



To
The State Election Officers

Rc.No.3944/2013/CE.5,

Dated:17.07.2013

Sir,

Sub : Election – Conduct of Election of Members and Office Bearers of the Boards of Co-operative Societies – Records relating to the election – Preservation – Regarding.

In the recent meeting of State Election Officers held on 09.07.2013, the matter of preservation of records relating to the election of Co-operatives was raised and discussed.

In this connection the Commission invites the kind attention of all State Election officers to the provisions governing the said records as laid down under rules 52 & 53 of the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies Rules, 1988 – (An extract of these provisions is enclosed for ready reference.)

Accordingly the Commission expects, that by now all the District Election Officers themselves or through officers authorized by them under Rule 52(22)(b) and 53(13)(b) would have definitely received all the records relating to the election of all those societies for which elections were completed and results declared, in all its stages and process i.e., from the publication of members list to the declaration of results of the election of Office Bearers, without any omission.

The Commission wishes to state emphatically that the importance of the preservation of the election records by the District Election Officers as statutorily imposed on them, should never be undermined or taken lightly or neglected. The District Election Officers are liable, for the proper preservation of all these records and for any loss, damage, tampering, mishappenings, mishandlings, and unauthorized breakopening of such sealed container of these records handed over to them for preservation.

The details in respect of periodical verification of such records by the officers authorized by the Commission will be communicated in due course.

**(Sd../-)M.R.Mohan
Commissioner**

Encle: Extract of Rule.

Copy to:

All District Election Observers,
The Election Observers.

Extract of provisions governing Election Records

Rule 52 (22) (a) (b) (c)

- (a) The records relating to the election shall be secured in a container which shall be affixed with the seal of the Election Officer and of the candidates or their election agents, who desire to affix their seals.
- (b) After the election is over, the Election Officer shall hand over the election records to the District Election Officer or to any person authorised by him in this behalf under acknowledgement who shall preserve the same for a period of one year from the date of election in the event of there being no election dispute or if an election dispute is referred to the Registrar till the date of final disposal of the said dispute, whichever is later.
- (c) They shall be destroyed after the said period of one year, if no dispute relating to, or in connection with, the election is referred to the Registrar or in the event of an election dispute after the final disposal of the dispute, whichever is later.

Rule 53 (13) (a) (b) (c)

- (a) The records relating to the election shall be secured in a container, which shall be affixed with the seal of the election officer and of the candidates who desire to affix their seals.
- (b) After the election is over, the election officer shall hand over the election records to the District Election Officer or to any person authorised by him in this behalf under acknowledgement who shall preserve the same for a period of one year from the date of election in the event of there being no election dispute or if an election dispute is referred to the Registrar, till the date of final disposal of the said dispute, whichever is later.
- (c) They shall be destroyed after the said period of one year, if no dispute relating to, or in connection with the election is referred to the Registrar or in the event of an election dispute after the final disposal of the dispute, whichever is later.