



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
Election Commission of India

निर्वाचन सदन
NIRVACHAN SADAN
अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली - 110 001
ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110 001

ORDER

Sub: - Merger of Haryana Janhit Congress(BL) with Indian National Congress

The **Haryana Janhit Congress(BL)** (hereinafter referred to as 'HJC(BL)') is a recognized State Party in the state of Haryana with the symbol "Tractor" allotted to it as its reserved symbol under the provisions of the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968 (hereinafter referred to as 'Symbols Order'). Sh. Kuldeep Bishnoi, President and Chairman of the Party, as per records of the Commission, vide his letter dated 28.04.2016, intimated that HJC had merged with 'Indian National Congress', a National party as per the decisions taken in the meetings held on 10.01.2016, 17.01.2016 and 06.03.2016. Copies of press clippings containing reports about the merged were also submitted.

2. The matter was considered by the Commission and the Commission vide its letter dated 18th May, 2016, asked the Indian National Congress to inform whether the merger had been approved by the competent forum of the party. A separate communication was sent to the Chief Electoral Officer, Haryana on the same date asking him to provide information whether any group claiming to represent the HJC(BL) continued in the state. The Chief Electoral Officer was also asked to ascertain whether there is any Member of Legislative Assembly in Haryana Legislative Assembly representing HJC(BL).

3. In reply to the Commission's letter dated 18.05.2016, Sh. Janardhan Dwivedi, General Secretary of Indian National Congress, vide his letter dated 23.05.2016, informed that the proposal of the merger of HJC(BL) had been

approved by the Congress President, as authorized by the Working Committee which is the competent authority to accept such proposals.

4. The office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Haryana vide its letter 10.06.2016, has confirmed that their office has not received any representation from any group on the issue of the merger of the party with Indian National Congress. They also informed that there are two Members of Legislative Assembly representing HJC(BL) in the current legislative assembly in Haryana as per the party position statement in the legislative assembly released by the Assembly Secretariat as on 31.05.2016. The Commission, vide its letter dated 11.08.2016, asked the Party President to submit documentary proof whether the legislative wing of the party has consented for the merger of HJC(BL) with Indian National Congress.

5. Sh. Kuldeep Bishnoi, in his letter dated 17.08.2016, has stated that the minutes of the meeting involving party's Working Committee, Parliamentary Board, Legislature wing and general body that were sent with the letter dated 28.04.2016 may be considered as the documentary proof of the consent of the legislature wing of HJC(BL), and the decision to merge the party had been taken unanimously.

6. The Commission has duly considered the documents placed before it. It is seen that the meetings referred to by Shri Kuldeep Bishnoi, were called with due publicity through newspapers, etc., and, the merger had the consent of the MLAs of HJC(BL). The news of the merger was also widely reported in the Print media as seen from the various press clippings submitted alongwith the application regarding the merger. There is no record of any dissenting voice against the merger of the party.

7. Taking into consideration all the documents on record, the Commission is satisfied that HJC(BL) has merged with the Indian National Congress, a National Party. Accordingly, the Commission has decided under the provisions of paragraph 16 of the Symbols Order, that on its merger with the Indian National Congress, the HJC(BL) has ceased to exist as a separate political party and the name of the 'Haryana Janhit Congress (BL)' be removed from the list of recognized parties as well as registered parties, as contained in the Commission's Notification No. 56/2015/PPS-II, dated 13.01.2015, and the reserved election symbol 'Tractor' allotted to the 'Haryana Janhit Congress(BL)' shall stand frozen until further orders.

By order,



(Pramod Kumar Sharma)

Secretary

Date: 6 September, 2016

Place: New Delhi