Sub-rule (2) the Election Officer shall decide the matter and may allow the application in whole or in part or may reject it in toto if it appears to him to be frivolous or unreasonable.(4) Every decision of the Election Officer under Sub-rule (3) shall be in writing and contain the reasons therefor.(5)If the Election Officer decides under Sub-rule (3) to allow recounting of the votes either wholly or in part, he shall-(a)make the recounting in accordance with Rule 47;(b)make necessary corrections in the result sheet in Form No. 8-B to the extent necessary after such recounting; and(c)announce the result on the basis of corrections so made by him.][* * *] [Omitted vide SRO No. 869/96, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1204, dated 18.11.1996.]

52.

If on the basis of the reports of the Presiding Officers of each ward in regard to election of ward members and his own report relating to election of the Sarpanch, the Election Officer finds that [majority of members including the Sarpanch have been duly returned] [Substituted vide SRO No.

1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.], he shall publish the names of the Sarpanch and also the ward members declared duly elected to each Grama Panchayat in the notice board of the block office as required under Section 15 of the Act. A copy of the notification shall be forwarded by the Election Officer to the Collector of the district where election officer is other than the Collector and also to the Grama Panchayat concerned and to the ward members and Sarpanch elected.

53.

[* * *] [Omitted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]

54.

In case there is a failure of election for the second time for any seat, the Election Officer shall forthwith intimate the position to the [Sub-Collector] [Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]. On receipt of such intimation the [Sub-Collector] [Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.] shall nominate a person to such seat with the least practicable delay and inform the Election Officer so that he may include the name of the nominated person in the notification under Section 15 of the Act. The [Sub-Collector] [Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.] shall also forward a copy of the list of nominated persons to the Collector.

55.

[(i)] [Re-numbered vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 2480 dated 21.12.2001.] When it is necessary to hold elections for the second time in any case in the course of a general election, the procedure prescribed in the foregoing rules for the conduct of elections shall apply subject to the following modifications, namely:(i)It shall not be necessary either to publish the electoral roll or to invite objections.(ii)The Election Officer shall issue notices calling for names of candidates for the office of Sarpanch or member of Grama Panchayat, as the case may be, at least two weeks before the date fixed for election.(2)[When the seat of a member or the office of the Sarpanch is dereserved under Sub-section (2) of Section 13, the Commissioner' shall, on receipt of the communication to that effect under Sub-rule (5), of Rule 3-B, from the Collector, fix up dates for conducting election to such seat or office, as the case may be, whereupon, the provisions of these Rules shall apply subject to the modifications prescribed under Sub-rule (1).] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 2480 dated 21.12.2001.]

56.

[(1)] [Re-numbered vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.] The documents relating to election proceedings received from the Presiding Officers and those prepared by the Election Officer shall be retained in safe custody in the office of the Election

Officer [for a period of three months] [Omitted vide SRO No. 869/96, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1204, dated 18.11.1996.] and shall then, unless otherwise directed by a competent Court, be destroyed.(2)[The documents or records referred to in Sub-rule (1) in custody of the Election Officer shall not be opened or inspected or produced save with the prior permission of the Commissioner or of a competent Court.] [Inserted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]

57. [[Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]

The Collector shall consolidate the result of election of all the Grama Panchayats and prepare a list indicating the names of Sarpanches and ward members and shall furnish the same to the Commissioner together with copies of notifications issued by the Election Officers under Section 15.] [Inserted vide SRO No. 869/96, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1204, dated 18.11.1996.]

58. to 72.

[* * *] [Omitted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1453/1991.]

72A.

[* * *] [Omitted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]

73. [[Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]

On the date fixed by the Commissioner under Sub-rule (2) of Rule 13, the Election Officer shall convene the special meeting of the Grama Panchayat and for the purpose, may appoint a Presiding Officer.

74.

Unless the Commissioner otherwise directs, the meeting referred to in Rule 73 shall be held in the office of the Grama Panchayat or any other convenient place at the headquarters of the Grama Panchayat, as may be decided by the Election Officer.]

75.

The Presiding Officer shall cause a notice [in Form No. 17-A] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.] of such meeting to be given to the Sarpanch and every other member at least seven clear days before the date of such meeting. The notice shall be served personally or in default by registered post. Such notice shall also be published by fixing it in the Panchayat office, if one exists, or at any prominent place at the headquarters of the

Grama Panchayat. The said notice shall state the place and date on which and the hours between which the election shall be conducted.

76.

Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary contained in these rules, the following procedure shall be followed for conducting the election to the office of the Naib-Sarpanch:(a)All the members other than the Sarpanch shall be eligible to stand for the office of the Naib-Sarpanch; (b) The Presiding Officer shall proceed to conduct the election, if a majority of the members of the Grama Panchayat are present on the date and at the time fixed for the purpose. If a majority of the members are not present, no election shall be made and a fresh notice shall be issued in accordance with the foregoing rules fixing another date. In case of failure of election for the second time, the Presiding Officer shall report the result to the Election Officer who shall thereupon move the [Sub-Collector] [Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.] for nomination of a Naib-Sarpanch in pursuance of the provisions of Section 13. On the nomination of Naib-Sarpanch by the [Sub-Collector] [Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.], the Election Officer shall publish the name of the person so nominated in the notice board of the Block office as required under Section 15;(c) If a majority of the members are present on the date fixed for the first or second meeting, as the case may be, the Presiding Officer shall call upon the members to elect a Naib-Sarpanch from among themselves and allow time for one hour to receive nominations in Form No. 4;(d) Every nomination paper shall be signed by two members as proposer and seconder and the candidate should sign a declaration on it expressing his willingness to stand for election. Every nomination paper shall be presented by the candidate himself or his proposer or seconder to the Presiding Officer at the meeting; (e) After expiry of the time allotted for receiving nomination papers, the Presiding Officer shall proceed to scrutinise the nomination papers. Scrutiny shall be made only with a view to check if nomination is duly proposed and seconded and also accepted by the candidate. It shall be open to the Presiding Officer to get omissions rectified then and there. No objections on any other ground whatsoever shall be entertained in respect of nominations;(f)If only a single candidate is nominated, he shall be declared elected forthwith;(g)In case no nomination is filed within the time allowed the Presiding Officer shall allow one more hour for filing nominations and this shall be treated as an election for the second time. If no nomination is filed on the second occasion also, the Presiding Officer shall report the result to the Election Officer who shall thereupon move the [Sub-Collector] for nomination of the Naib-Sarpanch; (h) In the event of there being a contest, the Presiding Officer shall announce the names of the contesting candidates and shall proceed to hold the poll then and there.

77.

Every member present and wishing to vote shall be supplied with a ballot paper in Form No. 10 which may be either printed or in manuscript and duly authenticated by the signature of the Presiding Officer. Names of the duly nominated candidates shall be printed, typed or cyclostyled or legibly written in ink on the ballot-paper in the alphabetical order. It shall not be necessary to assign symbols.

78.

The voter shall then proceed to a place set apart for voting and secretly put a cross-mark either with a stamp that may be supplied by the Presiding Officer or by any other means against the name of the candidate to whom he wishes to vote. He shall then fold the paper so as to conceal the vote and deposit the same in a ballot box placed in the view of the Presiding Officer.

79.

The procedure outlined in Rules 14 to 16, 18, 19, 40, 41 and 47 regarding the description of the ballot boxes to be provided, the exhibition of boxes before commencement of the poll, the arrangements for ensuring secrecy of ballot, the opening of boxes after the close of poll, the counting and scrutiny of ballot-papers and the presence of candidates shall apply mutatis mutandis to the Election of Naib-Sarpanch.

80.

Immediately after voting is over, the Presiding Officer shall count the votes in the presence of the members, as may be present and declare the candidate securing the order number of valid votes to have been elected. In the event of there being an equality of votes, the Presiding Officer shall draw lots. The candidate whose name is first drawn shall be declared to have been elected. The Presiding Officer shall thereupon communicate the result forthwith along with the connected election papers to the Election Officer. The election papers shall be forwarded in sealed packets and the provisions of Rule 56 regarding preservation of these papers shall apply.

81.

The Election Officer shall thereupon publish the name of the Naib-Sarpanch duly elected or nominated in the notice board of the Block office as required under Section 15. He shall forward a copy of the notification to the Collector as also to the Grama Panchayat concerned.

82.

[* * *] [Omitted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]

83.

Any person elected or nominated as a Sarpanch or Naib-Sarpanch or any other member of the Grama Panchayat shall be deemed to have entered office with effect from the date of publication of his name in the notice board of the Block office in accordance with the provisions of Section 15.

84. Bye-elections to fill up casual vacancies.

- When a vacancy arises in the office of Sarpanch, Naib-Sarpanch or any other member of a Grama Panchayat occurring otherwise than efflux of time or supersession or dissolution, the Sarpanch, or the Naib-Sarpanch, as the case may be, shall forthwith report the fact to the [Sub-Collector] [Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]. Any other officer empowered by the State Government or the Collector to inspect a Grama Panchayat may also draw the attention of the [Sub-Collector] [Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.], to the existence of the vacancy in any of the above offices of a Grama Panchayat.

85. [[Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]

(1)[Unless the Commissioner otherwise directs] on receipt of information under Rule 84 or his own information about the existence of the vacancy, the Sub-Collector shall forthwith report the fact to the Commissioner who shall appoint, as soon as practicable, the date and place for holding a bye-election to fill up the vacancy.](2)[* * *] [Omitted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 2480 dated 21.12.2001.](3)The provisions of these rules shall mutatis mutandis apply to such bye-election: Provided that the electoral roll utilised at the time of election to the office of the member or the Sarpanch, as the case may be, shall be utilised and, unless the Commissioner otherwise directs, it shall not be necessary either to publish the electoral roll or to invite objections.[Provided further that the Commissioner may, if the circumstances so warrant, fix up different dates for different stages of election proceedings *o fill up casual vacancies.] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.]

86.

[* * *] [Omitted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 2480 dated 21.12.2001.]

87.

[* * *] [Omitted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]

88. Election petition.

- The following amounts shall be deposited as security for costs along with an election petition filed under Chapter-V of the Act:

Rs. P.

Election petition relating to election of Sarpanch 150.00

Election petition relating to election of Naib-Sarpanch 50.00

Election petition relating to election of a Member 40.00

89. Procedure for declaring persons to be in the habit of encouraging litigation in the Grama.

(a)The Collector of a district may publish a list of persons, appearing to him either on his own information or on information received from any other source that by evidence of general repute, such persons are in the habit of encouraging litigation in the Grama and may from time to time alter or amend such list.(b)Before entering the name of any person in the list, a reasonable opportunity of showing cause should be given to the person concerned and the explanation received shall be enquired into either by the Collector or any person authorised by him not below the rank of [Sub-Collector] [Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]. On conclusion of the enquiry, the Collector, if satisfied that the person concerned is in the habit of encouraging litigation in the Grama, shall include his name in the list which shall be duly published in the notice board of the Collector. Copies of the list shall be forwarded to the Election Officer of the area concerned. A list once drawn up shall remain in force until the next general election.(c)Six months before a general election the Collector shall take up a revision of the list and the fresh list so prepared shall be applicable for purposes of disqualification of candidates for such general election. Miscellaneous

90.

[* * *] [Omitted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]

91.

Any servant of a local body or any Government servant shall not interfere or in any way use his influence in an election. A breach of this rule shall render the person liable to dismissal.

92. [[Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]

All canvassing or propaganda, public meetings, use of loudspeakers at any public place by any candidate within the local area of the Grama Panchayat is prohibited before thirty-six hours of commencement of the Poll.]

92A. [[Inserted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]

(1)Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules, if at any time or in any case the proceedings at any polling station are interrupted, or obstructed for any reason whatsoever and the Presiding Officer is satisfied that free and fair conduct of election has been affected thereby, he shall direct postponement of the poll and shall forthwith inform the Election Officer.(2)On receipt of

information from the Presiding Officer, under Sub-rule (1), the Election Officer shall after such enquiry as he may deem fit, report the facts of the case to the Commissioner.(3)If the Commissioner is satisfied, on the basis of the report of the Election Officer or otherwise that conduct of free and fair election has been affected, he may direct a fresh election at that polling station.

92B.

(1)If the proceedings at any polling stations or group of polling stations are interrupted or obstructed by any riot or open violence, or if it is not possible to take the poll at any polling station or if at any time or in any case it appears to the Election Officer that during the course of an election it is, or has become impracticable to go ahead with the process of election including the poll due to natural calamity or otherwise, the Election Officer may, by a reasoned order, announce an adjournment of the poll to a date to be notified later and shall report the facts of the case to the Commissioner.(2)If the Commissioner is satisfied on the report of the Election Officer or otherwise as regards to the facts stated in Sub-rule (1), he shall direct poll on such date, place and hours as he may satisfy.(3)Whenever a poll is adjourned under Sub-rule (1) counting of votes relating to the ward or of a Grama (in case of Sarpanch) of which the poll was adjourned, shall not commence without the previous approval of the Commissioner.

92C.

(1)If at an election -(a)any ballot box used at a polling station or at a place fixed for the poll is unlawfully taken out of the custody of the Presiding Officer or the Polling Officer accidentally or intentionally destroyed or lost, or is damaged or tampered with, to such an extent that the result of the poll at that polling station or place cannot be ascertained; or(b)any such error or irregularity, in procedure as is likely to vitiate the poll, is committed at a polling station or at a place fixed for the poll, the Presiding Officer shall forthwith report the matter to the Election Officer.(2)The Election Officer, on receipt of information under Sub-rule (1) and after taking prior approval of the Commissioner, shall either -(a)cancel the poll at that polling station, appoint a day and fix the hours for taking a fresh poll at that polling station or any other suitable place and notify the day so appointed and the hours so fixed in such manner as it may deem fit; or(b)if satisfied that the result of fresh poll at that polling station or place will not in any way, affect the result of the election or that, the error or irregularity in procedure is not material issue such directions to the Presiding Officer as he may deem proper for further conduct and completion of the election-.(3)The provisions of this rules or order made thereunder shall apply to every such fresh poll as they apply to the original poll.

92D.

(1)If at an election -(a)booth capturing has taken place at a polling station or at a place fixed for the poll (hereafter in this rule referred to as a place) in such a manner that the result of the poll at that polling station or place cannot be ascertained; or(b)booth capturing takes place in any place fixed for counting of votes in such a manner that the result of the counting at that place cannot be ascertained, the Election Officer shall forthwith report the matter to the Commissioner.(2)The

Commissioner shall on the receipt of a report from the Election Officer under Sub-rule (1) or otherwise and after taking all materials circumstances into account, either -(a)declare that the poll at that polling station or place be void, appoint a day and fix the hours for taking fresh poll at that polling station or any other suitable place and notify the date so appointed and hours so fixed in such manner as it may deem fit, or(b)if satisfied that in view of the large number of polling stations or place involved in booth capturing the result or the election is likely to be affected, or that booth capturing had affected counting of votes in such a manner as to affect the result of the election, countermand the election in that ward or Grama, as the case may be. Explanation - For the purpose of this rule, "booth capturing" includes, among other things all or any of the following activities, namely:(a)seizure of a polling station or a place fixed for the poll by any person or persons making polling authorities surrender the ballot papers or voting materials including ballot boxes and doing of any other act which affects the orderly conduct of election; (b) taking possession of a polling station or a place fixed for the poll by any person or persons and allowing only his or their own\ supporters to exercise their right to vote and to prevent others from voting;(c)threatening any elector and preventing him from going to the polling station or a place fixed for the poll to cast his vote;(d)seizure of a place fixed for counting of votes by any person or persons, making the counting authorities surrender the ballot papers or voting materials including ballot boxes and the doing of anything which affects the orderly counting of votes; (e) doing by any person in the service of Government of all or any of the aforesaid activities or aiding or conniving at any such activity in the furtherance of the prospects of the election of a candidate.

92E.

[1)] [Re-numbered vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.] If at any time or in any case it appears to the Commissioner that circumstances exist for his satisfaction that conduct of free and fair election is likely to be or has been affected, the Commissioner may issue general or special orders as the circumstance may require, to ensure free and fair election.](2)[] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.] [* * *] [Omitted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 2480 dated 21.12.2001.]

92F. [[Inserted vide SRO No. 869/96, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1204, dated 18.11.1996.]

If it appears to the Collector that in connection with an election held under these rules, -(a)any premises are needed or are likely to be needed for the purpose of being used as a polling station or for storage of ballot boxes before or after the poll is taken, or(b)any vehicle, vessel or animal is needed or likely to be needed for the purpose of transport of ballot boxes to or from any polling station, or transport of members of the police force for maintaining order during the conduct of or in connection with such election or other person for performance of any duties in connection with such election; he may be order in writing requisition such premises or vehicles, vessel or animal, as the case may be and may make such further order as may appear to him to be necessary or expedient in connection with such requisitioning: Provided that no vehicle, vessel or animal which is being lawfully used by a candidate or his agent for any purpose connected with the election of such candidate shall requisitioned under this sub-rule until the completion of the poll at such election.]

92G. [[Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.]

(1) If at an election held under these rules, a Presiding Officer, Polling Officer, any Public Servant or any polling agent deployed at a polling station in connection with such election, who are otherwise entitled to vote either in the same or other polling station may apply to the Election Officer for issue of an Election Duty Certificate (hereinafter referred to as the certificate) indicating therein particulars of his duty in connection with such election. (2) The Election Officer, on being satisfied with the particulars furnished by the applicant under Sub-rule (1), may grant the certificate to the applicant allowing him to vote in a polling station, where he is on duty.(3)A person in possession of such certificate shall deliver the same to the Presiding Officer who shall thereafter issue a ballot paper to the person concerned and such ballot paper shall be dealt within the following manner:(i)if the person concerned is on duty in the same polling station in which he is entitled to vote, the certificate shall be handed over to the Presiding Officer where upon the provisions of Rule 41 (b) shall apply for casting the vote and at the end of the poll the Presiding Officer shall send the certificate to the Election Officer in a separate sealed cover;(ii)in cases other than those referred to in Clause (i), the Presiding Officer shall after recording of the vote, make separate packets for each ward putting inside inside it the envelope and the certificate and forward the same to the Election Officer concerned.]

93. [[Inserted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.]

Sl.	House	Nome	Father's Name/ Serial No. in the Electoral Roll for the		Remarks
No.	No.	Name	Husband's name	AssemblyConstituency	Keiliaiks
1	2	3	4	5	6

Election Officer	
Date Address	
Form No. 3[See Rule 24]Notice calling for name of Ward No	that-(1)An election is to be held of Grama for ward No(2)Forms of nomination specified in serial No. 6 between the hour papers may be delivered between the hour of 11 in or his proposer to the officer specified below, in papers will be taken up for scrutiny at hours on ature may be delivered by a candidate, to the ole
PlaceGrama Panchayat Form No. 4[See Rule 29]Nomination paper for elec	ation of Samanah /Naih Samanah and Mambara
of the Grama PanchayatName of the Grama Sasan. Panchayat.Police-stationDistrict*(To be candidate for election as from the Ward No of* Grant No. in Electoral Roll	Ward No Election to the Grama filled by the proposer)*I hereby nominate as a
1. Full name of proposer	
2. Full name of seconder	
3. Name of candidate's father/husband.	
4. Full postal address of candidate	••••
5. Electoral roll number of candidate	••••
Date	
Signature of proposer[* * *] [Omitted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.]	Signature of seconder[* * *] [Omitted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.]
* Here insert name of Grama Sasan.(To be filled by assent to this nomination and hereby declare that my knowledge and belief I am qualified and also not fill up the seat] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extra 228/2001.].	I have completed years of age [and to the best of ot disqualified under the law for being chosen to

Date.....

	Signature of candidate dated 15.5.2001 SRO N		vide Orissa Gaz	zette Extraordinary No. 903,
Tribe to Sc	cher declaration to be made by a ca e/Backward Class.I hereby declare heduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes / Signature]	ndidate belongi that I am a men	nber of	Caste/Tribe belonging
was o	stituted vide Orissa Gazette Extrao lelivered to me at, (hours) on (date Election Officer	•		001.]Serial No. of nomination
Decis	sion of Election Officer accepting of ination paper in accordance with seale as follows:			
Date	Election Officer			
nomi	ipt for nomination paper for scrution ination paper)Serial No. of nomination for officeof Sarpanch/Ward Me	tion paper ember of Ward N	Γhe nomination No. [of(na	paper of a candidate for me) Grama Sasan,] [Insert
	umber of the ward; strike out one		• -	
	r) on (date) by the candidate/propo	oser. All nomina	ition papers will	be taken up for scrutiny at
	r) on(date) at (place).			
	Election Officer			
	n No. 5[See Rule 32]List of validly n r)Election to the Grama Pan			-
Sl. No.	Name of candidate for the office of Member/Sarpanch	Name of father/ husband	Address of candidate	Symbol assigned in accordance with Rules 17 and 20
1	2	3	4	5
Notio	ce is hereby given that polling will t	ake place on	between t	he hours
of	toat(place), andC	ounting will tak	e place on	between the hours
of	toat(place).In the ca	se of election for	r office of Sarpa	nch the reports of Presiding
	ers of all Polling Stations of the Gra			ed onbetween the
	s of(place)		ts declared.	
Date	Place Election	n Officer		
	unterfoil" [Substituted vide Orissa			
•	2001.] Grama Panchayat l			
	/SarpanchSignature or T.I of E	lectorForm No.	6[See Rule]

Sl. No. Symbol allotted to candidate Voters stamp of marking

(3)

(2)

(1)

1. Ballot-paper received
2. Ballot-paper not used
3. Ballot-paper issued to the voter
4. Ballot-papers cancelled
Date Signature of Presiding Officer [Form No. 7-A] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.]Register of Voters[See Rule 46-E]Election to the office of Grama Panchayat/Ward Member
Sl. No. Sl. No. of elector in the electoral roll elector elector
1.2.3.4.5.Etc. Form No. 7-BPart-1 Account of Votes Recorded[See Rule 50-A]Election to the Grama Panchayat/Ward Memberfrom Ward NoIdentification No. of Voting Control UnitMachine used at the Polling Station Balloting Unit.
1. Total No. of electors assigned to the Polling Station
2. Total No. of voters as entered in the Register for Votes (Form No. 7-A)
3. Total No. of votes recorded as per voting machine
4. Whether the total No. of votes as shown against item-tallies with the total No. of votes as shown against item 2 or any descrepancy notice.
5. Account of papers seals
Sl. Nos. From To Signature of Presiding Officer
1. Serial Number of papers scale supplied FromToTo
2. Total numbers supplied
3. Number of paper seal used

4. Number of unused paper seal returned to Election Officer (Deduct item 3 from item 2)

5. Serial number of damaged papers seal, if any

DatePlace Signature of Presiding OfficerPolling Station No
Form No. 7-BPart-II Result of Counting[See Rule 50-A]
Sl. No. Name of Candidate No. of Votes recorded
1.2.3.4.Etc.Total:
Whether the total Nos. of votes shown above tallies with the total No. Of votes shown against item 3 Part I or any discrepancy noticed between the two totals. Signature of Presiding OfficerPlaceDate
Name of candidates/Polling Agent/counting agent Full Signature
1.2.3.4.Etc.
PlaceDateSignature of Election Officer][Form No. 8] [Substituted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 2480 dated 21.12.2001.][See Rule 48 and 51(1)]Result of Counting of VotesName of the Grama SasanPolice-stationWard NoDistrict
Rejected ballot papers
Rejected ballot-papersTotal number of ballot-papers found in the ballot box [or total number of votes recorded as per voting machine] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 003, dated 15.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001.]DateSignature of the Presiding OfficerForm No. 8-B[See Rule 51]Result of counting of votesName of Grama SasanName of Panchayat SamitiDistrict
1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
Rejected ballot-papersTotal number of ballot-papers found in the ballot box [or total number of votes recorded as per voting machine] [Inserted vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 903, dated 5.5.2001 SRO No. 228/2001]Srison ofhas been duly declared to have been elected as Sarpanch ofGrama Panchayat.DateSignature of the Election OfficerForm No. 9[See Rule 34]Notice of withdrawalElection to theToThe Election officerIa candidate nominated at the above election do hereby give notice that I withdraw my candidature.

This noti	ice was delivered to me at my office at	hours on(date)			
by(1	name)theElection OfficerDate.	Receipt of notice of withdrawal(To be			
-	over to the person delivering the notice)Th	-			
candidat	te at the election to thewas delivered	to me by theat my office at(hours)			
on((date).Election officerForm No. 10Ballot-p	aper for election of Naib-Sarpanch/Members of			
Schedule	ed Castes/Tribes during general elections,	for election of Naib-Sarpanch and Members			
during b	oye-elections	-			
Sl. N	Name of candidate with name of	Voter's stamp or mark against the name			
No. fa	ather/husband	ofcandidate			
	(2)	(3)			
Form No. 11[See Rule 63]Notice calling for names of candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes for the office of member of Grama PanchayatNotice is hereby given that-(1)An election is to be held of [] [Here appropriate particulars of the election are to be inserted.](2)Forms of nomination papers may be obtained at the office of the/office specified below between the hours ofand from dateat place(3)Nomination papers may be delivered between the hours ofby a candidate or his proposer or seconder to the officer specified below atplaced on(date).(4)The nomination papers will be taken up for scrutiny athours on date at.(place).(5)Notice of withdrawal of candidate may be delivered by a candidate, to the officer specified below at his office before onTable(6)Presiding Officer Designation of Officer Location of office(7)In the event of the election being contested the poll will take place in the office of Grama Panchayat between the hours ofon					
Date Presiding Officer					
Place Grama Panchayat					
[Form N	Vo. 12 [Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95,	Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated			
15.11.199	95.][See Rule 3 and 3-A]Notice Notice is he	reby given that a statement showing the number			
and extent of wards to which Grama has been divided under Section 8 of the Orissa Grama					
Panchayat Act, 1964 and reservation of such wards for the Members of Scheduled Castes, the					
Scheduled Tribes, backward class of citizens and women under Section 10 of the said Act has been					
prepared and a copy thereof is available for inspection atObjections, if any, may be filed with					
or sent so as to reach the undersigned not later thanCollector][Form No. 13] [Substituted vide					
SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.][See Rule					
3(3)]Statement showing division and reservation of wards					
Name of the Grama Sasan Total No. of wards					
Block	{				
	Wards reserved				
	Wards Teserved				
Moss	TA7	tal			
Men Women Total					
- - District - S. C. - S. T. - B. C. - U. R. }					
Ward	Extent of Population Percentage of	Whether Remarks			
number	the ward populations to the	ne reserved,			

if so,

total population

			total population	categor	y		
S.C.	S.T.	Unreserved	Total	S.C.	S.T.	Unreserve	d
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 9 10 11
15.11.199 1263, da Panchay Block	Form No. 14[* * *] [Omitted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.][Form No. 15] [Substituted vide SRO No. 1260/95, Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 1263, dated 15.11.1995.][See Rule 3-A]Statement showing the offices of Sarpanches in Grama Panchayats reserved for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and WomenName of the Block						
		wonien					Remarks
1	2	3					4
dated 15 Officer above G full place of Mahals.	rama Panoresidence	See Rule 6(3)](Sir, chayat in -Ward Sex are -Hosue No.	ride SRO No. 1260/9 Claim application for I request that my na I No	r inclusion ame be inc .My name ame	n of name cluded in t e in	FoThe Elector he electoral ro	al Rgistration oll for the iculars of my
	OfficePolice Station/fahsil/Talika/MauzaDistrict						
-	•	•	I hereby d			st of mv know	ledge and
was given ab constitu constitu which I may be c claiman Panchay ward No mention electora Sex No	ency;(v)M ency;(v)M ency;My n was ordina excluded fi tForm No. vat)Sir,I ob med above a l in the eleFather's	years and	ii) My age on the firsmonths(I for the inclusion of been included in the been included in the arlier at the address ral roll-PlaceD 8) The Electoral Regusion of the name of toral roll for the follows of the roll of of the ro	my name e electoral electoral mentione ate	ordinarily re in the ele il roll for the roll in	resident at the ctoral roll for his or any other his or any other his or any other his or any other humb imputer thumb imputer hos been in his been in his objector (Full his the name of the the name of the country of the his been in his objector (Full his objector (Full his objector of the name of the country of the name of the country of the countr	any other er State in est the same ression of Gramain that the facts cluded in thel postal ojected to
objectio	n and cour	ntersign it.Signa	at serial NoIn ature of the electorN 903, dated 15.5.200	ame (in f	ull)][Form	No. 17-A] [In	serted vide

hereby given that the first meeting of theGrama Panchayat shall be held at the place

mentioned below on.....(date) at.....(time).Place of meetingElection

Officer Notifications S.R.O. No. 327/94 The 21st April, 1994. - In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-paragraph (1) of Paragraph 5 of the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution of India, the Governor of Orissa is pleased to direct that the provisions of the Orissa Grama Panchayats Act, 1964 (Orissa Act 1 of 1965) shall apply to the Scheduled Areas of the State with effect from the 22nd April, 1994.By order of the GovernorS.R.O. No. 329/94 The 21st April, 1994. - In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-section (2) of Section 1 of the Orissa Grama Panchayat (Amendment) Act, 1994 (Orissa Act 6 of 1994), the State Government do hereby appoint the 22nd day of April, 1994 as the date on which the said Act shall come into force. By order of the Governor S.R.O. No. 436/94 The 13th May, 1994. -In exercise of the powers conferred by Clauses (c) and (g) of Article 243 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Orissa hereby specifies that -(i)"Intermediate level" means the "Panchayat Samiti" constituted under the Orissa Panchayat Samiti Act, 1959 (Orissa Act 7 of 1960); and(ii)"Village" means the "Grama" constituted under the Orissa Grama Panchayats Act, 1964 (Orissa Act 1 of 1965). By order of the Governor [Notifications] [Published vide Orissa Gazette Extraordinary No. 938 dated 3.7.2006.] State Election Commission, Orissa, Samabaya Bhawan Janapath, Bhubaneswar-751 022OrderS.R.O. No.399/2006 The 1st July 2006. - In supersession to Commission's Order No.5562, dated the 30th December 2001, in pursuance of Rule 20 of Orissa Grama Panchayat Election Rules, 1965, the State Election Commission is pleased to order that the following additional symbols shall be allotted in the same order in which they are shown herein for election to the office of the Sarapanch in the event of the number of candidates exceeds the six number of symbols prescribed under Rule 17 of Orissa Gram Panchayat Election Rules:

Sl. No. Name of the Symbols Sl. No. Name of the Symbols

(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)
1	Banyan Tree	14	Walking Stick
2	Motor Car	15	Wool
3	Lantern	16	Bangles
4	Brinjal	17	Blackboard
5	Basket	18	Table
6	Candles	19	Ceiling Fan
7	Balloon	20	Apple
8	Camera	21	Banana
9	Comb	22	Gas Cylinder
10	Envelope	23	Fire Engine
11	Mat	24	Jeep
12	Pressure Cooker	25	Sabari
13	Whistle	26	Electric Bulb

State Election Commission, OrissaSamabaya Bhawan, Janapath, Bhubaneswar-751022OrderS.R.O. No.400/2006 The 1st July 2006. - In supersession to Commission's Order No.5558, dated the 30th December 2001, in pursuance of Rule 20 of Orissa Gram Panchayat Election Rules, 1965, the State Election Commission has ordered the following additional symbols to be allotted in the same order in which they are shown herein for election to the office of Ward Member in the event of the number

of candidates exceeds he six number of symbols prescribed under Rule 17 of Orissa Gram Panchayat Election Rules, 1965:

Sl. No. Name of the Symbols

- (1) (2)
- 1 Carrot
- 2 Scissors
- 3 Chair
- 4 Cottage
- 5 Frock
- 6 Spoon
- 7 Battery Torch
- 8 Cricket Bat
- 9 Telephone