



OFFICE OF THE
ELECTION AUTHORITY
UNDER PANCHAYATI RAJ ACT, 1989
(CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, JAMMU & KASHMIR)
2ND FLOOR VIKAS BHAWAN, RAIL HEAD COMPLEX, JAMMU

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The District Panchayat Election Officer,
(Deputy Commissioner)
Kupwara/Baramulla/Bandipora/Srinagar/Budgam/Pulwama/Shopian/
Anantnag/Leh/Kargil/Kishtwar/Ramban/Doda/Reasi/Udhampur/Kathua/
Jammu/Rajouri/Poonch

No. *Frgs/CEO/PYT/2011/ 5810-28*

Dated: 02-05-2011

Subject: **Panchayat Election, 2011 – Training of Polling staff and checking of Marked copies of Electoral Rolls – regarding.**

Sir,

The Joint Chief Electoral Officer, J&K, Jammu and Assistant Chief Electoral Officer, Kashmir have inspected some polling stations during the polling in the first five phases in the Districts viz., Samba, Udhampur, Reasi, Rajouri, Jammu, Kupwara, Baramulla, Kulgam, Ganderbal and Anantnag. It has been observed by the officers that the Polling staff do not appear to be fully conversant with the filling up of various statutory and non-statutory papers besides checking of marked copies of Electoral Rolls. Some of the examples are given as under:-

1. Marked copies of the Electoral Rolls were not made properly;
2. The voters have been struck off by the Presiding Officer at Bidda Polling station in Arnas Block of District Reasi instead of underlining and tick mark as per instructions contained in Handbook of Presiding Officers;
3. Marked copies not signed by the Electoral Registration Officers in Block Nowshera at polling station 27-Sehol Solin;
4. Polling stations not set up properly by the Presiding Officer at Bidda and Salalkot in District Reasi as the ballot boxes had been covered with the voting compartments in violation of secrecy norms;
5. The agent/Presiding Officers accompany the voters' upto the voting compartment and guide him to mark the ballot paper thereby violating the secrecy of voting. This has been observed at a polling station in Block Bishnah village Deoli;
6. The Ballot boxes are not sealed with steel wire provided to the Presiding Officers in presence of the agents. This has been observed at Village Makwal (Haji Basti);

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7. The Presiding Officers/agents do not identify the voters properly by asking for any one of the identification documents as per instructions of the Election Authority. It has been observed in maximum polling stations visited by these Officers;
8. The polling agents do not keep voter cards or other documents for identification with them for inspection as per instructions of the Election Authority; and
9. The procedure for application of Indelible ink on the fingers of the voters is also not followed properly by the polling officers concerned.

As per feed back received from the Officers it has been observed that the training provided to the polling staff needs to be imparted.

In this regard, attention is drawn to this office letter No.105/PYT/2010/2631-51 dated 18-03-2011, wherein instructions were issued to all the District Panchayat Election Officers (Deputy Commissioners) regarding preparation of marked copies of Electoral Rolls. As per instructions issued vide above referred letter, a certificate has to be issued by the District Panchayat Election Officer (Deputy Commissioner) concerned that:-

“As the District Panchayat Election Officer under the Jammu & Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989 and Rules made thereunder, I have coordinated and supervised all the work in the District relating to the preparation of marked copies of the Panchayat Electoral Rolls, 2011 as per instructions issued vide this office letter No.105/PE/ER/2010/1611-40 dated 22-02-2011.”

You are, therefore, directed to impart proper training and instructions to the polling staff before polling and marked copies of the Electoral Rolls should also marked at the polling stations as per instruction of the Election Authority and signed by the Electoral Registration Officer concerned before issuance to the polling staff duly as per the instructions conveyed by this office from time to time.

Matter may be treated as **ELECTION URGENT.**

Yours faithfully,

B.R. Sharma 27/5/11
(B.R. Sharma) IAS
Election Authority
Under Panchayati Raj Act, 1989
(Chief Electoral Officer, J&K)
Jammu