

STATE ELECTION COMMISSION
3rd Floor, Buddha Bhavan, M G Road, Secunderabad – 500 003

CIRCULAR

No.887/SEC-B2/2013-2

Date :09.7.2013

Sub:- 4th ordinary elections to Gram Panchayats – Cases where fresh poll (repoll) or continuation of adjourned poll is ordered – procedure to undertake counting and safe custody of ballot boxes – Instructions – Issued.

Ref: 1. SEC Notification No. 757/SEC-B2/2013, dated 03.07.2013.
2. SEC Order No. 887/SEC-B2/2013-1, dated 9.07.2013.

In the reference 1st cited, the State Election Commission issued Notification for conduct of ordinary elections to Gram Panchayats in the State.

In the reference 2nd cited, the State Election Commission delegated powers to the Collectors & District Election Authorities to take decisions about ordering for fresh poll (repoll) or continuation of adjourned poll in the polling stations where poll process is vitiated or interrupted in the ordinary elections to Gram Panchayats.

The following instructions are issued with regard to counting of votes and safe custody of polled ballot boxes in respect of Gram Panchayats where a fresh poll (repoll) or continuation of adjourned poll is ordered in one or more polling stations during the ensuing Gram Panchayat elections.

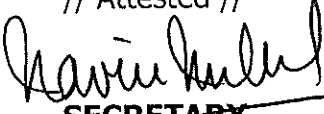
1. In respect of Gram Panchayats where election is conducted for both the offices of Sarpanch and Ward Member, if a fresh poll (repoll) or continuation of adjourned poll is ordered in one or more polling stations, the counting of votes relating to all polling stations in that Gram Panchayat shall not be undertaken until such fresh poll (repoll) or continuation of adjourned poll is completed.
2. In such cases, after completion of poll, the polled ballot boxes pertaining to other polling stations where repoll is not ordered may be kept in safe custody in one of the rooms in the School building or a Government office building in the same Gram Panchayat. After keeping the polled ballot boxes, such room shall be locked and sealed in the presence of the contesting candidates and proper police guard shall be posted for its safe custody. If any of the contesting candidate so desires, he may be permitted to post an agent to keep watch at the place where ballot boxes are stored pending counting.
3. In case of Gram Panchayats, where elections are held only for Ward Members (because of unanimous election or non-receipt of nominations for the office of Sarpanch), if a fresh poll (repoll) or continuation of adjourned poll is ordered in one or more polling stations pertaining to one or more wards, the counting of votes relating to those wards is to be undertaken after completion of repoll. However, in respect of other wards, counting is to be under taken immediately after completion of poll.


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4. In the Gram Panchayats where fresh poll (repoll) or continuation of adjourned poll is conducted, the Upa-Sarpanch election may be conducted after completion of fresh poll (repoll) or continuation of adjourned poll and declaration of results.

Sd/- P. Ramakanth Reddy
State Election Commissioner

To
All the Collectors & District Election Authorities.
All the District Panchayat Officers.

// Attested //

SECRETARY


09/11/2013