

**State Election Commission
Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar**

No. AP/SEC-279/2010

Dated Itanagar, the 21st April, 2013

(Instruction on Voting by Public Servants on Election Duty- Municipal Elections)

There is no provision in the Arunachal Pradesh Municipal Election Act, 2011 and Rules made there under for staff deployed on election duty to cast their votes. The Commission being aware of the fact that the right to franchise cannot be exercised without an opportunity to vote, has given anxious consideration to the right of a Presiding Officer, a Polling Officer or any public servant who is an elector in a ward, and is by reason of his/her being on election duty unable to vote at the polling station where he/she is entitled to vote.

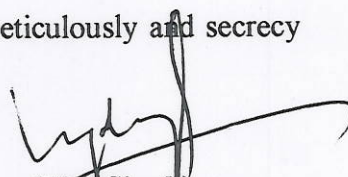
Therefore, the State Election Commission has decided that all voters on election duty on application, be allowed to vote on the lines prescribed in the Arunachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj (Conduct of Election) Rules, 2001.

Accordingly, the Commission directs the Returning Officers to follow the procedure mentioned below:-

1. A voter on election duty who wishes to vote shall, not later than seven days before the date of poll, approach the Returning Officer or any Officer of the Ward designated by him/her in respect of which he/she is a voter and make an application in the prescribed Form No. 44 in order to enable him/her to cast his/her vote.
2. The Returning Officer shall on being satisfied as to the identity of such voter or production of letter of appointment in connection with election :-
 - a) have the voter's name marked in the electoral roll;
 - b) issue to such voter a ballot paper and permit him/her to vote on the spot with the instrument provided for the purpose.
 - c) after recording his/her vote, such voter shall put the ballot paper in an envelope and seal it. The designated Polling Officer shall write only the voter's Ward number in bold letters in the presence of voter on the envelope, and then the voter shall insert the sealed envelope in the sealed Ballot Box kept for the purpose.
 - d) the Returning Officer or any Officer designated by him shall keep the counterfoil of such ballot paper in a separate sealed cover on which he will write voter's Ward number in bold letters.

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- Provided that, the Returning Officer may fix date and time and place when such vote may be cast.
 - Provided further that, the contesting candidate, Election Agents or authorized representatives shall also be informed of the date, time and place and be requested to remain present when the votes are cast.
3. A register of the voters' details shall be maintained as per the prescribed format in the Form-No. 45.
 4. Sorting of votes cast by voters on election duty shall be done ward-wise before counting.
 5. Counting of the votes shall be done before actual counting on the same day.
 6. Returning Officer shall ensure that records are maintained meticulously and secrecy is maintained to ensure purity of election process.


(K.D. Singh)
State Election Commissioner
Arunachal Pradesh :: Itanagar

To,

1. Deputy Commissioner -Cum-Municipal Election Officer, Itanagar/Pasighat Municipality.
2. All Returning Officers, Itanagar/Pasighat Municipality.

