

भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

संख्या/No. 24/2008-ERS
तारीख/Date: 28th December, 2008

निर्वाचन सदन,
NIRVACHAN SADAN,
अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली-10001.
ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI – 110001

To

Chief Electoral Officers,
All States and UTs

Subject: Special campaign for enrollment of Service Voters and proxy voting facility.

Sir,

1. I am directed to state that the Commission has reviewed the position of enrollment of Service Voters in the last part of the electoral rolls and has decided to take certain steps to increase the enrollment of service personnel in the last part of the electoral rolls and increase awareness about the facility of proxy voting.
2. The Commission has decided that the DEO of the district where the service personnel are posted on duty, shall take proactive steps in facilitating their enrollment and making them aware about the provisions of proxy voting. The DEOs shall get publicity material like pamphlets and hand bills covering the provisions regarding service voters and proxy voters distributed in the areas where service personnel live within his jurisdiction.
3. The CEOs should first identify, in consultation with DEOs, the locations/cantonments where special campaign for enrolment of service voters and proxy voting facilities need to be taken up. As soon as possible, the DEOs shall also undertake special campaign within such cantonments/peace stations, after giving adequate publicity, for distribution of enrolment forms (Form 2) to the service personnel. They shall coordinate with the Administrative incharge in the peace stations (Station incharge) for this purpose. In the campaign, the DEOs shall guide the service personnel in filling Form 2. As a result of the campaign,

the DEOs should get prepared, a list of Form 2 filled during the campaign period station-wise, and get them forwarded to the respective Record Office by the Station Officer of the station for proper follow up. To enable smooth movement of the applications and the entire process, the DEOs of the area where record offices/peace stations are situated, shall coordinate with the Station incharges. The record officers should attest the forms and sort it State-wise and forward the forms to the corresponding CEOs for further follow-up at their end. The CEOs shall acknowledge the receipt and get them enrolled by respective EROs without any further verification and put the list on the website so that anyone interested can check his/her name. Each CEO shall submit a report by 22nd January on the action taken in pursuance of the above instruction.

4. In the campaign, the service voter should also be explained by DEO that he has the facility of voting either through postal ballot or through proxy. The provisions of postal ballot and proxy voting should be properly explained to the applicants. They should also be explained about the advantages of proxy voting over the postal ballot system in light of the time constraint that is there for postal ballot. Thus, alongwith the Form 2 & declaration for enrollment, the Form 13F for nomination of proxy (Conduct of Election Rules, 1961) should also be made available to the applicants. Although Form 13F requires the applicant to fill his serial number in the last part of the electoral roll, the Commission, in order to simplify the process and encourage nomination of proxy, has waived filling up of this detail. The ERO on receipt of this Form 13F shall fill in this data after identifying the serial no. of the elector in the last part and forward the Form 13 for nomination of proxy to the Returning Officer of the Constituency. Applicants should be encouraged to fill in the nomination of proxy in Form 13 F alongwith the Form for enrollment in Form 2. On the Poll day, the proxy, shall be able to vote in the Polling Station on behalf of the Service Voter like any other voter. The proxy can be nominated/changed/renominated at the will of the Service Voter by sending another Form 13F.

5. During the campaign, Service personnel should also be explained the advantages of being enrolled a Service Voters (like proof of domicile etc.) in their native places. However, if a Service personnel serving in a peace station intends to register as a general voter, he can be registered as a general voter (as against a Service Voter) only if he is residing there with family for a sufficient span of time or provided he is on a tenure posting of 3 years or more in that peace station. In such cases, the Form to be filled shall be Form 6 and all due process and verification by the ERO/BLO shall have to be carried out and facts ascertained before registration as voter by the ERO.

Yours Faithfully,

(Ritvik Pandey)
Secretary